



Date:

Dear Parent/Guardian:

There has been a case of head lice reported in your child's classroom. Please be sure to check your student for signs of head lice. Please keep in mind that lice are a nuisance but they don't cause serious illness or carry any diseases. They are also not a sign of poor hygiene.

Children can get head lice anytime they are in close contact with others. It can happen while playing at home or school, slumber parties, sports, camps, etc. Head lice are passed from person to person by prolonged direct head to head contact or shared objects (combs, brushes, hats, etc.). Head lice do not hop, jump or fly. Head lice cannot survive 24 hours without a human host. They cannot be transferred to or gotten from family pets. The problem can be easily managed by following the directions below.

### **Instructions for the Treatment of Head Lice**

**CHECK EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY.** Look for tiny white nits firmly attached to the hair shaft, especially at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. **ANY FAMILY MEMBER WITH LICE OR NITS MUST BE TREATED. TREAT ALL FAMILY MEMBERS NEEDING TREATMENT ON THE SAME DAY.**

**USE AN EFFECTIVE HEAD LICE TREATMENT.** Check with your pharmacist or physician for advice on which lice shampoo you should use. Follow the directions on the package carefully. If there are other products in the hair (gel, spray, mousse, etc), remove them first by washing and drying the hair before proceeding with the treatment. A second treatment should be done in 7-10 days.

**REMOVE ALL NITS.** Comb the hair with a special metal comb. **REMOVING NITS IS KEY TO SUCCESSFUL TREATMENT.**

**WASH CLOTHES, BED LINENS AND TOWELS.** Use hot water and dry on the hottest cycle for at least 20 minutes. Wash any stuffed animals, etc. that the child sleeps with.

**SOAK COMBS, BRUSHES, ETC IN HOT SOAPY WATER.** The water must be at least 130 degrees F and the items must soak for ten minutes.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you,

School Nurse\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number\_\_\_\_\_