

‘Schools Can Stop the Wars!’

Programme

Launch: October 7th 2024

INNER PEACE FOREST SCHOOL SUPPORT –

LIFE SKILLS & MORAL VALUES



The **‘Schools Can Stop the Wars!’** programme follows up the **Peace Parks Music Movement** call to support an UN-backed global ceasefire to mark the Paris 24 Olympic **the Last War – Apartheid and Genocide No More!** has been taken on by the *Schools Can Stop the Wars* effort to keep the light of truth alight in the dark era of national state totalitarian war machines revving up in 2024 for perpetual war or even nuclear Armageddon, just minutes away from our everyday lives.



Schools Can Stop the Wars! Programme

Overview

The **"Schools Can Stop the Wars!"** initiative is designed to engage students, educators, families and communities in immediate action in support of the global peace movement. The programme can be used to empower schools as institutions - *along with their numerous community-based, business and administrative stakeholders* - to become active players in fostering peace and justice.

Schools Can Stop the Wars! runs under the slogan promoted by the **Paris '24 Olympic Truce Peace Parks Music Movement** call to **'Make Ukraine the Last War – Apartheid and Genocide No More!'** It focuses on supporting all efforts to create a genuine and lasting Peace in the Holy Land, focusing on actions to support:

1. **an immediate ceasefire and implementation of UN General Assembly brokered Resolutions in Gaza led by a multi-national military force if necessary to restore humanitarian aid.**
2. **an end to the occupation of Gaza and the West Bank and**
3. **the prosecution of Israeli, American, British and European political leaders who have breached the International Criminal Court and International Court of Justice decisions on war crimes committed in the Middle East.**
4. **The right for journalistic freedom and free speech in the face of totalitarian state Orwellian messaging and citizen mind control.**
5. **Reform of the archaic post World War II Security Council UN decision making system to give power to the General Assembly.**



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Background: SDG16 – Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions



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rapacious capitalist production system must be ended in favour of social development for civil society and environmental protection for the planet.

Never before have we needed peace more, and all of us can play a part in making it happen. The programme aims to build an **SDG 16 - Schools for Peace & Justice** process to help protect the future of our children from becoming a world in perpetual war, on the brink of nuclear Armageddon, their lives being run by a ruthless totalitarian state military-industrial-governance elite. Millions of children are living under these conflict-ridden conditions already, and the situation is now exponential as the combined crises of Global Change – War, Disease, Hunger, Extreme Weather Events, Biodiversity loss, Pollution and Mental Illness converge on every nation state population.

Its time to step to these challenges, and schools and their stakeholders have a great role to play. Join your school up to the programme to give your children a chance to make the best of Global Change

Schools Can Stop the Wars! Programme Features

1. Learning Pack for Teachers: War and Peace in the Holy Land

This comprehensive learning pack delves into the complex history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, offering teachers resources to discuss the realities of war, peace, and occupation in the Holy Land. The materials present historical context, current realities, and paths toward peace, encouraging nuanced conversations in classrooms.



- **Key Focus:** Understanding the roots of conflict in the Middle East and fostering a balanced, informed dialogue in the classroom.

2. Emergency Action: Help Stop the Gaza Genocide

An urgent call to action to mobilize schools and communities in response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza. This segment of the programme provides actionable steps for students and teachers to participate in campaigns against the starvation, ethnic cleansing, and genocide occurring in Palestine. It includes information on petitions, fundraising, and advocacy efforts designed to stop the violence.

- **Key Focus:** Immediate humanitarian action and call for immediate ceasefire to support Palestine and raise awareness of global atrocities.

3. NO Thanks! Israeli Company and Product Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Programme (BDS)

A vital component of the **Schools Can Stop the Wars!** initiative, this module introduces students and educators to the **Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement** as a peaceful means of resisting the Israeli occupation and apartheid policies. The programme educates on how boycotting Israeli companies, products, and services can apply pressure on the Israeli government to end its violent practices against Palestinians.

- **Key Focus:** Understanding how economic pressure can be used as a non-violent tool to achieve political change.
- **Materials Provided:** An App listing products and companies involved in illegal settlements, guidelines for boycotting products, and campaigns to divest from companies complicit in the occupation.

4. Monthly Digest: Current Affairs in Global Change

Dynamic monthly blogs and bulletins supporting teachers, parents and students to explore the state of global transition from a world shaped by war economies and inequality to a future of peace, fairness, and communal prosperity. This digest educates students and teachers on critical global shifts, such as the peace movements, social justice initiatives, and community-driven solutions that are paving the way for a peaceful world.

- **Key Focus:** Providing support to you on your journey towards helping dismantle the war-based economy and fostering a society rooted in freedom, fairness, and equality within our lifetime in the shadow of our imminent Armageddon.

5. Educational Materials: Breaking Free from Nationalist Indoctrination – Right View, Right Understanding, Right Speech

The programme provides carefully curated educational materials aimed at deconstructing nationalist ideologies that perpetuate war and division. These materials expose the **Orwellian doublespeak** found in political and media discourse, empowering students to critically



analyze and challenge the narratives that shape their worldview. The goal is to cultivate global citizens who advocate for peace and reject manipulation using humanist moral value systems guided by the Buddhist *Eightfold Path* and precepts of *Yama*.

- **Key Focus:** Identifying and countering political and media manipulation, fostering critical thinking skills using Buddhist transpersonal psychotherapeutic concepts
- **Activity Areas:** Learning about the 4 Noble Truths and the Eightfold Path and how they give us a moral compass to guide our actions.

6. Introducing the Peace Parks Music Movement

This module connects schools with the **Peace Parks Music Movement**, a global initiative aimed at fostering unity and peace through resistance music. The movement calls for a worldwide ceasefire, promoting the Olympic Truce for peace in conflict zones like Gaza. Schools can participate by organizing music events and peace rallies to raise awareness of the global call for peace.

- **Key Focus:** Encouraging schools to host musical events that support the global ceasefire and peace movement.
- **Activity Ideas:** Organize a "Music for Peace" day, create peace murals, and hold student-led concerts supporting the message of global peace.



Information Pack Topic: Themes on War, Peace, and Global Liberation



This information pack section highlights critical themes around war, peace, personal empowerment, and global justice, offering insight into how individuals and communities can work toward liberation and lasting peace through your school.

