

They Tell Me This is Puberty

'Hi, I'm Chris, and I'd like to tell you about what's happening to me. It seems that every day brings a new change. It is almost like I'm getting a new body! They tell me I am going through puberty.

One of the things that's happening is this new hair that's growing in places it's never been before; like under my arms. I know this is normal and all, but it still takes getting used to.

I don't mind some of the changes I'm seeing. In fact, some of the things I even like. I'm taller than I was last year, I'm almost as tall as my parents. I know I'm smarter just because I'm able to think and write about what I'm going through now.

But then, there are some changes that aren't so good. Like B.O., body odour. The first time I noticed it I thought I had some kind of disease or something. Now I realise it's not too bad if I wash or use a deodorant.

Something not so good, though, is pimples. I remember I was getting ready to go to a party, washing my hands and stuff, when I looked in the mirror and saw this big pimple staring back at me. I held a hot face-washer on it for a long time. It went down, but not the whole way. I went to the party anyway. I noticed that many other kids had the same or worse luck with their pimples. I wonder how common this is?

There is one thing I get a little embarrassed about. It's even hard for me to say this. When I was at the party the other night, I was with someone I like and (I'm not mentioning any names), I got this new feeling in my genitals. It was strange but kind of nice. They tell me it's normal. Is it?

They tell me I'm going through puberty. That means I must go to school with my pimples and my B.O. But, I'm taller and smarter. I think I'll survive.'

What are some other changes of puberty that are not in the story?
