Dear Parents,

Over the last few days there have been a few cases of head lice detected throughout your child’s grade level. The following are signs of head lice infestation:

- Persistent scratching, particularly behind the ears and the nape of the neck accompanied by a red rash.

- Tiny silver white eggs at the base of the hair shaft.

- Small pale brown lice. You may wish to use a magnifying glass and a fine toothed comb under strong light to help identify lice.

Could you please check your child/ren’s hair carefully and if you detect either eggs or lice treat them effectively using a 0.5% Malathion lotion available from a chemist.

To remove the nits, use your fingernails or a fine-toothed comb and re-inspect in seven day’s time. The eggs at the base of the hair shaft are best removed when conditioner is applied to the hair. Please remember that the bed linen needs a hot wash and combs, brushes, scrunchies and caps should also be cleaned thoroughly. Shoulder length hair should be tied back at school. The treatment needs to be repeated in seven days time to be effective.

There is no stigma attached to having head lice, absolutely anyone can get them but they are a nuisance, therefore please treat them thoroughly and ensure all eggs are removed before returning your child/ren to school.

Let us know if you detect lice or eggs so we can alert parents of children in your son/daughter’s grade.

Detailed brochures on treatment of head lice are available from the school office.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Regards,

*Kerry Griffin*
Principal