The Global State of Humanity

Make no mistake about it, despite the gloss of life for 1 billion of us in consumer society, the majority world has been relentlessly impoverished by war and oppression. Now the Orwellian state of 1984 is here in all its modern technology city clothing. That 90% of us live as the materially and spiritually dispossessed – 1 billion near starvation daily, war and conflict in 59 UN member states and 5 1/5 billion consumer workers in cities, alienated, isolated and regimented into service of the state and corporations under banners of nationalism and patriotism and ruled with an iron fist – albeit cloaked in state sweet talk.

This allows the modern pharaohs - the 1% - to live in obscene luxury with their hi tech family fortune companies, countries with their armies of soldiers, police, politicians, lawyers, bankers and media moguls creating elite jobs for the boys and toys for the boys in the 5000 year old patriarchal warring settler colonial mentality that has given us our modern world, an economic system in full dialectical flux of finance capitalism and the dark condition of human alienation in the greed, ignorance and desire that globalisation has wreaked upon us in the guise of American Russian or Chinese democracy and freedom.

In a political world of dictators on display at every turn of media, the world has become the Orwellian totalitarian nightmare for many already. History teaches us that it is through Right Understanding – or Right Knowledge as some translate - that we can find freedom in this lifetime for the one and for the many. Right knowledge is the fruit of experience and wisdom combined. It is transmitted by educational interaction, exemplified in the past by Shamans or Elders who brought their life experience into the Rites of Passage of younger tribal members.



Can Schools Stop the War When the State Runs the Schools to Make the War Machine Work?

Educational interaction in our times is conducted through the school, which is part of the ideological superstructure of our capitalist society. Traditional schooling is designed to replicate the workforce that capitalism needs – the free public schooling model was set up in America by Rothchilds' and other elites to develop an industrial workforce from rural labourers. This has been no more apparent than when the British organised their educational system around the '3 Rs' Reading, wRiting and aRithmetic' to produce the administrative clerks, soldiers, factory workers, care workers, engineers and managers of their empire. Each state has copied and improved that materialist and weighted blueprint to recreate their own nations of wage-slaves and private property owners, the lines now blurred by the complexity of finance capital's last bubble-blowing decades.

Schooling Our Children to Survive the System

Schools need to rapidly adjust to all of these fast moving trends and deep societal contexts. Parents need to understand what the state and the corporations are really doing with our children – and of course, have already done with us. Manipulation of the people was taken to a fine art in Nazi Germany, then improved by Russian, American and Chinese state-driven mass control by the bankers, financiers and autocratic ruling elite, who now have us trapped in permanent cycles of work, wages, rents, debt and dispossession.

The clever few of us who either use the system to survive or are beneficiaries of the system also will need to adjust to new levels of AI intrusion and control that will be here in a matter of years, not decades. *By definition and design any nation state that is aligned to corporate interests and not linked to governance by Civil Society necessarily becomes an oppressive force to community and social need.* Good education is crucial if civil society is to take over the control of the state to implement true democracy, develop equitable economies and manage the challenges of Global Change effectively, for a knowledgeable civil society can best run social economies.

Alternative educational processes that have arisen from the oppressed such as Paulo Friere *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* and Julius Nyerere's *KI-Swahili + Language = Revolution* in the 70's when Ivan Illich's pre-scient claim then was that we would all be in schools without walls brings us to our current learning context. The internet rules, schools are becoming increasingly redundant in their role to produce workers for the Empire of today with all its AI jobs now high in the Clouds.

Teenagers have embraced the poisoned chalice of screen time fully and gullibly, minds are being shrunk down to virtual consumer mode as we speak, and most parents themselves have no real idea of the future paradigm shift our children are inheriting. Their work collaboration and competition will be with AGI (Artificial General Intelligence) or even ASI (Artificial Super Intelligence). It will be as though each person has a very clever person standing next to them



and helping them to make informed choices throughout their lives. This is the game-changing reality we are now evolving without truly comprehending its possibilities and problems.

Themes on War, Peace, and Global Liberation

The following material covers several themes students can contemplate as they build their current affairs and world view knowledge.

1. Understanding War and Peace: Levels of Terror under Patriarchy

Patriarchal societies breed violence at multiple levels. It starts with **sibling terror**, such as bullying in families. **Conjugal terror** occurs through the psycho-physical subjugation of partners. **Family terror**, or domestic violence, follows, spreading into **community terror**, with gangs and criminal groups instilling fear. Finally, **state terror** manifests through the machinery of nation-state warfare, where governments wage wars on each other and suppress dissent at home.

2. Understanding Zionism as the Spearhead of Settler Colonial Empire Building

Zionism emerged as a nationalist movement in Europe, gaining momentum under British and U.S. imperialism, eventually leading to the formation of the Israeli state in 1948. Seen as the vanguard of settler colonialism, Zionism involved the dispossession of Palestinians and the building of a state backed by Western powers. It remains central to understanding how imperial projects are advanced under the guise of national identity, deeply tied to broader colonial practices.

3. 'Hasbara' and Right Speech at the End of Times: Orwellian Totalitarian Control of How You Think and Feel

Hasbara, Israel's public relations strategy, can be seen as a form of Orwellian control—aiming to manipulate how the public thinks and feels about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. By controlling narratives and language, states and corporations perpetuate falsehoods while erasing critical thinking. This extends to wider totalitarian methods, where technology and propaganda strip individuals of their ability to think freely, questioning truth itself.

4. Understanding History: The Role of War under Capitalism

War has long been a tool of empire-building under capitalist systems. The British Empire expanded through military conquest, followed by the rise of the U.S. military-industrial complex, where war became profitable for industries and elites. Finance capital emerged alongside this militarism, fueling global conflicts. Today, wars remain integral to maintaining capitalist dominance, often justified by ideological imperatives like "freedom" or "democracy."

5. Global Apartheid as the System of Oppression of the Individual

The concept of **Global Apartheid** reflects the structured oppression where race, class, and power dynamics keep individuals and entire populations subjugated. This idea stems from the



settler colonial mindset applied to Palestine, where systemic inequality and occupation mirror earlier British and American practices of segregation and domination. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a modern representation of this ideology, reinforcing hierarchies on a global scale.

