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6 June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers of Y5 pupils

SRE Education – “ALL ABOUT US”

As part of our Science topic and our Sex and Relationships Education (SRE) Policy, we will soon be teaching the Y5 children about two important issues: **physical and emotional changes** as well as **hygiene**.

This is an important time for the children, and many of them are already experiencing changes, both physically and emotionally. Previous experience has shown us that, by this time of year, many of the children will probably have heard rumours and mis-information (perhaps) about some of these important issues. Our policy is aimed at ensuring that children have accurate information which is **age-appropriate**. The main sessions will be held on **30th June, 2nd and 3rd July**. We thought you would like to know in advance so that you can be prepared, should your child want to discuss anything with you at home at the time.

The sessions consist of a short video about puberty from the series “All About Us”, produced by Channel Four - specifically for use in primary schools. We will group the boys and girls separately, in order to allow them to discuss issues that relate directly to them. During the following session, each group will view the other group’s video so that they are better able to understand each other. There will be follow-up discussions when children are able to pose questions anonymously. However, we always check to ensure that their questions are suitable before discussing them with the group.

You are more than welcome to contact us to arrange a viewing of the videos in school. This can be made available to you at any time. We will also provide some information leaflets to send home in order to support you with managing any conversations you might have at home. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of us in school.

We feel that RSHE is an extremely important part of a child’s education and it forms the foundations of all that we do at The Lanes. SRE is a part of this curriculum and is based on clear guidance from the Department of Education. You do have the right to withdraw your child from SRE lessons but we would really encourage you to discuss this with us in the first instance. If you do wish to withdraw your child, please let us know in writing.

A copy of the current school policy can be found on the school website. If you want any more information, please contact us via the year group email or speak to the class teacher.

Alongside the content above, we will also be using resources from the NSPCC to help us talk to children about healthy relationships. There are also resources that can be used at home to enable further discussion whilst doing activities with your children. These are hosted on the NSPCC website www.nspcc.org.uk/activities.

Talking PANTS with your children

‘Talk PANTS’ is a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex. The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at www.nspcc.org.uk/pants.

Childline Under 12's Website

Childline also have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. Your child can visit it at www.childline.org.uk/kids.

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website www.nspcc.org.uk/parents.

Yours sincerely,

Year 5 staff