

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Our school has partnered with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) to give your child access to a new science and health curriculum. Through these STEM-inspired activities, students practice the scientific method, learn more about careers in science and research, and develop their curiosity about scientific questions and answers, along with building social-emotional learning skills. **We want students to grow as thinkers and problem solvers, igniting a fire that leads today's learners to become the scientists of tomorrow.**

Each grade covers a different aspect of this curriculum. The kindergarten unit is called "My Body." The activities help students understand these facts:

- The brain is the control center of the body.
- The heart is a muscle that pumps blood.
- The lungs take in air.
- Our bodies will not work without blood.
- Blood delivers oxygen throughout the body.
- Exercise is important for a healthy heart and blood flow.
- The different parts of our bodies depend on each other to work well.
- Setting goals helps us solve problems in science.

We realize that students may have friends, family members, and others in their lives who have been affected by leukemia, lymphoma, and other types of cancer. Rest assured that these subjects are addressed in a supportive, sensitive, science-based format.

Ask your child about the activities presented in this unit. Questions such as "What did you learn about the human body today?" and "Did anything from today's human body activity surprise you? Why?" encourage students to share the new information they're learning. Guide your child to describe the activities and show you any related items in his or her backpack. Then, in a few weeks, look for another newsletter summarizing the unit's content. You might be surprised when you see how much your child has learned!

As always, please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) Hero Squad is for schools and students at all grade levels to support the LLS mission: Cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Learn more at HeroSquad.org.



LLS funds cutting-edge research in an effort to bring an end to blood cancers. To learn more, go to HeroSquad.org.

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Our class has been working on a science and health unit from The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) called “My Body.” We just wrapped up our activities, and I want to share some of the highlights with you.

- First, students learned that the **brain controls everything** a person does. Some students were surprised to find out that our brains work even when we are asleep!
- Next, students took turns using a turkey baster to take in liquid and force it out much like a **heart pumps blood**. We also learned that physical activity is good for our heart and blood, and students set exercise goals.
- On another day, each student used plastic bags and straws to make a simple model of the **lungs**. Students learned that when blood goes to the lungs, it picks up oxygen from the air that was breathed in. Then the **blood delivers oxygen** all around the body.
- We ended our study by watching a video of two scientists who explained that their natural **curiosity** led to their interest in science. Students then used question words to share some of the things they’re curious about. We showcased the questions in a class display.
- Not only have students been learning about how the heart, blood, lungs, and brain work, they’ve also been learning about **setting goals**. We discussed how setting a goal can be a great first step toward achievement. Setting goals is an important part of **social-emotional learning**. Ask your child to tell you about the physical activity goal that he or she set!

This unit has taught us a lot about the circulatory system and about different ways LLS helps people. I hope students will see that by learning facts like these, they are taking the first steps in becoming the researchers and medical professionals of tomorrow; we’ll be counting on them to continue the search for new and innovative ways to treat blood cancers and diseases of all types. Our students will make a difference!

Sincerely,

P.S. Ask your child what he or she learned about **setting a goal** using the formula “I will + what + when.” If desired, post the goal on your fridge. When your child meets the goal, celebrate his or her accomplishment together!



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The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society funds researchers’ work to find new treatments and new medicines. Learn more at HeroSquad.org.