

Life Science and Everyone Matters (E1M) Curriculum newsletter

Dear parents/carers,

This last term students in Year 7 have covered topics in personal safety and levels of organisation. Students have studied the structure and function of cells, developed their practical skills using microscopes, naming bones, and learning about muscle groups. Students have applied their knowledge of the human body to the importance of exercise and staying healthy.

Year 8 students have covered topics in healthy living and gas exchange. Students have increased their understanding of infectious diseases, modelled the transmission of disease, identified lifestyle factors that can affect health, developed skills in first aid, and learning about the respiratory system. Students have applied their knowledge of gas exchange to health including the effects of smoking and vaping.

Year 9 students have covered topics in forensic science and inheritance. Students have developed their understanding of the applications of science and the law, developed practical skills when looking at different types of evidence collection, and studying the genetic basis of life. Year 9 students have also completed their mid-year assessment, a report based on their assessment will be sent home shortly in the new year.

Students in Year 7 and Year 8 will complete their mid-year assessment next half term.

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

Year 7	
Relationships and Reproduction	What are relationships?
	What is family?
	What are healthy and unhealthy relationships?
	What is adolescence?
	What happens during adolescence?
	What is the male reproductive system?
	What is the female reproductive system?
	What is fertilisation?
	How does a fetus develop?
	What is the menstrual cycle?
	How is reproduction controlled?

Year 8	
Variation	What is competition and adaptation?
	How do organisms adapt?
	What is variation?
	What is continuous and discontinuous variation?

	What is evolution?
	What is the evidence for evolution?
	What killed the dinosaurs?
	How do organisms become extinct?
	How do we prevent extinction?

Year 9	
Reproductive Health	What are respectful relationships?
	What are sexual relationships?
	What is FGM?
	What is pornography?
	What is consent?
	What is sexting?
	What is contraception?
	What are STIs?
	What are the stages of pregnancy?
	What can affect a healthy pregnancy?

Last term in Everyone Matters (E1M), Year 10 students reviewed how to keep healthy whilst also considering how make healthy and safe choices. This included learning about the dangers of substance abuse and how to assess and respond to risk, as well as learning about organ donation and the signs and symptoms of testicular and breast cancer. Students also explored the signs of disordered eating and where to get support. They responded maturely and sensibly to these emotive, but important topics.

Last term, Year 11 students were preparing for life in modern Britain. This included exploring their options after Year 11. Students also explored their personal strengths, as well as creating their own CV. Students also studied workplace etiquette and explored their employment rights and responsibilities, as well as learning how to succeed in a job interview.

Topics to be covered in E1M over this next half term are listed below.

Year 10	
How can I keep healthy? Part 2	What is meant by the term's sexuality and healthy relationships?
	What are the facts about reproductive health and fertility?
	How do I choose and access appropriate contraception?
	What are the facts and beliefs about miscarriage and abortion?
	How do we ensure a healthy pregnancy?
	What support is available for fertility issues?
	What is the menopause?
	How is reproduction controlled?

Year 11	
How can I keep safe and healthy?	How can I make safe choices and show respect for others?
	How can I keep safe around substances?
	How can I manage money effectively?
	How can I be politically active?
	How can I be inclusive of all?

Further information and support on how to respond to these topics at home can be found below:

- [NEW Young Persons Advice Guide | Lets Talk About It](#)
- [Support for Parents | Lets Talk About It](#)
- [Healthy relationships | NSPCC](#)

Once again, thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

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Deputy Director, Life Science