



HEALTH SERVICES
NOTICE TO PARENTS – HEAD LICE

Dear Parent/Guardian:

In a screening examination at school some cases of head lice have been diagnosed. All parents are requested to examine their children for indication of infestations of head lice at least daily for the next two weeks and regularly thereafter. Head scratching and intense itching of the scalp and neck are the main indications of head lice. The presence of head lice can be confirmed by a close inspection of the hair and scalp under a good light, especially at the nape of the neck and behind the ears. Mature lice avoid light and are hard to see. Look for tiny, grayish, crawling forms and/or brown or white specks in the hair or whitish oval eggs (nits) that are usually found within 1/4 inch of the scalp and are often mistaken for dandruff. In determining if there is dandruff or nits present, dandruff is removed easily from the hair or scalp; however, the nits (eggs) are glued to the hair shaft and are very difficult to remove.

Direct, physical, head-to-head contact is the usual method of transmission. Please instruct your child not to borrow personal items such as combs, brushes, hats, headbands, scarves, barrettes, helmets, or headphones with foam protectors.

In the event that you find head lice on your child's head, immediately report this to the school. There are several non-prescription treatments that are available to eliminate lice and their eggs (nits) and can be purchased at your local pharmacy. Upon return to school, your child must be examined by school staff to determine that the appropriate treatment has worked properly.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Principal

Date

Knox County does not have a “no nit” policy.