



Calling Lake School
Box 120
Calling Lake, Alberta
TOG OKO

PH (780) 331- 3774
FX (780) 331- 2277

September 18, 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians

A case of head lice has been detected in your child's class. Anyone can get head lice... mainly through direct head to head contact but also from sharing hats, brushes and other personal items. Head lice are a problem in many communities and do not reflect poor hygiene or social status. Please do your part to prevent the spread of this communicable condition by checking your child(ren) daily for the next few weeks, and on a regular basis thereafter. Lice infestation is much easier to treat if caught early.

If you should discover a case of head lice, please notify the school and the parents of your child's playmates. This is the best way to protect your family and community.

If you have any questions or need assistance please contact the school @ 780-331-3774 and Health care center @780-331-3760.

Thank you for your cooperation

Calling Lake School

Impetigo letter

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A confirmed case of impetigo has been reported in your child's classroom.

Impetigo is a skin infection, common in young children and most often occurring on the face and around the mouth.

Signs and Symptoms

- Red sores that quickly rupture and ooze for a few days forming a yellow crust.
- Painless fluid filled blisters and itching
- Tenderness of the sores and swollen glands nearby are common.

Causes

Impetigo is caused by common skin germs called Streptococcus ("strep") and Staphylococcus ("staph") Both types of bacteria can live harmlessly on your skin and only cause trouble when the skin is injured by a cut, scrape, or scratch. Bacteria flourish wherever groups of people are in close contact; impetigo spreads easily in schools and child care settings.

Other factors that increase the risk of impetigo include:

- Direct contact with an adult or child who has impetigo or with contaminated towels, bedding or clothing
- Participation in sports that involve skin-to-skin contact, such as football or wrestling
- Pre-existing chronic dermatitis, especially atopic dermatitis

Treatment

Impetigo may be treated with a **prescription** antibiotic ointment or an oral antibiotic to fight the germs causing the sores. Your doctor will decide what treatment is appropriate for your child. Sometimes the sores can be covered (depending on where they are on the body) to prevent spread.

Prevention

Impetigo can be prevented by avoiding direct contact with a contagious person and by careful hand washing with soap and water after contact with the sores. It's highly contagious, so just touching or scratching the sores can spread the infection to other parts of the body. The spread of impetigo can be prevented by prompt treatment of infection and by excluding infected children from school until after treatment has begun and covering lesions if possible.

We hope this information is helpful to you. If your child shows any of the above signs and symptoms, please keep him/her home and contact your physician and notify the school office. Please feel free to contact me at any time

Scabies Letter

Dear Parents or Guardian,

A case of suspected scabies has been reported in your child's classroom.

CAUSE: Scabies is caused by a mite which crawls under the skin and causes severe itching.

SYMPTOMS/SIGNS:

Body

Rash and severe itching which is worse at night. Common locations for the rash are folds of skin between fingers, around wrists and elbows and armpits. Other areas may be knees, waistline, thighs, male genitals, abdomen, chest and lower portions of the buttocks.

Scalp

Ringworm may be hard to detect in the early stages. It often begins as a small, scaly patch on the scalp. Mild redness and swelling may occur. Infected hairs become brittle and break off easily.

SPREAD:

It spreads to others easily by prolonged direct contact with skin or shared bedding, towels and clothing.

INCUBATION:

It takes two weeks to two months from exposure until symptoms appear. Symptoms may appear in less than two weeks if the person has had scabies before.

CONTAGIOUS PERIOD:

The person is contagious from the time they acquire the mites until 24 hours after treatment begins.

EXCLUSION:

The child must not be in school until 24 hours after treatment has begun.

PREVENTION/CONTROL:

Usually all members of the household are treated at the same time. Clothing, bedding and towels should be machine washed and dried in hot temperatures at the time of treatment. Store clothing in a sealed plastic bag for one week if it cannot be laundered.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Scabies is becoming much more common. Treatment is a prescribed medication from your doctor. If you suspect scabies, contact your doctor for diagnosis.