



Jerome School District #261

District Nurse Services

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Educating Today for Tomorrow's World

Parent Pediculosis (Lice) Letter

Dear Parent,

It is not uncommon during the school year for head lice to be detected among school age children. We do not wish to alarm you, but to inform you how to observe your child for head lice.

Head lice should be suspected when there is intense itching and scratching of the scalp and the back of the neck. If you look closely at the scalp and throughout the hair, you may see very small, rapidly crawling insects about 1/8 inch long, and brownish to greyish-white eggs (nits) firmly attached to anywhere on the hair strand. Although these nits may look like dandruff, dandruff can easily be removed from the hair while nits are not easily removed.

If lice are found in your child's hair, contact your school nurse, Michelle Keller, RN, at 320-6072. If nits are found, it is recommended that they be manually removed to prevent re-infestation.

Current school policy states that a child found to have lice or nits may not return to school until evidence of treatment is seen. Your child will be rechecked when he/she returns to school and before returning to the classroom.

Lice can come from almost anywhere... a classmate an upholstered movie theater seat or airline seat, a neighborhood child's hat or coat, a shared hair brush, and/or any after school extracurricular activities. Lice outbreak are **common** among school age children and even the cleanest child can easily come in contact with the insect. Head lice are not a **serious medical condition, but need to have diligent parental cooperation to control.**

It takes cooperation from school and home to manage this problem. At home, frequent checking and notifying the school nurse when you find lice will help to control the problem.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,

Michelle Keller, RN
District School Nurse