Social media bosses face jail for failing to provide data

Failure on the part of social media companies to provide bereaved parents with data to explain why their children died could result in jail for their bosses. The new laws, which are being considered by Michelle Donelan, the Technology Secretary, have been laid in Parliament as amendments to the Online Safety Bill. The proposals aim to prevent a repeat of the suffering experienced by the parents of Molly Russell who were denied access to her social media accounts for nearly five years after she took her life. The changes will create a new duty by Ofcom to require social media companies to hand over relevant content on "a timeframe that is fair to all parties". Failure to do so will result in fines of up to 10% of global turnover or a maximum one-year jail sentence. The Daily Telegraph

Young carers report increased responsibilities

More than half of children and young adults who act as carers for their family members in the UK say the time they spend caring has increased in the past year, a survey for the charity Carers Trust has found. Some 56% of the 1,109 children and young adults polled now care for more people than they used to. Additionally, 57% also reported that they always or usually worry about the cost of living increases, with 45% of those who work reporting they always or usually struggle to balance caring with paid work. Carers Trust said: "A national strategy for unpaid carers must finally be developed after years of delay, while an overhaul of Carer's Allowance is long overdue. Young people also tell us they urgently need support with mental health and access to breaks. It's high time we gave them the help they so sorely need."

Evening Standard The Independent UK

Schools battling Andrew Tate views as boys back his misogyny

School leaders have warned that Andrew Tate is still influencing boys in schools with his harmful and misogynistic ideologies despite being detained in Romania. Geoff Barton, general secretary of the ASCL, expressed "serious concern" over the "rising amount of misogynistic material in circulation, including that propagated by Andrew Tate". He urged the Government to provide more support and resources to help schools counter such ideologies, saying: "Schools cannot fight this battle on their own." Peter Radford, a school speaker who gives talks on equality and inclusion, said most teachers had not heard of Mr Tate before he was arrested but are now attempting to "back-pedal" to address the "overt misogynist behaviour" he appears to have caused. He suggested that the arrest had only "solidified" support for him because his backers have framed it as him "soldiering on against the dark force of 'wokism' that's trying to cancel us all." Jake White, a teacher at Epping St John's Church of England School in Essex, decided to do an assembly to highlight the misogyny in Mr Tate's messaging, after hearing some pupils repeat sexist language.

Over 140,000 children have disappeared from schools since pandemic

A warning has been issued for the "ghost children" who did not return to school after the worst of the pandemic had passed. Figures by the Department of Education (DoE) show more than 140,000 school children were "severely absent" in the summer of last year. It is feared the number of those who miss at least half of classes is continuing to grow. The DoE says the term means children of school age not receiving a suitable education, either

with teachers or home schooling. It comes after schools across the UK suffered seemingly endless changes in learning patterns for almost two years. At the height of the pandemic, millions were plunged into online learning as schools remained open to vulnerable pupils and children of key workers only. England's Children's Commissioner Dame Rachel de Souza said: "There are thousands of children who support services do not have contact with, and authorities are therefore unable to ensure their safety, wellbeing and learning. This is an urgent problem that requires immediate, collaborative and practical solution."

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