

MONROE COUNTY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

HEALTH SERVICES

Dear Parents,

Head lice have become more and more of a problem over the last few years. The number of children infested with head lice is increasing all across the country. Control of head lice depends on prompt diagnosis and effective treatment. Your help in inspecting your child at least weekly throughout the school year for the presence of head lice would be greatly appreciated.

We suggest the following procedure for inspecting your child for head lice:

1. Under bright light begin looking at the back of the head just above the neck area.
2. Part the hair section by section and look closely for head lice or nits (eggs). The eggs will be pearl shaped and are firmly attached to the hair shaft.
3. Depending on the length and thickness of the hair, it should take between 5 and 15 minutes to properly inspect the child's head.

If you suspect your child is infested with head lice, please notify the school nurse. In addition the entire family should be inspected for head lice as well.

Your child cannot return to school until all lice and nits are gone, and your child has been checked by the health aide or nurse in your school.

For information on how to treat your child's head lice infestation, consult you family physician, a local pharmacist, or feel free to contact your child's school nurse for recommendations.

If you have access to Internet, you can obtain information on controlling head lice from the National School Integrated Pest Management Web Site at <http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~schoolipm/>.

Sincerely,

Your school Nurse

