

James Giles School

District Eighty

Ms. Stephanie Palmer, Assistant Superintendent/Principal

4251 N. Oriole Avenue
Norridge, Illinois 60706
708 453-4847

Dear Parent,

A case of head lice has been reported at our school.

The good news is that it is unlikely that students will spread lice while sitting at their desks as lice do not have wings and contrary to popular belief, they **cannot** jump.

Here at Giles, when a student complains of itching and signs of lice are noted they may go home and return to school after one treatment.

In the past, students were kept out of school as long as they had nits/eggs. The American Academy of Pediatrics and this school do NOT follow a "No nit policy." **Nits are eggs and are not contagious.** Nits/eggs don't hatch after a treatment and many others are simply shells called castings.

Please Do the following:

- Check your child's hair for any sign of lice and report it to school.
- Adult head lice are about 1/16 of an inch long and are easily visible.
- Eggs/nits are white, grey in color and stick hard to the hair shaft.
- Eggs are usually found around the hairline, crown of the head, and the nape of the neck.
- If you see white dots that are easily moveable, you are looking at dandruff, dead skin flakes.
- You may contact your physician for recommendations on the right product to use.
- Remind your child not to share combs, jackets, hats, pillows, or blankets.
- Consult the Internet site <https://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/index.html> for more information.

Don't Do the following:

- Do not treat your child with a medicated shampoo "just in case".
- There is no evidence that this will prevent a future infestation.
- Lice cannot live off a host for more than 24 hours so don't panic!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Eliza Ban

Giles School Nurse

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