6. The Role of Knowledge, Education, and Learning for Personal and Societal Liberation

In a world dominated by high-tech state systems, knowledge and education are key to liberation. Individuals need to be equipped with critical thinking, self-care practices, and alternative methods of learning to counter the alienation and control imposed by a hostile socio-political order. Education must go beyond institutional frameworks, fostering personal growth and community empowerment to create a foundation for societal transformation.

7. War and Global Change: The Death of the Biosphere as We Know It

War and environmental destruction are inextricably linked. As wars escalate, so do their effects on the biosphere, bringing the planet closer to an ecological catastrophe. Nuclear threats, pollution, and the exploitation of natural resources contribute to the **death of the biosphere**. Global conflicts not only harm human societies but also devastate ecosystems, threatening all life on Earth.

8. How Family Units Can Build Communitarian Processes for Supporting Positive Child Personal Development and Socialization

Families play a crucial role in building healthy communities by nurturing children in environments that emphasize equality, peace, and socialization. Alternative forms of education, such as **communal schooling**, can foster a sense of cooperation and shared responsibility, helping children grow into compassionate, self-aware adults. Strong family units, guided by shared values, are essential for developing equitable and harmonious local communities.

9. A Personal Moral Value System for This Immoral Socio-Political Order

In a world where moral decay and corruption prevail, individuals must ground themselves in a personal moral value system. Practices like **the Eightfold Path** in Buddhism and **Yoga's Astanga** emphasize nonviolence (**Ahimsa**) and truthfulness (**Satya**), offering spiritual and ethical guidance. These philosophies promote living with integrity in a world of injustice, helping individuals find peace and meaning amid chaos.

10. What Can We Do to Help Create a Lasting Global Peace Across All Local Communities?

Achieving lasting global peace requires both personal and collective action. Individuals must align their lives with spiritual morality, embodying humanity, compassion, and justice. Communities must organize around these principles, influencing political systems from the grassroots level. Through sustained efforts at peace-building and advocacy, local movements can challenge global structures of violence and create a more just and harmonious world.



Reliable Information Sources and Expertise



Access to accurate, balanced information is key to challenging state-driven propaganda. The programme draws on reliable sources and experts who offer alternative perspectives on global conflicts, imperialism, and peace-building efforts. These include:

Find a list of alternative news and commentary on YouTube or their own channels and see our full '**Rango's List**' of heroes of journalists and information sources through which you can better inform yourself.



Delivery Formats



To ensure wide accessibility, the "**Schools Can Stop the Wars!**" programme offers various delivery formats, designed to engage both teachers and students effectively. Choose what you think would be a suitable introduction or special activity for your school from the following ways you can engage with the programme:

1. Online System:

Schools can access all educational resources and materials through an interactive online platform, making it easy to implement lessons and activities in both physical and remote learning environments.

2. Assembly Presentations:

Schools can invite speakers from the programme to deliver powerful presentations, inspiring students to understand their role in global peace efforts and take meaningful action in their communities.

3. Teacher Material Familiarisation Workshops:

Teachers will receive in-depth training on the educational materials, learning how to effectively discuss war, peace, and the humanitarian crisis in Gaza in a balanced and engaging way.

4. Student Awareness Afternoons:

These engaging sessions raise student awareness about ongoing global conflicts and peace-building efforts. Students participate in discussions, activities, and brainstorming sessions about how they can contribute to creating a more peaceful world.

5. One Day/Weekend Group Action Workshops:

Intensive workshops designed to help students and teachers work together to develop peace-building initiatives, including planning school-wide campaigns, community outreach efforts, and advocacy projects.

PLEASE CALL US TO ARRANGE ANY OF THESE EVENTS IN YOUR SCHOOL!



Programme Launch Details

The **"Schools Can Stop the Wars!"** initiative officially launches on **October 7th 2024** - specifically aimed to counter the *hasbara* of the Israeli state that will undoubtedly put out information making the Israeli state the victim, citing its endless Orwellian antisemitic Zionist rhetoric to justify its current genocidal ethnic cleansing of the Holy Land for the *Lebensraum* of Greater Israel. That can no longer be tolerated in the face of 1 year of genocidal evidence in Gaza and now the West Bank and Lebanon.

Jews, Christians, Muslims, Atheists ... all of us can live in peace in the New Millennium after all these barbaric centuries of empire building settler-colonial slaughter and oppression – the national state has captured us all and holds us hostage to corporate greed. If we address our own state and family selfish indoctrination and find instead our human compassion we can break this cycle of hatred and fear.

The cruelty of this genocide marks an end-of-empire fascist oppression that is bringing great suffering to us all who do our best to be kind and caring people – we have civilized human moral values to protect us from the savage behaviour being live-streamed to our screens. We must all learn to abide by a peaceful, just, rules-based international order that respects civil society and brings us to unity through community.

We want everyone to have a means to add our voices to all the local and global movements that are necessary for people to unite in peace. Amplify the call through your school's community for an end to all conflicts, especially the violence in Gaza and beyond by bringing the Schools Can Stop the War programme to your classrooms.



Get Involved



Join the movement and help schools become champions of peace. By participating in this initiative, students and teachers and your school can contribute to a global effort that challenges war, injustice, and apartheid.

For more information, resources, or to book a presentation, visit our website or contact our team at:

