



Jenny Buhl-Hagey
Principal

October 21, 2022

Dear Parents,

There was an isolated case of head lice found in your child's **1st grade classroom**. The following is the latest information and recommendations from the Lapeer County Health Department regarding head lice. For additional information, contact either the Health Department at 810-667-0448 or your family health department.

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

The presence of head lice or their eggs or nits is sufficient reason for treatment. (The first sign of attack is usually itchiness around the head, ears and neck).

Return to school

The child should not return to school until entirely free from evidence of the disease (even if it is one or two eggs). There should be **NO** Nits or Lice remaining in the hair when the student returns to school. **Please note that a parent or guardian must bring the child into the office prior to returning to the classroom.**

Treatments:

1. **Treat with a pediculicide** – Use an over the counter pediculicidal shampoo or crème rinse following the instructions carefully. Use of a pediculicide in conjunction with the Olive Oil treatment will increase your success rate.
2. **Olive Oil Treatment** – Kills active head lice by smothering them. Coat hair thoroughly with Olive Oil, work into the hair with fingers and cover with a shower cap. Shower caps should be used with caution, on older children only, because of the risk of suffocation. The treatment **MUST BE REPEATED EVERY FOUR** days for 3 weeks. Failure to comply with this schedule probably will result in re-infestation.
3. **Clean the Environment** – All household contacts should be inspected for the presence of head lice or nits daily for two weeks. Other individual's infested should be treated promptly to avoid spreading or re-infestation of previously treated individuals. Contaminated clothing, bedding (especially pillows) and other articles, such as hats, towels, etc., should be washed in **VERY HOT WATER**, dried in **HOT HEAT**, dry cleaned, or otherwise treated to prevent re-infestation or spreading. This will need to be done for at least two weeks. Washing of all articles in **VERY HOT WATER** should be done at the same time as application of special shampoo or olive oil treatment. Upholstered furniture should be vacuumed daily, and if possible, a special spray can be used (**read directions carefully**). All stuffed animals should be placed in black garbage bags for at least 2 weeks also.
4. **Check** hair for nits in a bright light, and remove any remaining nits manually. Do not count on the comb to remove all nits. More than one treatment of a pediculicide may need to be used to completely rid the scalp of all lice.

Please remind your child **NOT** to share combs, brushes or their hats with other children.

Also, it is imperative that you let the office know if your child has head lice. This allows the office to notify other parents that they need to keep an eye on their children's heads.

Sincerely,

Jenny Buhl-Hagey
Principal

