



Community Assembly: People

Schools are rightly bound by political impartiality rules. This is, of course, appropriate, and important in a liberal democracy, to ensure that protections are in place and standards are upheld.

I spoke to students in Years 7-10 during assemblies across last week, noting that we will leave the politics to the politicians, and that we will do as a school community what we have always done – as have generations of CCHS students, going back to 1907 – and offer the strong and sincere hand of humanitarian support to children and people.

As a teacher of History, I have explored very many unpleasant periods through my work. And right now, we are witnessing a new chapter on our own continent. And yet, following the unfolding events in Ukraine, it has been truly uplifting to read about the countless simple, yet powerful, acts of humanity from across the world.

It has been moving, encouraging, and inspiring to see the good that people are capable of. We witnessed this in our own school community on Friday, with the immediate and impactful act of a cake sale, which resulted in nearly £750 being raised for and transferred to the Red Cross to help the people of Ukraine.

Long may the light of altruism envelop the shame of inhumanity. My own experiences of working in schools tells me that young people and their school communities are remarkable. As the inspirational Mala Yousafzai declared at the UN HQ, New York, in 2013:

“One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world.”

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