Email: Gordon.sillence@gmail.com

Website: Forestschoolsupport.net

YouTube Channel: Schools can Stop the Wars

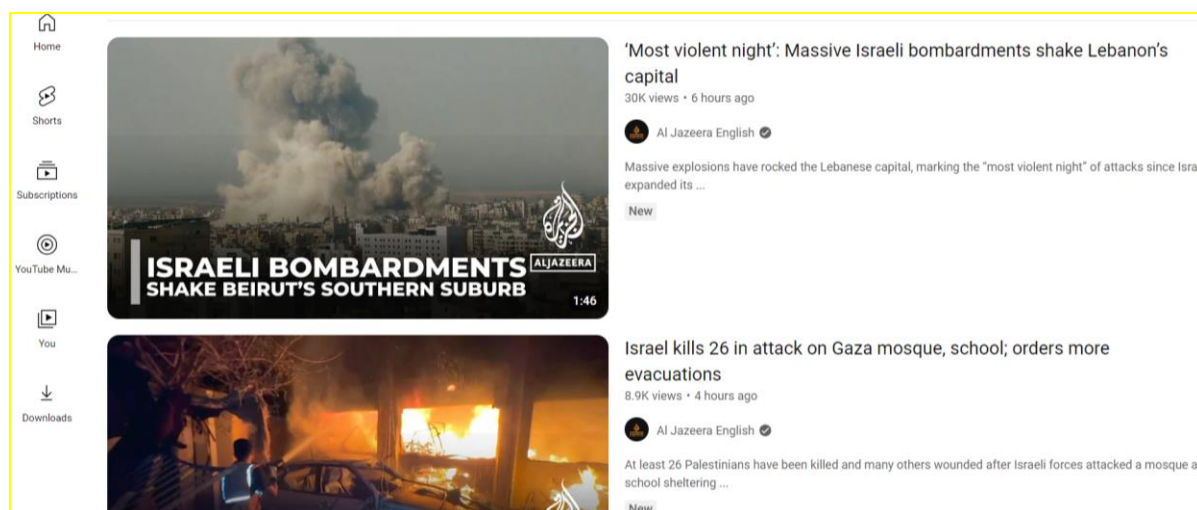
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BkXTW86Flao&list=PLx14-bCrZvE8aew--JQWva1TH_9q1ZC_Y&ab_channel=GordonSillence

**Please speak with other parents, teachers or students
to see if you can organise a
‘Schools Can Stop the Wars!’ Programme
in Your School.**

Contact Us at the Forest School Support System.



SCHOOLS CAN STOP THE WARS! MEDIA SOURCES INFORMATION PACK



Informing Yourself in an Orwellian Age about Zionism and Palestine.

With the truth in short supply in mainstream media and the deception of the masses in full swing, misinformation in the information age is weaponised by our states and corporations to maintain this genocidal status quo.

'At present, five corporations dominate the media landscape, including 90% of what we read, watch, listen to, and depend on for information about the world. Nowhere among the headlines do we hear the perspectives of working people and movements for social justice. Our mission is to break through the static, disinformation and fluff.' (Breakthrough News 2024)

An AIPAC of Lies

'Hasbara' is the word the Israeli state use to 'explain' events in a clever way as to obscure the truth in tis favour, a war tactic employed famously by fascists in WWII and now embedded in the DoubleSpeak George Orwell predicted would accompany totalitarian dictatorship of the people and complete suppression and distortion of free speech. Its basically a form of lying, and in this social media-led portrayal of the massacre of civilians the government narrative is barely credible, for all to see. The AIPAC US lobbyists drive this with multi-million dollar propaganda campaigns. However, this would not be exposed without the often courageous work of reporters and journalists who expose the truth behind the generalization, deletion and distortion broadcast to us through mainstream legacy media.



Rango's List! – Candidates for best media and information help to the people of Palestine,



We are in response creating **a *Rango's List!*** of media outlets and reporters taking great care to present the truth of current affairs to us in order to expose the state Doublespeak so cleverly controlling our thoughts and emotions about world affairs.

Palestine needs a Rango right now. Who's crossed the desert to help save the people and their town? Who's the

unwilling hero who faces up to the evil toad mayor and cruel gunslinger Rattlesnake? 21 nominations for best news coverage of the Palestinian situation, bringing clarity of truthful understanding in our Orwellian news world include:

1. Al Jazeera – with Marwan Bishara

Al Jazeera is a Qatar-based news network that has gained global recognition for its coverage of Middle Eastern affairs. Established in 1996, it became one of the first independent news organizations in the Arab world, and its English-language channel, *Al Jazeera English*, has grown into an influential international news source. Al Jazeera is known for providing in-depth analysis and perspectives that differ from Western media, especially regarding conflicts in the Middle East, where it was recently banned in Israel as part of their media blackout to cover up their ethnic cleansing and genocidal war crimes. *Marwan Bishara* is a senior political analyst at Al Jazeera, offering deep insights on global affairs, particularly Middle East politics. Al Jazeera provides comprehensive international news and in-depth analysis, known for its unique perspective on Middle Eastern issues.

YouTube Channel: [Al Jazeera English](#)

2. Democracy Now! – with Amy Goodman

Amy Goodman leads the *Democracy Now!* team, an independent, nonprofit news program that brings forward stories ignored by mainstream media. Known for their investigative journalism and focus on human rights, social justice, and the environment.

YouTube Channel: [Democracy Now!](#)

3. TLDR News

TLDR News is a platform that simplifies complex political and current event topics, often using short, engaging videos. It is popular for delivering unbiased content that breaks down the political landscape in the UK and Europe.

YouTube Channel: [TLDR News](#)



4. **Gideon Levi**

Gideon Levi is an Israeli journalist and columnist for *Haaretz*, known for his critical stance on Israeli government policies, especially regarding the occupation of Palestinian territories. Over the past few decades, Levi has built a reputation as one of the most outspoken critics of Israel's treatment of Palestinians, particularly in Gaza and the West Bank. His weekly column, *The Twilight Zone*, offers insights into the daily struggles of Palestinians living under occupation, providing a perspective rarely seen in Israeli media.

Youtube: [Gideon Levi](#)

5. **DoubleDown News**

DoubleDown News brings a left-wing perspective to critical societal issues, using in-depth interviews and powerful storytelling. The channel often hosts intellectuals and activists to discuss climate change, social justice, and economic inequality.

YouTube Channel: [DoubleDown News](#)

6. **Novara Media - Michael Walker**

Michael Walker is a key figure at *Novara Media*, a progressive media organization focusing on current events, politics, and culture. Novara Media aims to provide an alternative voice on issues often misrepresented by traditional media.

YouTube Channel: [Novara Media](#)

7. **Redacted**

Redacted is a progressive and independent media outlet that dives into topics often overlooked by mainstream media, ranging from government cover-ups to global injustices.

YouTube Channel: [Redacted](#)

Picture: A political satire setting, featuring hosts in casual outfits, using humor and wit to criticize political systems.

8. **Chris Hedges**

Chris Hedges is an American journalist, author, and Presbyterian minister, known for his trenchant critique of war, corporatism, and mass media. His show offers in-depth conversations on societal collapse and the pursuit of justice.

