

Friday 3 February 2023

Sandy Lane Blackdown Leamington Spa Warwickshire CV32 6RD

T: 01926 338711 E: nls@northleamington.co.uk www.northleamington.co.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

Year 9 have had a fantastic start to Spring Term, with high standards of themselves both in lesson and around the school community.

Connect for Health

All Year 9 parents/carers should have received a letter on Tuesday sent on behalf of Connect for Health. Connect for Health is a school nurse-led service that supports children, young people and their families in Warwickshire. They deliver key elements of the Healthy Child programme, working to identify and meet the health and wellbeing needs of the school-age population and give individuals the best possible start in life.

All young people will be invited to complete an online health questionnaire. This questionnaire will help to assess their physical and emotional health and wellbeing and will be completed during school time.

The completed questionnaire will then be reviewed by a qualified nurse. A nurse from Compass Connect for Health or member of Compass Children and young people's drug and alcohol service may contact Year 9 students to offer one to one or group intervention to discuss any concerns identified, offer health advice, information and support. Attendance at such an intervention is entirely voluntary.

The questionnaire will go live on Monday 6th February and can be found here <u>http://qlink.uk/ch160/142202</u>. Please do encourage your child to engage with the questionnaire so that they can access relevant support if needed.

Safer Internet Day Tuesday 7 February

In preparation for Safer Internet Day on 7 February, students have been discussing the importance of how to stay safe online as part of our PSHE and Tutor Time curriculum. We therefore thought it would be a useful time to remind parents and carers about the resources which can support you and your child in having productive conversations about their use of social media. Whilst the online world or social media apps can provide fantastic opportunities for collaboration and developing knowledge, commonly used apps such as WhatsApp, Snapchat, TikTok can be extremely difficult for students, who may still be developing their social skills, to navigate safely and within the law.

We have a range of resources on our website which cover the following elements of supporting your child in staying safe online:

- Links to websites with advice and support
- Our monthly Online Safety Newsletter which covers facts on commonly used apps
- How to put parental controls on your child's devices
- How to have productive conversations with your child about the content they are accessing online

https://www.northleamington.co.uk/student-life/student-support/online-safety

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The South West Grid for Learning also offers free online courses for parents and carers to understand more about ways to support children in staying safe online and can be accessed here <u>Parents & Carers</u> <u>SWGfL</u>

How do we support online safety at North Learnington School?

- Curriculum education as part of our RSHE curriculum through PSHE, assemblies and Tutor Time curriculum
- Key adults who have been trained in Mental Health First Aid
- Our Student Support and Engagement Team are able to support with any concerns relating to online safety for both parents and students
- Networks in sharing best practice with other schools
- Liaison with external agencies for support and advice as needed

We also inform students about accessing apps which have an age requirement that they do not meet. As part of our Safeguarding processes we remain committed to referring any child protection issue which arises from the inappropriate use of social media and messaging apps to the relevant external agencies and working with parents to support in keeping children safe online.

Subject Evening Feedback

It was fantastic to see so many parents and carers attending the recent Subject Evening; we hope that you found it a useful evening. Thank you to the 110 people that took the time to answer our parent/carer survey, your feedback is very valuable to us and we really do appreciate you taking the time to support us in this way.

The significant amount of positive comments made around the evening itself, and the wider day to day experience of our students in school, were much appreciated and these will be shared with staff as appropriate. The overall feedback will be used to help us reflect on our practices in school and some of the themes will feature in future year group and whole school bulletins. Any parents/carers who left feedback with their name in the comment box will receive contact from an appropriate member of staff as soon as possible.

Subject-specific educational school trips take place throughout each academic year. We will also be running a year group trip for Year 9 students in the summer term. This will be linked to rewards and attendance and all students will have the opportunity to attend. More information will follow after February half

Career Event

Please find attached a flyer for an opportunity to explore exciting and unique careers in the RAF, from the comfort of your home, on Wednesday 8 February from 18:00-20:30.

Best Wishes

Mrs P Clarke Head of Year 9

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