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Dr. John Tucker, Superintendent

Welcome to a New School Year!

Healthy children learn better. The goal of the Health Services Department is to help your children stay healthy and encourage the practice of healthy habits. If we can be of service, please contact your school nurse.

Facts about Head Lice

1. It is important to note that head lice are not associated with poor hygiene.
2. Head lice cases have been on the rise in the United States. It is estimated that 6 to 12 million infestations occur each year in the United States, most commonly among children ages 3 to 11.
3. Head lice are tiny wingless insects that live close to the human scalp. They do not jump or fly and only move by crawling.
4. The eggs also called nits are tiny, tear drop shaped eggs that attach to the hair shaft. They can look like dandruff but cannot be brushed off.
5. Head lice do not spread disease and should not be considered as a medical or public health hazard.
6. Head lice are most commonly spread by direct contact with the hair of an infected person.
7. If you suspect your child may have head lice, it is important to speak with your health care provider to discuss the best treatment approach.
8. Information from the National Association of School Nurses indicates that head lice screening programs have not had a significant effect on the incidence of head lice in the school setting. Therefore, our school nurses do not regularly screen classrooms.
9. Teachers have been taught to observe students for symptoms of head lice (most commonly scratching of the head) and will send students to the school nurse to be checked.
10. If a case of head lice is found, all siblings of the student will be checked.
11. Letters are not sent home to the entire class or school so that we may maintain the student's privacy as well as the family's rights to confidentiality.

It is the goal of the Health Services office to provide appropriate health information for treatment and prevention, contain infestation and minimize school absence.