YouTube Channel: [Chris Hedges](#)

9. **Owen Jones**

Owen Jones is a British journalist and political commentator known for his work on socialism, LGBTQ rights, and progressive causes. His videos analyze British politics, often targeting neoliberalism and far-right ideologies.

YouTube Channel: [Owen Jones](#)



10. Richard Medhurst

Richard Medhurst is an independent journalist and political analyst focused on the Middle East, imperialism, and Western interventionist policies. His sharp critiques of foreign policy make him a leading voice in alternative media.

YouTube Channel: [Richard Medhurst](#)

11. Rathbone

Rathbone is a YouTube content creator who covers a variety of topics, often related to current events, social issues, and commentary on trending news. His videos typically feature deep dives into complex subjects with a clear, thoughtful presentation. The content is accessible and focuses on making sense of what's happening in the world through a critical lens.

YouTube Channel: [Rathbone](#)

12. Zach Foster - Palestinian Nexus

Zach Foster is a voice for Palestinian rights, focusing on issues of occupation, freedom, and resistance. His channel highlights the complexities of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict through interviews and on-the-ground footage.

YouTube Channel: [Palestinian Nexus](#)

13. Breaking Points - Krystal Ball and team

Krystal Ball co-hosts *Breaking Points*, a progressive news outlet that seeks to provide a more nuanced and people-centric take on US politics, often critiquing both establishment Democrats and Republicans.

YouTube Channel: [Breaking Points](#)

14. Joe Sacco

Joe Sacco is a journalist and cartoonist known for his works on war and human rights, including the graphic novel *Palestine*. His visuals capture the raw realities of conflict zones and the voices of those affected.

YouTube Channel: [Joe Sacco](#)

15. Breakthrough News - Rania Kalek and team

BreakThrough / BT Media Inc. is a nonprofit media and educational organization dedicated to independent, fact-based reporting and commentary on a diverse range of issues affecting the global movements for social justice. We are a recognized 501(c)3 nonprofit organization in the United States. To remain free of bias and preserve our editorial independence, we accept no corporate donations or state funding. Our



funding derives from our viewers and readers, and foundations that support our mission.

Youtube: [Rania Kalek](#)

16. **Katie Halper**

Katie Halper is a progressive comedian and commentator, often discussing politics from a left-wing perspective. She uses humor to address issues like healthcare, inequality, and the failures of centrist politics.

YouTube Channel: [Katie Halper](#)

17. **_ Kernow Damo**

British journalist and social commentator who says 'It's politics presented in the only way I know how - often loud, always straight to the point and the accent is all my own, take it or leave it. Unapologetically left-wing socialist with a distinct dislike for everything Tory, be they blue or red! I'm a Green for the record!

[Kernow Damo](#)

18. **Janta Ka Reporter** - Activist platform focusing on grassroots movements. Janta Ka Reporter was founded by veteran Indian journalist Rifat Jawaid. With over 25 years of experience in the domain of high impact journalism, this former BBC Editor has scaled all divisions and platforms. Janta Ka Reporter channel specialises in Rifat Jawaid's sharp commentary on big international stories and shortcomings in the western media.

Youtube: [Janta Ka](#)

19. **The Greyzone** – Investigative journalism uncovering imperialist agendas.

YouTube: [The Greyzone](#)

20. **Middle East Eye**

Middle East Eye delivers news on the Middle East from a grassroots perspective, focusing on political turmoil, societal shifts, and human rights.

YouTube Channel: [Middle East Eye](#)

21. **The Electronic Intifada**

The Electronic Intifada is a news outlet focused on Palestinian rights and the struggle for justice in the region. It offers reports, commentaries, and analysis from a Palestinian perspective.

YouTube Channel: [The Electronic Intifada](#)



22. **George Galloway**

George Galloway is a British politician and broadcaster, offering fiery critiques of Western foreign policy and advocating for anti-imperialism. He is known for his debates and powerful speeches.

YouTube Channel: [George Galloway](#)

23. **Scott Ritter**

Scott Ritter is a former UN weapons inspector and military analyst, known for his outspoken stance on Iraq and opposition to US interventionism. His commentary focuses on military affairs and geopolitics.

YouTube Channel: [Scott Ritter](#).

24. **John Mearsheimer**

John Mearsheimer is a renowned political scientist and one of the founders of the "offensive realism" theory. He often critiques US foreign policy and advocates for a more restrained global approach.

YouTube Channel: [John Mearsheimer](#)



A Shortlist Of Ten Critical Thinkers Giving Us Insight into the Military-Industrial-Governance Complex



Here's a shortlist of ten Critical Thinkers, Politicians a Musician and a Comedian who can give us a rational and heartfelt attitude towards the issues of war and genocide raging on the planet with a focus on Palestine.

1. Gabor Maté

Gabor Maté is a renowned Hungarian-Canadian physician holocaust survivor, speaker, and author, known for his work in addiction, stress, and childhood development. Maté explores the link between personal trauma and illness, promoting a holistic view of mental and physical health. He emphasizes how unresolved trauma can manifest in addiction, chronic diseases, and societal dysfunctions, and advocates for an end to Zionism to end the trauma in the Middle East.

YouTube Appearance: [Gabor Maté - The Power of Addiction and the Addiction of Power](#)

2. Noam Chomsky

Noam Chomsky is an influential American linguist, philosopher, cognitive scientist, and political activist. Known as one of the most cited scholars in modern history, Chomsky is a vocal critic of U.S. foreign policy, neoliberalism, and the media. He pioneered theories in linguistics and is widely respected for his analysis of power structures and media manipulation.

YouTube Appearance: [Noam Chomsky on Al Jazeera](#)

3. Jeffrey Sachs

Jeffrey Sachs is a prominent American economist and professor known for his work on sustainable development, economic policy, and global poverty. Sachs has advised multiple governments and international organizations, advocating for solutions to climate change, public health crises, and economic inequality. His expertise extends



to finding pragmatic solutions to complex global challenges.

YouTube Appearance: [Jeffrey Sachs - Global Economy and the Future](#)

4. Jeremy Corbyn

Jeremy Corbyn is a British politician and former leader of the UK Labour Party. Known for his socialist views, Corbyn advocates for policies such as wealth redistribution, nationalization of key industries, and a foreign policy rooted in anti-imperialism. His leadership of the Labour Party represented a shift towards more progressive ideals, although he faced strong opposition from establishment figures and media.

