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Long Lawford News...

Spring 3

During the week the fire alarm went off just before children were due to leave at the end of the school day. Clearly this was not ideal and I would like to apologise for any inconvenience or confusion caused. We do have to take all alarms seriously and I hope parents and carers were reassured by the way both children and staff calmly evacuated the building to line up on the playground.

Punctuality - Punctuality still needs improvement as we still have children arriving late at school. Please remember that all children from Reception to Year 6 may arrive from 8.40am at their designated entrances. Please take full advantage of this early arrival as it not only helps your child to prepare for their learning day but also eases traffic congestion.

Term time leave - There is a misconception that parents and carers are entitled to take their child out of school during term time. The only person that can authorise an absence during school time is the head teacher. Requests for absence have to be **made in advance** using an 'Application for Leave of Absence' form which are available from the office. Requests are considered on a case by case basis, but leave will only be authorised in **exceptional circumstances**. A holiday is not deemed an exceptional circumstance and **will not** be authorised. Parents and carers who choose to take their child out of school during term time will each be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement service (ACE) and may be issued with a £120 Education Penalty Notice Fine per child (reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days of issue date).

Headlice - Unfortunately we have had some cases of headlice in school. I would ask all parents and carers to regularly check their child's hair and treat them if necessary- please see the reverse of this newsletter for more details.

Adverse weather - In the event of adverse weather conditions every effort is made to keep the school open. Any decisions will take into consideration the condition of the school site especially safety, road conditions, the availability of heating, staffing, the availability of school meals and the weather forecast. It is worth noting that the majority of school staff are not local to the school. Any information regarding the school's closure will be put on **RUGBY FM 107.1FM** and on the local authority website www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school_closures I would also encourage parents and carers to use our **parent hotline on 0870 950 2122 - school ID 49517** and **twitter** Long Lawford Primary @llawfordprimary and our school app for the latest information Please **do not** phone the school. Thank you.

Condover Hall residential trip - This has proved to be very popular and all the available places have been taken by Year 5. Therefore, unfortunately, we will be unable to take any Year 4 children this year. Year 4 parents who paid a deposit can either collect this from the school office in person or give the office permission to send it home with your child. Thank you.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Star Workers: Neve Bennett, Emily Measey, Alyssa Simpson, Shayla May Furniss, Karl Lipski, Grace Guest, Leigh Tait, Maya Michalska, Charlotte Steed, Alpha Jatta, Tobias Cornish, Scarlett Summerscales, Marcelina Wojcik, Sofia Anczarski, Megan Rye, Ellie Henehan, Paige Gibson, Theo Gladman.

Star People: Ruby Fleming, William Felton, Olly McGill, Bobby Higgins, Vaishnavi Karunakaran, Dylan Jarvis, Zofia Sek, Allegra Perrier, Jack Goodwin, Grace Quenby, Poppy Clarke, Emilia Juchniewicz, Ahmed Zaib, Abigail Perrier, Clio Cosgrove, Freddie North, Rayan Zaib, Alfie Judge.



WELL DONE to them all!

What are head lice?

Head lice are tiny insects which live in the hair and feed by biting the scalp and sucking blood. The female head louse lays her eggs close to the scalp where it is warm enough to incubate them. The eggs, or nits, hatch out, start feeding and soon begin to lay more eggs. Empty egg shells are left attached to the hair when the louse hatches.

How are they transmitted?

Head lice are caught by head to head contact with someone who already has them. Although anyone can catch them, they prefer the heads of 4-11 year olds. Clean hair is no protection against them. When heads touch, the lice simply walk from one head to another. Adult lice take every opportunity to exchange hosts to avoid extinction through in-breeding.

Shared brushes and combs can also transmit lice so please discourage children from sharing combs and brushes.

Shared hats, headphones and jackets hung close together do not, however, present a risk. This is because head lice that involuntarily fall off the head or clamber on to clothes or other articles, such as pillows or cuddly toys, are dying and harmless.

What are the signs of head lice infestation?

The way head lice feed causes itching, so scratching the scalp is usually the first sign that a child has head lice. It should, however, be pointed out that the onset of itching may be delayed by weeks, or even months, when someone first catches lice. Another sign of head lice may be a rash on the base of the neck caused by lice droppings.

How are head lice detected?

Lice are most easily detected by combing really well conditioned soaking wet hair with a fine-tooth comb. Really wet lice stay still and cannot escape. Combing dry or damp hair with a fine-tooth comb is not a reliable way to detect lice. In dry or damp hair, lice move quickly away from the disturbance caused by a comb.

What is the treatment?

Wet Combing or 'Bug Busting' Method

The 'bug busting' method is a method, which avoids the use of insecticides. After washing the hair, copious amounts of conditioner should be applied and, after detangling with an ordinary wide-toothed comb, the hair should be combed, sitting upright or leaning over the bath, from the roots with a special 'bug buster' fine tooth comb, with the teeth of the comb slotting into the hair at the roots with every stroke. After each stroke, the lice should be cleared from the comb.

Wet lice find it difficult to escape from this combing. Hair which is slippery from conditioner makes it hard for them to keep a grip and so removal with the comb is easier. The lice should then be wiped onto kitchen paper and disposed of, or simply rinsed away. This routine should be repeated every 3-4 days for two weeks so that any lice emerging from the eggs are removed before they can spread. Given that head lice do not lay eggs until about a week after they have hatched, it follows that removing the live lice regularly will result in lice-free children in a fortnight.