



## Spring Valley Elementary School

99 Dunham Drive  
Ancaster, Ontario, L9G 1X7  
TEL: 289-346-9534  
FAX: 905-627-9539

EMAIL: [springvalley@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:springvalley@hwdsb.on.ca)  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/springvalley](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/springvalley)  
Principal: Mrs. B. McVittie

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that your child will begin a unit on Human Development and Sexual Health starting on April 16<sup>th</sup> 26

The following expectations of the Ontario Curriculum will be covered in the Grade 6 program.

**By the end Grade 6, students will:**

Demonstrate an understanding of the impacts of viewing sexually explicit media, including pornography (e.g., leads to a limited or distorted understanding of relationships; reinforces harmful gender norms; promotes an unrealistic or idealized body image)

- Describe how they can build confidence and lay a foundation for healthy relationships by acquiring a clearer understanding of the physical, social, and emotional changes that occur during adolescence (e.g., physical: voice changes, skin changes, body growth; social: changing social relationships, increasing influence of peers; emotional: increased intensity of feelings, new interest in relationships, confusion and questions about changes)
- Make informed decisions that demonstrate respect for themselves and others and an understanding of the concept of consent to help build healthier relationships, using a variety of social-emotional learning skills (e.g., self-awareness and identity skills; emotion management skills; critical and creative thinking skills; skills based on First Nations, Métis, and Inuit cultural teachings, such as medicine wheel teachings connected to the life cycle, the seven-grandfather teachings, or other cultural teachings)
- Assess the effects of stereotypes and assumptions regarding gender roles and expectations, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, culture, mental health, and abilities on an individual's self-concept, social inclusion, and relationships with others, and propose appropriate ways of responding to and changing harmful assumptions and stereotypes that can lead to destructive social attitudes including homophobia and racism

As the Ontario Curriculum indicates, "Parents are the primary educators of their children with respect to learning about values, appropriate behaviour, and ethnocultural, spiritual, and personal beliefs and traditions, and they are their children's first role models. It is therefore important for schools and parents to work together to ensure that home and school provide a mutually supportive framework for young people's education" (page 14). This unit offers you, as the most significant influence of your child's values and behaviours, the chance to discuss the classroom lessons and consider them in light of your own family beliefs.

If Parent/Guardians would like their child(ren) exempted from all expectations, they will need to complete an exemption form in the Parent Portal. Paper copies and/or phone calls will also be accepted.



## Spring Valley Elementary School

99 Dunham Drive  
Ancaster, Ontario, L9G 1X7  
TEL: 289-346-9534  
FAX: 905-627-9539

EMAIL: [springvalley@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:springvalley@hwdsb.on.ca)  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/springvalley](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/springvalley)  
Principal: Mrs. B. McVittie

Please feel free to contact the school at 289-346-9534 if you have questions or concerns regarding this upcoming unit.

Sincerely,

B. McVittie, Principal

C. Cook, Teacher