YouTube Channel: [Jeremy Corbyn](#)

5. Jill Stein

Jill Stein is an American physician, activist, and politician, best known for running as the Green Party candidate in the U.S. presidential elections. Stein advocates for progressive policies like universal healthcare, renewable energy, and campaign finance reform. She is a vocal critic of both major U.S. political parties and promotes a grassroots political movement.

YouTube Channel: [Jill Stein](#)

6. Ilan Pappé

Ilan Pappé is an Israeli historian and professor, known for his critical perspective on Israeli policies and his advocacy for Palestinian rights. His work focuses on the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and he has written extensively on what he calls the "ethnic cleansing" of Palestine. Pappé is a controversial figure in Israel due to his opposition to Zionism and support for a one-state solution.

YouTube Appearance: [Ille Pape - The Ethnic Cleansing of Palestine](#)

- 7. Professor Seyed Mohammad Marandi** is an Iranian-American academic, currently a professor of English Literature and Orientalism at the University of Tehran. He also serves as the head of the North American Studies program at the same institution. Marandi is a frequent commentator on Middle Eastern politics, particularly on Western media outlets like Al Jazeera, BBC, and CNN, where he offers a pro-Iranian government perspective on regional conflicts, particularly involving Israel and the United States. He has also been an advisor to Iran's nuclear negotiations team. For more of his commentary, you can explore his interviews on platforms like Al Jazeera or visit his writings on [Middle East Eye](#).

- 8. Thomas Suarez** is an author and historian best known for his book "*State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel*", where he examines the roots of modern Zionism and critiques what he sees as its violent methods for establishing a state in



Palestine. In his work, Suarez argues that a form of "Messianic Zionism" has significantly influenced Western policies, shaping the way the West interacts with the Middle East. His work is controversial but widely discussed in academic circles focused on Israel-Palestine relations.

Youtube: [Thomas Suarez](#)

9. **Lowkey**

Lowkey is a British-Iraqi rapper and activist known for his powerful critiques of war, imperialism, and racism. His music videos and interviews focus on the struggles of the oppressed, especially in the Middle East.

YouTube Channel: [Lowkey](#)

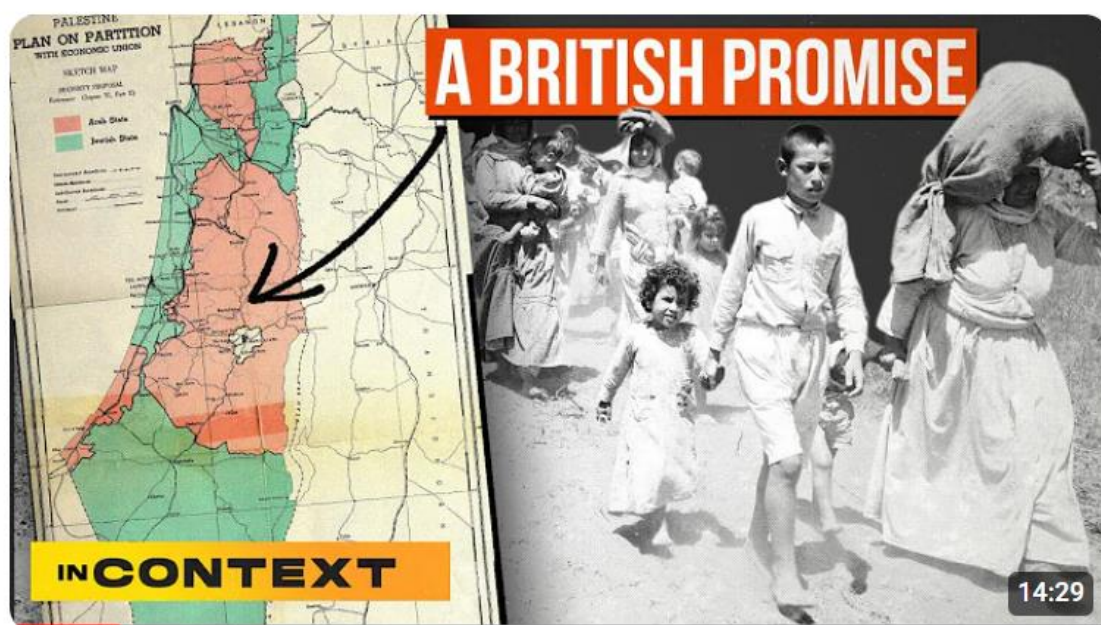
10. **Tadhg Hickey**

Tadhg Hickey is an Irish comedian, actor, and activist known for his satirical sketches, which tackle political issues with humour and wit. Hickey has gained prominence through his viral videos, often blending Irish history and modern political critique, particularly on topics like imperialism, nationalism, Brexit and especially Palestine. His work includes sharp takes on Irish and British politics, with a focus on anti-imperialism, and his comedic sketches often resonate with both Irish and Welsh audiences.

Homepage: [Tadhg Hickey](#)



IT ALL DIDN'T START ON OCTOBER 7TH!



A Conversation with School Parents – What Really Happened?

It's October 7th, 2024, one year after the 'Al Aksa Mosque' Hamas operation to capture Israelis to exchange for Palestinian detainees sparked the deadliest round of Middle East war this century for the occupied and besieged resident refugee population of Gaza and the West Bank, the remnants of Palestine since the 1948 *Nakba* or Catastrophe displaced 750,000 indigenous people to make *Lebensraum* for Zionist settlers, themselves running from their own holocaust at the hands of fascists in Europe during World War II.

One that day last year there was a suspicious and surprising breach of Israel's border fence security system, over 1,200 people were killed by both the resistance forces as the abducted over 250 hostages. We now know that during the violent abductions it was also Israeli helicopter gunships that massacred their own people, then the government propaganda machine covered up and distorted the facts in a hasbara of lies that further demonised the Palestinians.

It conveniently signalled the rationale for full-scale military implementation of the 'Definitive Step' - the 2017 right-wing Zionist military government ethnic cleansing plan (designed by current Knesset ministers Ben Givri and Smotrich). With full US support for full scale destruction of Gaza, the IDF and its MOSSAD intelligence department have shown all the world in the course of one year their appalling state terrorist credentials, whilst its PR claims it to be the MOST moral army in the world – NOT.



