

MAYESPARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parent / Carer

I wanted to share this advice below with you. It is from EST Safety who are two police officers and they deliver online safeguarding training to schools and parents across the country.

“We are putting this post out as a result of information passed to us by parents and our last weeks interaction with over 1000 young people under the age of 13.

We have realised that the vast majority of children we are talking to are expressing a very high level of anxiety about the potential for there to be a Third World War. We are not talking about mild anxiety but real tangible fear. When we discuss this, **children are talking about the vast array of content they are seeing on TikTok and on numerous occasions are talking about real time footage posted by young people on TikTok depicting wide spread destruction of a local area in the Ukraine.**

We would ask that parents consider broaching this subject with their children and ask them what their view is of the situation in Russia. If they say they don't know what you're talking about then problem over, if however they disclose significant concerns parents may then seek to offer reassurance and make sure they are okay.

The issue that has made us post this information concerns a parent that advised us their child had told them he wanted to spend all of his pocket money. When his Mum asked him why he wanted to spend it all at once he said he wanted to spend it before he died in WW3 and that it was due to start anytime.

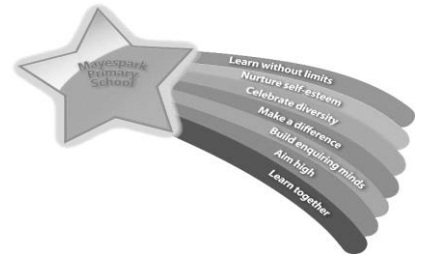
At the moment there are many issues that play out in the world of social media and a lot of the time parents are detached from this. We are seeing clear evidence that the mental health of young people is being impacted by online content but in the majority of cases the parents are outside the loop.”

If your child has any anxieties about the situation in Ukraine please encourage them to talk to you and their teachers.

Kind regards

Ms E Davies
Headteacher





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