Message from your School Nurse

As you know, throughout the school year, your child may be exposed to several different illnesses such as:

-FLU
-CONJUNCTIVITIS (PINK EYE)
-STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT
-CHICKEN POX
-STAPH INFECTIONS
-HEAD LICE
-IMPETIGO
-POISON IVY
-RING WORM

If your child develops any of these illnesses, please contact the school nurse. If you suspect any of these above illnesses and need information for signs and symptoms, call the school nurse.

Because of the contagious nature of these illnesses, school attendance is not recommended and your child should remain at home if:

- The child has a fever (100 degrees or greater). He/she should be free for 24 hours without medication to reduce fever before returning to school. Temperatures that are normal in the morning will often be elevated by afternoon. **ALERT!**
- The child is vomiting or has continuous diarrhea. A physician should be contacted if the vomiting and diarrhea last longer than 24 hours or becomes severe.
- The child has a persistent cough.
- The child develops a generalized skin rash (all over the body).

A sore throat that is accompanied by fever and enlarged nodules in the neck can be serious. Strep throat is always a concern and should be diagnosed and treated by a physician. Children may return to school 24 hours after antibiotic treatment is begun and if the child is fever free. A child taking antibiotics may bring the prescribed medication to school in a properly labeled container with specific instructions for administration by the school nurse.

Head lice are an unfortunate problem that does occur with school age children. Please make it apart of your weekly routine to check your child's hair and scalp for signs of head lice. (ex. Nits or the lice eggs which are firmly attached to the hair shaft, bite marks or scratched areas of the scalp, the live louse or lice bugs which crawl quickly around the scalp and hair….**they do not fly or jump** but they do move quickly and are often small and difficult to see.) If you see evidence of lice or have any questions about what you are seeing, please call me.

If you have any questions about the above information, please contact the school nurse. I want to provide your child with a healthy environment and thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Sincerely,
Casie Tomlinson RN
School Nurse
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