This Orwellian named defence force thrives on war, and has built the Israel state on that war machine, with Benjamin Netanyahu the last of the long line of Israeli state despots running the Zionist world domination project through a constant warring with neighbouring states and ignoring all UN peace resolutions to the point of becoming a rogue state in the diplomatic process, where it is clearly recognised by Israel's 59 Arab state neighbours that a diplomatic negotiated settlement is absolutely necessary to end permanent war, of which Netanyahu, the right wing settlers and the war manufacture and finance institutions and the sole beneficiaries.

For one year Fighter jets, missiles, bombs, tanks, machine guns and snipers have been let loose on civilian men women and children in the world's largest open air prison as Gaza was known from the start of the 2006 siege to the breaking point of October 7th. to the consequent deaths of over 40,000 people, mainly women and children civilians, with 2 million still living in the grey rubble with its grizzly remains of missing rotting corpses trapped in their bomb-blasted concrete tombs.

These tragic deaths include the deliberate targeting of journalists, academics, medics alongside military resistance fighters, including their families – how humane is that? All socio-cultural assets in Gaza, including libraries, universities, schools, hospitals and healthcare centers have been decimated, with water, electricity and fuel cut off and humanitarian aid cruelly withheld from starving children.

All under the social media spotlight, with the US UK and European governments running their lucrative Zionist project to its final phase of the apartheid Israeli military state outpost of hegemonic US Empire.

But the double standards of the West have been blatantly exposed as the world compares the war in Ukraine to the war in the Middle East. War crimes are being committed at every level and site of Western US led governance, taking us to one minute to Armageddon if not closer. Yet there is one law for some and another for others when it comes to the killing, maiming and starvation of women and children by the million.

The *Schools Can Stop the Wars! Programme* information offers all of us a wealth of material from a just and humane perspective on war, grounded in multi-religious and humanist moral values. It can provide you with perspectives that can break down state manipulation of the population, especially these days through misinformation campaigns.

Once again I ask any Israeli/Jewish parents in any school to come forward and take an active role in bringing peace and justice to the Holy Land by helping promote our call for an end to the war, occupation and ethnic cleansing of Palestinian territory and the genocide of the Palestinian people through displacement, disease and starvation. Your voice to add to the millions of other voices all speaking from our common sense and with good hearts.

See the Schools Can Stop the Wars section of the school website

<https://forestschooolsupport.net/>.



A timeline of all the wars in Palestine and surrounding countries since 1924 up to now.

Figure 1. Table outlining significant wars in Palestine and the surrounding region since 1924, with estimated death tolls and geographical locations with October 7th in the timeline.

War/Conflict	Year	Geographical Location	Estimated Death Toll
Great Syrian Revolt	1925-1927	Syria, parts of Lebanon and Palestine	~6,000
Arab Revolt in Palestine	1936-1939	Palestine	~5,000
First Arab-Israeli War	1947-1949	Palestine, Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria	~13,000 - 20,000
Suez Crisis (Tripartite Aggression)	1956	Egypt, Gaza Strip, Sinai Peninsula	~3,000
Six-Day War	1967	Israel, West Bank, Gaza Strip, Egypt, Syria, Jordan	~20,000
War of Attrition	1967-1970	Israel-Egypt border	~5,000 - 10,000
Yom Kippur War (October War)	1973	Israel, Sinai Peninsula, Golan Heights, Egypt, Syria	~18,500 - 21,000
Lebanese Civil War	1975-1990	Lebanon	~120,000 - 150,000
First Lebanon War (Operation Peace for Galilee)	1982	Lebanon, Israel	~17,825
First Intifada	1987-1993	West Bank, Gaza Strip, Israel	~2,000 - 3,000
Second Intifada	2000-2005	West Bank, Gaza Strip, Israel	~4,300 - 5,500



War/Conflict	Year	Geographical Location	Estimated Death Toll
2006 Lebanon War	2006	Lebanon, Israel	~1,200 - 1,500
Gaza War (Operation Cast Lead)	2008-2009	Gaza Strip, Israel	~1,400 - 1,400
Gaza War (Operation Pillar of Defense)	2012	Gaza Strip, Israel	~160
Gaza War (Operation Protective Edge)	2014	Gaza Strip, Israel	~2,251
Gaza War (May Conflict)	2021	Gaza Strip, Israel	~256
Gaza-Israel Conflict (October 7 Attack)	2023	Gaza Strip, Israel	~1,000+ (ongoing)

The estimated death tolls are based on varying sources, and some figures may fluctuate depending on different historical accounts.

Graph displaying the estimated death tolls for various wars and conflicts in Palestine and the surrounding region from 1924 to 2023. The October 7th attack of 2023 is highlighted in red for clarity.



Timeline of the Occupation and Blockade



Detailed timeline for the **occupation of the West Bank** and the **blockade of Gaza**, along with statistics on Israeli attacks, the number of prisoners taken on various occasions, and the total number of prisoners as of September 2023. The data is separated for Gaza and the West Bank.

Event	Year	Description
Israeli Occupation of the West Bank	1967	Following the Six-Day War, Israel occupies the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.
Blockade of Gaza	2007	Israel imposes a land, sea, and air blockade on Gaza following Hamas's takeover.

Israeli Military Operations & Attacks

Operation/Conflict	Year	Location	Number of Attacks	Number of Palestinian Prisoners Taken
Six-Day War	1967	West Bank & Gaza	Numerous air and ground strikes	~6,000 prisoners (West Bank)
Operation Defensive Shield	2002	West Bank	Multiple ground incursions	~5,500 prisoners (West Bank)
Gaza War (Operation Cast Lead)	2008-2009	Gaza	Multiple airstrikes, invasion	~1,200 prisoners (Gaza)
Gaza War (Operation Pillar of Defense)	2012	Gaza	Multiple airstrikes	Minimal captures (Gaza)
Gaza War (Operation Protective Edge)	2014	Gaza	Multiple airstrikes, invasion	~150 prisoners (Gaza)
Operation Break the Wave	2022	West Bank	Raids and arrests in West Bank towns	~1,500 prisoners (West Bank)
October 2023 Conflict	2023	Gaza & West Bank	Airstrikes, ground operations	(Ongoing, data unavailable)



Total Palestinian Prisoners as of September 2023

The total number of Palestinian prisoners held by Israel as of **September 2023** includes both **Gaza and the West Bank**.

