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*'For Learning That Lasts A Lifetime'*

25<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We have been informed of an incident of Headlice in Class R and we would ask all parents to **PLEASE** check their children's hair regularly.

The Public Health Medicine Environmental Group have suggested 'wet combing' with a fine tooth detection comb is the only truly reliable method of checking your child's hair and this should be carried out at least once a week.

Their advice on 'detection combing' is as follows:

1. Wash the hair well, then dry it with a towel. The hair should be damp, not dripping.
2. Make sure there is good light. Daylight is best.
3. Comb the hair with an ordinary comb.
4. Start with the teeth of a detection comb, touching the skin of the scalp at the top of the head.
5. Draw the detection comb carefully towards the edge of the hair, keeping the teeth of the comb in contact with the scalp for as long as possible.
6. Look carefully at the teeth of the comb in good light.
7. Repeat this several times from the top of the head to the edge of the hair in all directions, working around the head and looking at the detection comb after each action.
8. Do this for several minutes. It takes 10 to 15 minutes to do it properly for each head.
9. If there are head lice, you will find one or more lice on the teeth of the detection comb.
10. Clean the detection comb carefully under a running tap. A nail brush helps to do this.

Do not use lotions unless you are sure that you have found a living, moving louse. If you need help, ask your local chemist, health visitor, school nurse or family doctor.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs R Hindle**

**Head of School**

