

*Educate for life*

### Life Science and Everyone Matters Newsletter Half Term 3

Dear parent/carers,

This half term Year 7 students have completed topics relating to their physical and mental health. Students have studied the skeletal and muscular systems and applied their knowledge of these body systems to the importance of physical activity, sleep, and energy drinks to maintain positive physical health. Students have also studied factors that can impact their mental health and looked at strategies to maintain positive mental health.

Year 8 students have covered a topic on variation, applying their knowledge to population trends and evolution, students also identified reasons why people look different and the importance of respecting differences. Students have also completed a topic on respiration, looking at the differences between aerobic and anaerobic respiration and the importance of the circulatory system.

Year 9 students have been learning about relationships and have approached this topic with a great level of maturity. Students have been looking at the factors that make healthy and unhealthy relationships, consent, contraception, and sexually transmitted infections. Students in Year 9 have also been learning about the urinary system which has given students the opportunity to take part in a kidney dissection and debates surrounding organ donation.

Students in Year 7 and Year 8 have also completed their mid-year assessment. This assessment data will lead to a report being sent home shortly.

Topics covered in Life Science this coming half term are listed in the table below.

Year 7	
The Nervous System	What is the nervous system?
	What is the brain?
	What are reflexes?
	What is neurodiversity?
	What does alcohol do to the brain?
Respect and Communities	Is everyone treated equally?
	What are stereotypes?
	How might people with disabilities be treated?
	How do we respond to racism?

Year 8	
Infection and Immunity	What are pathogens?
	How are diseases transmitted?
	How do we prevent the spread of disease?
	What is the immune system?
	How do we treat and prevent disease?
Respect and Communities	Is everyone treated equally?
	What are stereotypes?
	How might people with disabilities be treated?
	How do we respond to racism?

Year 9	
Plant Reproduction	What is the structure of a flower?
	What is pollination?
	What is fertilisation and germination?
	What is seed dispersal?
Criminal Justice	Where do laws come from?
	Are all courtrooms the same?
	What do I need to know about gangs?
	What should I know about knife crime?
	What are hate crimes?

This term, Year 10 students have also applied maturity and respect in learning about keeping healthy. They have explored the meaning of sexuality and healthy relationships. Additionally, students have built on their understanding of reproductive health and fertility. Students also learned about different methods of contraception and the facts around miscarriage and abortion. These topics gave the students an opportunity to have engaging discussions.

Year 11 students completed their Everyone Matters curriculum by considering ways to keep safe and healthy. During this unit, they identified how to make safe choices and show respect for others. They explored how to manage money and how taxes are calculated. Students also explored how to be politically aware and active, and discussed the importance of being inclusive of all.

After half term, the students will learn the following topics;

Year 10	
What is respect?  More information on these topics can be found here.  <a href="#">Honour-based abuse &amp; FGM   Reducing the Risk</a>  <a href="#">Healthy relationships   NSPCC</a>	What is honour based violence?
	Why could honour based violence still be happening today?
	What is forced marriage?
	What is FGM?
	What is the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships?
	How do I recognise manipulation and coercive control?
	What is the law around FGM, relationship abuse and forced marriage?

Year 11
How can I prepare for my upcoming exams?
Year 11 students will now receive a bespoke programme of support in order to prepare for the upcoming exam period.

We continue to appreciate your parental support. If you require further signposting to support in relation to any of the topics above, please do get in touch.

We are looking forward to the half term ahead with our students.

Kind regards,

Danielle Godfrey  
Assistant Principal

Charlie Day  
Deputy Director of Learning