

Brookfield Elementary School

233 Highway 289 Brookfield Nova Scotia B0N 1C0

Phone (902) 673-5050

Fax (902) 673-5052

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Head lice have been detected at the school.

We recommend that you carefully check your child's head and the heads of others in your household. If live lice or nits are present, he/she needs to be treated. Nits are usually found within ½ inch of the scalp.

In order to treat successfully, the following procedures need to take place. Special shampoo can be purchased at your local pharmacy. Follow the directions carefully as a second treatment is necessary. Other household items also need to be checked and cleaned – this includes washing brushes, combs and other head gear in hot soapy water, letting them soak in very hot water for ten minutes afterwards. Bedding, pillows, towels and clothes need to be washed in hot soapy water as well. Items that cannot be washed in this way may be placed in a sealed plastic bag for 10 days, put in a hot dryer for 20 minutes, put in the freezer for 24 hours, or ironed with a hot iron. Vacuum carpets, mattresses, furniture, etc.

Please notify the school if any of your children have head lice. It is important for you to notify others with whom your child has had close contact so they can be checked as well.

Please remember that although no one wants an infestation of lice, they do not pose a health concern. Lice are an annoyance that we do not want to spread from person to person! Children are encouraged to tie back their hair and not share hats, head bands or barrettes.

Thank you for your assistance with this matter!

Keys to Success with Head Lice:

- Two treatments 7-10 days apart
- Daily Lice Combing between treatments
- Careful checking of people who have been in close contact with your child

Occasionally, lice are resistant to the usual treatment. For information on alternative treatments, contact the school or Public Health Services at:

Truro: 895-5820
Amherst: 667-3319 or 1-800-767-3319

New Glasgow: 752-5151
Shubenacadie: 758-2050