

October 10, 2009

Dear Parents,

From time to time, the school informs families of the presence of head lice. In order to address the issue immediately, to avoid the unnecessary waste of paper and cost of postage, we have decided to provide one letter during the summer concerning the detection and treatment of head lice as well as the school policy concerning this issue. Please put this information in a location where it can be found should a case of head lice be identified and refer to it as needed. If a case of head lice comes to our attention, we will do a single EdConnect telephone call to inform the entire school community.

This year we have found some eco friendly, chemical free- head lice products.

How you can help us prevent head lice at school:

- Check your child's head on a monthly basis to watch for this pervasive parasite.
- After parting the hair and checking for eggs and lice, wet the hair with conditioner and run a fine tooth comb from the scalp to the end of the hair. This is the most effective method of discovering lice.
- Inform the school immediately if your child has head lice and inform any carpool member of this information. There is nothing to be ashamed of.
- Following treatment, check your child's head on a daily basis and retreat within a week. Do a thorough cleaning of clothing and linens. Rugs and upholstered furniture should also be treated. Figure this is a two-week period of vigilance that will save you many hours of future discomfort.
- Approach your child's head as if you know he/she has head lice. Examine it with the intent of finding nits. This is the type of aggressive examination that is needed to detect lice, nits or their eggs. Celebrate when your search has been for nothing!
- When one member of your family has head lice, all family members, including adults, must be checked thoroughly.
- For the next week or so after the initial treatment, girls and boys with long hair should wear their hair up in a bun or hair should be restrained in order to help prevent getting head lice.
- Be particularly observant after a sleep over. We have found many outbreaks occur after group sleepovers when children share the same combs/brushes, hats, beds, blankets, and pillows.

Reputable head lice information websites:

FDA's Consumer Updates page
www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/default.htm)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov/lice/head/

National Pediculosis Association
www.headlice.org

<http://www.idealbite.com/mama/today>
www.loogootee.k12.in.us/west/headlice.htm

The National Pediculosis Society
<http://www.headlice.org/index.html>

Head Lice Helpers
Hair Fairies
8250 West 3rd Street Suite 202
LA, CA 90048
323-655-6555
website: hairfairies.com

Head Lice Doctor
www.headlicedr.com
818-633-3399
310-270-8006

The Hair Whisperers
11670 Sunset Blvd.
LA, CA 90049
310-990-1654
hairwhisperer.com

Lousy Nitpickers
www.louseynitpickers.com
Toll-free Phone/Fax: 1.877.4-LOUSEY (456.8739)
E-Mail: info@louseynitpickers.com
<<mailto:info@louseynitpickers.com>>
(work in San Gabriel Valley but travel

Nit Combs

The one sold by the National Pediculosis Society is supposed to be excellent (see e-mail address above).

Ones sold at Hair Fairy are also supposed to be good.

Thank you for your diligence in this matter.

Sincerely,
Sheila McHugh Simmons
Sheila McHugh Simmons
Assistant Head of School