**Head lice Information**

Monday 5 December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Head lice and ‘nits’ are a common problem wherever there are lots of children in one place and Curbar Primary School is no exception. Head lice are tiny insects that live in hair. ‘Nits’ are the empty egg cases attached to hair that head lice hatch from. They're largely harmless, but can live in the hair for a long time if not treated and can be irritating and frustrating to deal with and spread very easily from head to head contact.

There is a lot of advice regarding head lice and it is important that you follow the instructions of a GP or pharmacy or of any products that you may use. However, I spoke recently with the school nurse who has provided some general advice for the school community:

* If you find head lice or ‘nits’ it needs to be treated quickly and effectively. Contact your GP surgery or pharmacy if you want further advice to this letter or for recommended products.
* Treat the WHOLE family even if there is only one person with a case of head lice.
* Treat the WHOLE family again a week later.
* You don’t need to keep your child off school.
* Check TWICE WEEKLY even if clear of head lice (the sooner they are found the better!)
* It is recommended and easier to check with wet hair, using conditioner and a ‘nit’ comb.
* Tie up and plait long hair whilst at school.
* It is useful to check at the weekend or at the end/beginning of each half term and treat effectively so pupils can return to school free of head lice following the weekend or holiday.
* Please let us know if your child has head lice so we can inform other parents that there are head lice in school.

The following link on the NHS website provides further information:

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Many thanks for your continued support in this matter.

Kind regards

Mr Simon Beahan

Headteacher