Dear Parents/Carers,

As part of our Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) curriculum in Year 5, we will be focussing on a health education programme during the first two weeks of term 6, from Monday 7th June to Friday 18th June. This programme of teaching is part of our PSHE curriculum, using the Jigsaw scheme of work, in which the children are involved in mindful discussions on topics such as celebrating difference, dreams and goals, relationships and changing and growing.

During this programme of teaching and learning, the children will be finding out about the meaning of the word ‘drugs’ and we will be discussing the difference between legal and illegal drugs. Some of our teaching is based on a series of three television programmes hosted by Tony Robinson. In these programmes various scenarios are acted out in which children find ‘drugs’ in a discarded bag, and discover some of the serious negative outcomes of the use of legal and illegal drugs. The children in the programmes also discuss ways of dealing with challenging situations, ways of saying ‘no’ and thinking about the long-term effects of drugs on people’s health e.g. tobacco.

As well as watching these programmes and having follow up discussions in class, we will be discussing the negative effects and dangers of smoking and excessive alcohol use, what to do if a child finds or is offered drugs and thinking about the statement that ‘all medicines are drugs but not all drugs are medicines’. We will also be using drama in which the children will explore ways of refusing drugs. You can find a summary of all the lessons attached to this letter.

If you have any questions about the health education programme outlined above, please come and talk to us. Alternatively, you might like to view some content using the links provided in the attached document.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully,

Mr Bowkett

Mr Boyle