

LETTER FROM SCHOOL NURSE

Dear _____

We regret to inform you that head lice have been found on your child's head. Lice are a fairly common parasite. They are not known to carry any major diseases but are contagious through head to head contact with other students. To assist you in dealing with your child's head lice, I have included some information.

1. Check your other children for head lice. Most head lice are transmitted from person-to-person by head-to-head contact. If one person in the household is infected, other members of the household may be infected as well.

What you are looking for:

- a. Head Lice are little bugs about the size of a sesame seed
- b. They can be light brown to black in color.
- c. They crawl quickly when touched.
- d. They lay lots of eggs (also known as nits)
- e. Nits are usually at nape of the neck, behind the ears and close to the scalp
- f. One resource for pictures and more information about head lice is www.DrItchy.com

2. Apply a treatment and comb hair thoroughly. Prior to treating your child for head lice I recommend you consult your health care provider regarding treatment options for your child. For your education the following is a brief overview of the treatment process. There are several ways to treat head lice, including using an over-the-counter or pharmaceutical (Rx) treatments. You should also use a high-quality lice comb to carefully remove all lice, nymphs and nits from your child's hair. While this is a time-consuming task, it is also very effective at preventing reinfestation. One resource that provides information on the treatment process is www.MyHeadLiceTreatment.com

Be sure to follow the directions for the treatment you select. **Do NOT use multiple products or treatments. Doing so may harm your child.**

3. Clean all items that may have been in contact with your child's head recently. Most head lice are too weak to re-attach themselves to the hair after only a few hours, but they can survive for up to 48 hours outside of the human head.

4. Contact other parents and caregivers. Please make sure the parents and caregivers of children that may have been in contact with your child are aware of the situation. You may inform them anonymously with the email tools at www.MyHeadLiceTreatment.com

5. I will re-check your child after they return to school. If no live lice are found they will be able to return to class.

Thanks again for your cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact me at _____ or contact your doctor or health care professional.

Sincerely,