Location	Number of Prisoners
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West Bank	~4,500
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Gaza	~100
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Total	~4,600
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Summary of the Table

1. **West Bank** has been under occupation since 1967, with frequent military incursions and mass arrests, especially during major military operations.
2. **Gaza** has been blockaded since 2007, with three major wars between 2008 and 2023, resulting in several arrests during ground operations, though fewer than in the West Bank.

This table shows the frequency of attacks and how Israel's operations resulted in the detention of Palestinians, often in the thousands, during major military events. The number of prisoners remains significant, with around 4,600 as of September 2023.

Classroom Lesson: the 'Nakba' in Palestinian History

English Homework Sample Lesson - Senior School (13-18 yrs old)

History and Current Affairs: The British Empire and the Middle East

1 hour lesson plan + home work





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=megzzpTWajg&ab_channel=AUjazeeraEnglish

You have been shown the above video that describe historical events relevant to today's current affairs. Make notes on the video and create a timeline of events.

Lesson Discussion and Homework:

Task 1) Comprehension: Make a summary of the video that covers a) the historical event of the Nakba (Catastrophe) and b) the link to current-day issues (Right of Return).

(1 page - 20 mins)

Task 2) In the video you will hear the catastrophe wrought on the indigenous population by the settler-colonial process. Please describe one other place where similar events have occurred in the British and American empires. Summarize three key messages from the video.

(1 page - 20 mins)

Task 3) Comment on the nature of the information. Summarize the conclusion of the programme. What would you say about the programme in terms of current affairs?

(1 page – 20 mins)



Background – the Inner Peace Forest School - Stop the War Programme Summer 2024



On June 21st 2023, we set up the Peace Parks Music Movement based at the Inner Peace Forest retreat in Southern Portugal.. At that time we protested the war in Ukraine with the campaign. *'Paris Olympics 24, Make Ukraine the Last War.'* Since the escalation of military activities in the Middle East on October 7th, with the Ukraine war still in mind, our Olympic Truce focus has turned to Palestine, where as we all know the Israeli state - supported by the US and its Allied military and corporate rulers - with the private financier banking institutions such as Rothschilds - are running their war machine to the full by committing a callous and cruel genocide of the the Palestinian people. Today and over the coming days and weeks we will continue to witness 600,000 children - along with their mothers, fathers and carers totalling 1.5

million people - being systematically starved and beaten to death in front of our own eyes - and the eyes of our own children.

Since our 'Make Ukraine the Last War! launched we now wish to focus the call for Truce to call for a stop to the horror being caused by the right wing genocidal policies of the Israeli State, US, Britain, Germany and other nations imposing military-enforced occupation and apartheid on 1.2 million Palestinian children and another 1 million imprisoned refugee adults. We have now added to the Stop the War Campaign slogan...' ***Apartheid and Genocide No More.***

The Inner Peace Forest School ' Stop the War Paris Olympics '24 ' programme

The programme is both a personal and professional appeal to the humanity of all parents in our school and others, parents of whatever nationality, religion or political interest, to put our human morality first and support this peace program in the spirit of empathy and compassion, and as an example to our children at school. Many of you would have read my Xmas 'Animal Farm Revisited' post Orwellian story at the end of the year, ending with the animals corralled at the end of the farm, no shelter, no food, no water, wounded, sick and



dying. This 31st March Equinox you heard me reiterate the ‘ -Stop the War!’ end of Spring term message.

Now more than 1 year into this online 24/7 ethnic cleansing of Palestinians, I am still disappointed in the response I have had from school families in my own school and from what I can see in schools in general. I am hoping the peace program we will now run at the school will compensate for a lack of action from the school and its community to date to speak up for the children being killed in our names by our governments. Not in my name please.

The activities programme will echo the current University protest movement at the school level and link to the Summer Olympic Truce message and the Stop the War campaign in the UK. We will present the programme in the school to raise the awareness of what is happening in the face of the government lies we all hear. One of the most disturbing aspects of this horror show has been the lies that our states tell us to cover up their collusion in this historic injustice. We will involve those students who voluntarily wish to participate in the ‘BDS - No Vote Protest’ and student actions, which we will also be asking you to support at home.

I am still particularly interested in any Jewish/Israeli families from the school or your friends who could represent the ‘Jewish Voices for Peace’ or ‘ If Not Now’ Organization or similar. A call for a ceasefire and prisoner/hostage exchange benefits everyone except the military industrial war mongers. None of us wishes to see either ourselves or our children manipulated by the nation state war machine, especially as they all grow up to be of age when the state calls them in a future perhaps darker than this one.

We as parents concerned for humanity must at the same time confront our own nationalist indoctrination- to agree with putting the perverse concept of ‘national security’ above the lives of 1.2 million children living in the same nation - this is moral no no, and we must collectively show our children a moral stance by example. And by deed. For caring words are not enough. So please join in the activities we will be running and really make an Olympic effort with me, our children and the wonderful international community we have here in Peaceful Portugal.

In practical terms worked toward a Summer Peace Parks Music Camp with our Algarve star Peyoti with his Zeitgeist song ‘Palestinian Children,’ and former music teacher Marek Juggler launching his ‘World Peace’ album of songs he wrote here.

The event ran from the 16th of July to the 20th of July and highlighted the start of the Olympic Truce on the 19th of July at the Pizza Party. Camp when celebrated the start of six weeks of global peace during the Olympic Games, calling for the Truce - just to make it happen in one country - Palestine - and stand up to our government’s financial military, industrial stranglehold on our culture, our global culture before censorship kills free speech on this issue.

Then our schools and families – by bringing diverse communities together for the well-being of our children as its daily business - can truly provide a good example to them by being part of a historical and global positive force from a school that puts peace first. Other schools are now



being invited other to join the program, linking it to the '*Fridays for the Future*' type school activities on Climate Change. Please add your school to the **SDG 16 Schools for Peace** movement

A *Schools Can Stop the Wars!* program for your school can be presented through an assembly message, lesson plans, or even 'Awareness Day on Empathy and Understanding'. Check out the ways your school can be involved.

Please contact Gordon Sillence for further information



*Schools **Can** Stop the Wars!*

*Join in **Now!***

