



HEADTEACHER: MR DAVID MacCORMICK

4th March 2022

Our Ref: LBA/LKN

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you that Monday 14th March will be a Personal Development Impact Day. I wrote to you in September to explain some exciting changes we have made to our Personal Development curriculum and the impact days are designed to complement the new programme and support our students in exploring their own individuality, whilst celebrating the diversity within Holyrood Academy, the local community and the wider world. Many of the topics are in direct response to what our students have said they want to know more about and explore in more depth.

We believe our students will gain a great deal from the day's activities which have been carefully planned to inspire and stimulate healthy discussion and consideration of ideas, whilst increasing knowledge of historical context behind key issues and topical debates which impact on every one of us.

Students will be in full uniform and will start the day in their usual tutor rooms and the structure of the school day remains the same with break, lunch and home time all remaining at their current times. Students will not attend any of their usual lessons, but instead, a day has been designed to explore the following topics;

- Year 7:** Contemporary Icons who have fought inequality ; Representation/diversity in the media - Magazine covers
- Year 8:** Context of Racism and Racism today (including BLM); Diversity / Individuality (through Drama)
- Year 9:** LGBTQ+ / Inclusivity; Racism in Sport – Historically and today
- Year 10:** Global printmaking (Traditional Portuguese design); Tackling Racism – case studies and BLM; Extremism/radicalisation and challenging misinformation
- Year 11:** Power of Language/inappropriate terminology; Palestine – The Big Story;
In addition to the above, we are lucky to have The Solomon Theatre Company come to Holyrood Academy. They will be performing 'The Power of Love' for our Year 11 students. Following the show, Year 11s will participate in a workshop with the Theatre Company Actors and Director. The theme is appropriate / inappropriate relationships and how to recognise the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships and how to deal with unhealthy, manipulative behaviour and coercion.
- Sixth Form:** Islamophobia; Challenging everyday sexism / sexism in the workplace; Filmed Theatre production of 'Cookies' by Emily Jenkins (Themes of cyber-bullying)

We hope you will take the opportunity to discuss some of these topics with your child and encourage them to share some of the activities they have participated in.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Miss E Bateson

Zembard Lane | Chard | Somerset | TA20 1JL | T: 01460 260100 | E: sch.517@educ.somerset.gov.uk | www.holyroodacademy.com



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