



# St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School

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Head Teacher – Mrs R Wilkinson

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Next week, in line with the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum, we will be starting our new science topic. This topic will involve the children learning about a number of different areas of human development including reproduction, the gestation period and changes during puberty. This new topic **will not** go into detail about intercourse but will involve the children learning about cells combining.

Below is a list of the key vocabulary and the context that your child will be covering:

- **Asexual reproduction** is when one parent produces new life due to one cell dividing itself multiple times
- **Sexual reproduction** is when a **male sex cell (male gamete/ sperm/ angiosperm/ pollen)** **fertilises** a **female sex cell (egg)** to create an offspring that resembles the parent but is not identical to them.
- **Fertilisation** takes place when the **male gamete** and the **female gamete** combine
- **Embryo**
- **Foetus**
- The **womb** is an organ in a woman's body where a baby develops during the **gestation period**
- **Adolescence** is the transitional phase of growth and development between childhood and adulthood
- **Menopause** is a period of transition where women's bodies stop producing **eggs**
- **Puberty** is the stage between childhood and adulthood
- **Pubic hair** develops around the **vagina** and **penis** during adolescence
- **Armpit, chest, leg, arm** and **facial hair** develop
- **Spots and acne**
- **Sweat**
- **Testosterone**
- **Penis**
- **Vagina**
- All girls start **menstruation/ period** when they enter puberty
- **Uterus**
- **Ovaries.**

Miss Finnegan and Mrs Dwerryhouse will also be hosting a Zoom session for parents on **Wednesday 30th September at 5pm** and **Friday 2nd October at 9am** to discuss how Relationships and Sex Education is delivered in school.

If you have any questions relating to the topic that will be covered in the coming weeks, please don't hesitate to email the Year 5 email address.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Oates

Loving, learning, growing together with Jesus

