

Lice Alert!

As you may have heard McAuliffe Elementary has had several cases of lice this school year. For us to be as pro-active as they are being, we need to raise the same awareness that they are at this time. We ask for you to be diligent about checking your children. Enclosed is some information forwarded to me by Nurse Sloan at McAuliffe. Because our students have siblings there, we have been affected by less than 5 cases that I am aware of. Please have your child see me or please call me @ 972-350-3382.

Romaine K. Lee
Briarhill Middle School
School Nurse

The following information is from the nurse at McAuliffe:

A good informational website is; www.headlice.org. This site explains the importance of removing not only the louse, but also the nits (louse eggs). This may mean hours of sitting, picking and combing, but unless all the nits are removed they will hatch and you will again have live lice.

Some additional and helpful hints I have learned from McAuliffe parents:

- Tea Tree Oil shampoo or Tea tree oil added to your regular shampoo may prevent the spread of lice
- Tea tree oil or Neem oil, added to a spray bottle of water and combed through daily may also act as a preventative.
- Lice B Gone is a pesticide free treatment. It is available @ www.licebgone.com and possibly at Grapevine Drug (817-481-6278)
- Keep your child's hair restricted; pony tail for girls w/ lots of gel or hairspray and gel for boys
- Sometimes an anti-parasitic, oral medication can be prescribed. (Stromectol)
- Another technique, developed by a California doctor and reported in the September 2004 issue of Pediatrics, was effective in eliminating lice in 90% of patients. The technique involves coating the hair with Cetaphil, a popular over-the counter face cleanser, and then blow-drying it. This appears to kill lice by forming a shrink-wrap-like coating and suffocating them.
- The latest success story was from a parent that purchased an electronic lice comb (available at Walgreens)
- And then there is the good, old fashioned mayonnaise treatment that several parents swear by.

The good thing about the items listed above is that they are pesticide free and can be used in conjunction with conventional treatment. We are trying to be very proactive here at McAuliffe and know that you will help us in our efforts. Thanks. Nurse Robyn

Please be proactive with your child and thanks to Nurse Robyn and McAuliffe for sharing this information with us so that we are sharing information, not lice between us. Thanks for your help in checking your child!