

Lice Newsletter!

Don't panic!—it's only head lice.

Head lice are tiny insects that live on the human scalp and feed on human blood. The adult female lays up to 6 eggs per night (about 100 in their lifespan 30 days) attaching them with a "cement" to the base of a hair. Viable eggs are within 1 inch of the scalp. Nits hatch in 7-10 days with the female able to lay eggs 10 days later.

Newly hatched nymphs need human blood within 45mins, while adults are able to survive up to 20 hours off a human host. Lice don't jump or carry disease but may cause itching from the saliva when they bite to feed.

What the school system does:

1. All students are checked after breaks(Fall, Christmas& Spring) with a lighted magnifying glass. Any student found with lice/nits will be sent home after notifying parent/guardian according to our Board's No Nit Policy.
2. Siblings & classmates of new cases will be screened the same day as possible.
3. Students are to report to nurse's office by parent/guardian before school starts to be re-screened before returning to class. The child will be rechecked 2 weeks after returning to school.
4. Distribute Lice Kits to families, if needed.
5. Educate students & families on proper treatment application and housecleaning techniques.
6. Clean our buildings and furniture daily.

What families must do:

1. Don't panic! It doesn't mean you're a poor parent. Lice are just a pest.
2. Treat child's hair as directed with lice shampoo.
3. Remove ALL eggs(nits) from damp hair with a nit comb. Using a bright light &/or magnifying glass, divide hair into small sections, holding comb parallel with the scalp, comb in a straight motion.
4. ALL family members in household also must be checked for lice/nits.
5. Wash all clothing, bedding, coats used 2 days before lice/nits found in hot water with 1 cup ammonia added with regular detergent. Dry on high heat. Combs and other hair accessories must be cleaned, bagged for 2 wks or replaced. Don't forget the stuffed toys, backpacks, and purses.
6. Vacuum carpets, furniture & car daily for 8-10 days.
7. Ask for any assistance or information needed. We are here to help your child return to school as soon as possible. You may also contact your family doctor.