



**EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Brecknock Elementary School

“BECAUSE BRECKNOCK CARES”

October 5, 2017



Dear Parent or Guardian,

It's that time of year to enjoy some fall fun, apples, and parades! But there are also situations that require some extra time for prevention. As your children interact at school and activities, their proximity creates the potential for the dreaded head lice to invade. But instead of instilling panic, I would like to share some information that will help prevent the invasion of these bothersome creatures. Here are a few helpful suggestions to help with this challenge:

1. Head checks are recommended for children who are symptomatic (frequently scratching their scalp) or who have likely had head to head direct contact with a child who has lice. Please check your child's head on a regular basis, perhaps once a week. If you know that your child has been exposed, it would be good to check more frequently. If you are unsure how to do a head check, you are welcome to talk to one of the nurses who would be glad to help.
2. Head lice are most frequently transmitted from one person to another by direct head-to-head contact because lice do not fly or jump. A second cause of lice spreading occurs when children share hair items like hats, combs, brushes, or other hair accessories like ribbons, headbands, etc. It is also possible for lice to spread when sharing surfaces like pillows, mattresses, upholstered furniture, and car seats.
3. It is helpful but not mandatory to let the nurses know if your child has head lice. This will enable us to know when extra measures may be needed for times of high incidence. We also have a detailed handout of how to treat your child if they have lice. It is also important to check and treat every member of your household to prevent any reoccurrence.
4. Please remember that head lice are **NOT** a health hazard, **NOT** a sign of poor hygiene, and **NOT** a source that spreads diseases.

If you have any questions or need support in the treatment process, the nurses at Brecknock are available to assist you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Susan Wolfe, RN
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