

17th July 2023



Dear parent/carer,

On Thursday 20th July Year 9 will be participating in their second ERA day of the academic year. They will be in PE kit on the day.

I would also like to remind you that Year 9 will have their sports day on Friday 21st July. It looks set to be changeable weather, but we are hoping the showers pass us by. We will send a reminder nearer the time, but students will require sun cream and water bottles for sports day as well as a light coat in case of showers. They will also need lots of enthusiasm to support their forms on the day. They will of course be in full Montsaye PE kit on the 21st for Sports Day.

On the 20th we have planned a full and varied day to cater to a range of needs, as year 9 begin their GCSEs. They will be undertaking a range of activities on ERA day designed to develop further their physical, mental and emotional skills as well as our values of Excellence, Resilience and Aspiration.

We believe that promoting the health and well-being of our pupils is an important part of our students' overall education. Currently, young people are exposed to many influences and inaccurate information. If students are provided with timely and age appropriate information about addiction and healthy choices, they can make their transition into adulthood with the confidence and accurate information, and hopefully grow into healthy adults able to make positive choices.

As part of the school's Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) Education programme, your child will participate in several workshops. We are excited to be able to start the day with a performance by 4 actors from the Solomon Theatre Company. They are performing 'Time Out' which explores issues of mental health and addiction, followed by a workshop which develops these themes and challenges our students to examine the triggers as well as the support which is available, and ways they can support friends facing challenges.

Several sessions are being led by Year 9 tutors which will help to develop this important relationship with the tutees. There will be a session on team building which will test the students' logic and communication skills. There will also be a STEM activity and a careers top trumps game. There will be a session on healthy relationships, led by two local PCSOs, as well as a session on healthy choices examining some of the challenges such as vaping which now face our young people. These sessions will be providing key information which will support students in making safe and healthy choices as they grow into young adults.

Parents can withdraw their children from all or part of sex education that does not form part of the statutory National Curriculum. If you wish to withdraw your child from the lessons on sexual health and safe relationships please inform the pastoral team by emailing Mrs Wood on swood@montsaye.northants.sch.uk.

Do look out for updates throughout the day on our Twitter, Instagram and Facebook pages. Please contact the school prior to the event if you have any queries about any aspect of the day.

Yours sincerely,

Emma Lopes, SMSC Lead and Claire Petchey, Year 9 Progress Leader