



# Great Marlow School

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Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to inform you about an upcoming topic in your child's Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme for Year 10 at Great Marlow School.

As part of a module on 'Health and Wellbeing' our next topic will be cancer. It will consist of four lessons that will cover the following:

1. What cancer is, including common misconceptions;
2. Staying healthy – healthy living;
3. Self-checking – learning about checking for breast and testicular cancer, as well as common signs and symptoms of cervical cancer;
4. Living with cancer - the impact of cancer on a young person, and where to get help.

These lessons have been developed using education resources from Macmillan Cancer Support, Breast Cancer Now and Teenage Cancer Trust. By the end of the lessons all students should know more about early warning signs and how they can reduce their risk of cancer later in life. Throughout the presentations students will be encouraged to become the experts of their own body and to speak to health professionals about any concerns.

Great Marlow School want your child to have this opportunity to learn about cancer and feel more able to talk openly about their health because it's been proven to make a difference. 38% of cancer cases are preventable (Cancer Research UK). Please do support this by talking to your child about what they have learned and encouraging them to be open about any health concerns they may have.

We are aware that cancer is an issue that affects many people. 1 in 2 people born in the UK after 1960 will be diagnosed with some form of cancer in their lifetime (Cancer Research UK). If your child has been affected by cancer, perhaps within the family or with a friend, and you think they may be sensitive to these lessons, please contact either of us so that we can make the classroom teachers aware and ensure that your child is supported.

Yours faithfully

**Mr D Chapman**  
Head of PSHE