



### Extinction rebellion... petitions for a climate emergency... three student strikes...

It is comforting, in the age of selfies and the inescapable draw of the phone screen, to see young people step outdoors and join forces for a common and self-less cause.

All right, maybe a good few selfies were also snapped during the demonstrations, but we must believe the movement goes beyond virtue signalling on a trendy day off school.

It looks, if we set such motives aside, as though young people want to have an impact, and have latched on to an area where they can do so, one that directly concerns their future.

One way to help them is to unfold the facts: on the one hand, they can then be a credible party in the debate; on the other, they can be part of the revolution through their daily choices.

So much is said, or rather shouted, about the doom and gloom we are racing towards, so perhaps the first thing to recognise is that there is a lot to feel positive about.

In July, National Grid announced that at last the majority of UK energy comes from renewable sources. In addition, some of the largest energy companies in the country are well on their way to becoming carbon neutral, and beyond this, carbon negative.

A second fact, conversely, is that a significant culprit in global warming is the fast-fashion industry, and who is more in thrall to the latter than young people?

Beyond switching off the lights and going on marches, students can do much to flight climate change, as long as they have a roadmap.

Some of our talks this year have further supported our tutor-led sessions in the areas of climate and individual impact. On our recent report-reading day of June 27, years 7 and 8 heard what Drax, the largest energy generator in the UK, is doing to create renewable energy through biomass, as well as its plans to capture carbon emissions. The Year 10 lecture Joining the Dots, earlier this year, showed that regardless of age, fame or lack thereof, each one of us has an impact on the world through our daily actions.

It is an empowering message, and one that we want to help our students seize upon.

For the coming year, we have enhanced the Life Education curriculum with additional lessons on the environment in every academic year, lessons ranging from fair trade, through social enterprise, to fast fashion.

Finally, there will be opportunities for your child to channel their eco ideas through school initiatives. In the Eco club, running every Monday at break time, students discuss ways the school can help the environment, such as the recent elimination of disposable plastic bottles. If your child is about to start year 9 or sixth form, they will have an outlet for their planet saving ideas in the Young Entrepreneurs (Y9) and Young Enterprise (Y12+ 13) competitions.

Being heard is a step in the right direction. The next step, playing an active part in the solution, is within each student's grasp.

Some of the topics pupils have discussed in the past (summer) term include:	
Year 6	Public speaking and study skills
Year 7	Resilience, mental health, legal and illegal drugs
Year 8	Waste, e-safety, gaming, drugs and alcohol
Year 9	Citizenship, terrorism, gang dynamics, food sources and availability
Year 10	Critical thinking, resilience and first aid
Year 11	Rights and responsibilities of adults in society
Lower sixth	Using Unifrog to research Higher Education options
Upper sixth	Academic revision

Specialist speakers in the pipeline for this coming Autumn term:	
Year 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speak out, Stay Safe, NSPCC</li> <li>WWI (Tony Jones)</li> </ul>
Year 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friendship workshops, ID YOU</li> <li>SRE</li> </ul>
Year 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public speaking, Jayne Constantinis</li> </ul>
Year 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SRE</li> <li>Anxiety and depression (Emanuel counsellor)</li> </ul>
Year 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exam anxiety (counsellor)</li> <li>Mindfulness (Anna Wille)</li> <li>Study Skills (Elevate)</li> <li>SRE</li> </ul>
Year 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Career skills (Nichole Beauchamp)</li> <li>Study Skills (Elevate)</li> </ul>

Parent talks this Autumn term	
9th October	Julie Johnson: "Helping your child deal with stress and anxiety"
20th November	Jayne Constantinis: "Communication skills for life – empowering our children and modelling best practice"

In addition to tutor-led Life Education, we have hosted the following speakers:	
Resilience	Jack Galsworthy who, with fellow student Freddie Wright broke the record for the youngest pair to row across an ocean, spoke to Years 7 and 8
Disability and resilience	Robyn Steward spoke to Year 7 about growing up with disabilities
Mindfulness	Anna Wille, Year 8

### Key contacts

#### Head of Life Education

Mrs Silvia Riley (silvia.riley@emanuel.org.uk)

#### Deputy Head: Pastoral

Mr Ravi Kothakota (ravi.kothakota@emanuel.org.uk)

#### School counsellors

Mrs Alison Siddiqui (counsellor@emanuel.org.uk)

Mrs Liz Morrissey (counsellor@emanuel.org.uk)

#### Designated safeguarding lead

Ms Kate Bainbridge (kate.bainbridge@emanuel.org.uk)

#### Deputy designated safeguarding leads

Mr Ravi Kothakota (ravi.kothakota@emanuel.org.uk)

Mrs Joanna McIsaac (joanna.mcisaac@emanuel.org.uk)

Ms Hannah Windsor (hannah.windsor@emanuel.org.uk)

#### Head of sixth form

Ms Kate Bainbridge (kate.bainbridge@emanuel.org.uk)

