



September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Unfortunately, there has been an outbreak of headlice and it seems to be particularly active in **Year 4**. We would be grateful if you could check your child's hair for infestation and treat, if necessary.

TREATMENT

You should shampoo the hair in the normal way, then apply lots of conditioner while the hair is very wet, comb through the hair from the roots with a special comb or a very fine toothed comb. Make sure the teeth of the comb slot into the hair at the roots with every stroke, and do this over a pale surface such as a paper towel. Clear the comb of lice between each stroke. Wet lice find it difficult to escape from wet slippery hair and removal with the comb is easy.

If you find lice then repeat this routine **every day for 2 weeks** so that any lice emerging from the eggs are removed before they can spread. Treatment by the above method and the use of a lotion is currently being recommended if LIVE lice are found. A Malathion lotion is the initial recommendation – manufacturers instructions should be adhered to and repeated 7 days later if LIVE lice are still present. If this treatment is found to be ineffective referral to the School Nurse for support is recommended.

EVEN IF YOU DO NOT FIND ANY LICE OR EGGS IT IS ADVISABLE TO CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HAIR USING THE ABOVE WET-COMBING METHOD AT LEAST EVERY 3-4 DAYS AS A PRECAUTION.

May I suggest that children with long hair fasten it back securely as this can help prevent the spread of headlice.

THE CO-OPERATION OF ALL PARENTS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IN HELPING TO KEEP THIS OUTBREAK UNDER CONTROL.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Mann
Head of Year 3 & 4