



St Bartholomew's CE Multi Academy Trust
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Woodfield Primary School

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Wednesday, 30th June

Dear parent/carers,

REPRODUCTION AND PUBERTY - Year 5

Every year, as part of their Science lessons, Year 5 children are taught about how plants and animals reproduce, including humans. They also look at life cycles, which includes the changes that take place during puberty.

For the past few years we have watched a BBC DVD, which we will be using again this year. The DVD and subsequent discussion encourages children to have a responsible attitude to reproduction and how the body changes during puberty.

The children will be watching this programme in single sex groups during the week beginning the 12th July, and afterwards the children will have a chance to discuss the subject with a male or female member of staff. If you would like to see the programme before the children do, please contact the school before the 5th July and we will arrange a viewing time.

This year, Project GIVE will be attending school to speak to Year 5 and 6 pupils about periods. Project GIVE is an initiative launched by education community interest company Inspiring Healthy Choices to reduce the stigma surrounding periods and prepare young people for puberty. They deliver this information in age appropriate educational workshops delivered by the founder of the company, During the session, students will gain information about the entire menstrual cycle and prepare them for when periods start; they will encourage students to speak more freely about their own body and help them to understand that periods are not embarrassing and that they are normal and worth talking about. Project GIVE are an inclusive company and do not segregate pupils by gender. They see it equally important that boys learn about menstrual cycles too to go some way to reduce stigma.

In September 2020, the Department for Education announced changes to the RSE curriculum (Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education). The puberty topic is now part of the compulsory health curriculum, therefore parents do not have the right to withdraw their child from these lessons. However, you do have the opportunity to withdraw your child from the DVD and subsequent discussion if you wish but please discuss this with your child's class teacher before the 12th July.

Yours sincerely,

Year 5 Team