

Monday May 1, 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to inform you of what will be covered in our upcoming Fully Alive Religion and Health Units over the next couple of weeks.

Theme Three of Fully Alive is called “Created Sexual: Male and Female.” God made us male and female, and all of God’s creation is good. In earlier grades, this theme was presented through a continuing story, which emphasized God’s plan for new life as the result of the love of mothers and fathers. In later grades, the message is unchanged, but the approach is more direct. As students enter puberty, they need to know about the changes they will experience, and about the responsibilities of being created male and female and following God’s plan for them.

In Theme Three we will:

- explore the idea that we do not have bodies, we are bodies; God created us as body/spirit persons.
- consider the major systems of the body, and learn that the reproductive system has unique characteristics.
- learn about the adult female and male reproductive systems and about human fertility in adult women and men.
- discuss the physical changes of puberty, as well as some of the emotional and social changes

Looking Ahead

New terms in Grade 5 that are related to the female reproductive system and have not appeared previously in the student book are vulva, cervix, ovaries, and fallopian tubes. New terms related to the male reproductive system are urethra, scrotum, testicles, and vas deferens. The only new term related to female fertility is menstruation, and new terms related to male fertility are semen, ejaculation, and erection. Other new terms introduced in Grade 5 are fertilization, and implantation.

You will find detailed information about the topics in this theme in the Online Family Edition of *Fully Alive* (www.occb.on.ca).

During the Human Development and Sexual Health Unit for Health students will be exploring the following curriculum expectations:

C1.3 identify the parts of the reproductive system, and describe how the body changes during puberty [PS]

C1.4 describe the processes of menstruation and spermatogenesis, and explain how these processes relate to reproduction and overall development

C2.4 demonstrate an understanding of personal care needs and the application of personal hygienic practices associated with the onset of puberty (*e.g., increased importance of regular bathing/showering and regular clothing changes; use of hygiene products; continuing importance of regular hygiene practices, including hand washing, oral health care, and care of prosthetic devices and residual limbs*) [Personal Skills]

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me through the agenda or call the school. Please sign and **return the bottom portion of this letter to school by Friday May 5th** as we will begin covering this content the week of May 8th.

Katie McLean

I have read the content of the Fully Alive and Health Curriculum letter:

Parent Signature: _____
Student Name: _____