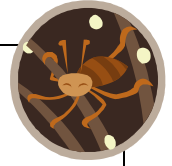




14<sup>th</sup> January 2016

<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Extra Curricular Activities Term 2</u></b></p> <p>Registration for Term 2 Extra Curricular Activities is now taking place. Activities have commenced this week. If you wish for your child(ren) to take part in any activities, please register and pay at the School Office or online at <a href="http://www.stmatts.ie">www.stmatts.ie</a> (Registration for ArtZone can be done at <a href="http://www.artzone.ie">www.artzone.ie</a> and for French by emailing Anne Rice at <a href="mailto:ohlalafrenchclasses@gmail.com">ohlalafrenchclasses@gmail.com</a>). Many thanks.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Road Safety</u></b></p> <p>Thank you to our wonderful School Wardens, Carmel Joyce and Louise Doyle. Please continue to use these services as much as possible, following the rules of the road, so that this vital service remains in place.</p> <p>Please also be reminded that it is not permitted to stop or park in the 'zig-zag zone' at the bottom of the school laneway. This is a matter of safety for our children.</p> <p>For many years we have enjoyed harmonious relations with our neighbours, please do not park in a manner that blocks neighbour access to/from their driveways.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Communications from the School</u></b></p> <p>As we are a Green School, we aim to communicate with parents through email, text message and our website as much as possible. If we have your email address on our Aladdin system, you will receive weekly and termly newsletters by email only from now on. We will also send text messages to keep you informed of current events. All of our newsletters are also available on our website <a href="http://www.stmatts.ie">www.stmatts.ie</a>. If you would like to add your email address to our circulation list, please email the School at <a href="mailto:secretary@stmatts.ie">secretary@stmatts.ie</a>. Many thanks for your co-operation with this initiative.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Teaching Practice</u></b></p> <p>This year, we will have a number of Student Teachers, from The Church of Ireland College of Education completing a Teaching Practice in the School. The children will remain under the care and supervision of their class teacher at all times. The dates are as follows:</p> <p>11<sup>th</sup> January – 12<sup>th</sup> February: Eve Gorman: Fifth Class</p> <p>22<sup>nd</sup> February – 11<sup>th</sup> March: Eve Gorman: First Class</p> <p>18<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> April &amp; 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May: Ciara Yeates: Junior Infants Ricky McMahon: Senior Infants Haley Smyth: Second Class Amy Atkinson: Fourth Class Laura Seale: Sixth Class</p>
<p><b><u>Head Lice</u></b></p> <p>On a number of occasions so far this year, Head Lice have been repeatedly reported in some classrooms by parents or teachers. When this happens, a note or text is sent to parents asking that parents check their child(ren)'s hair and treat as necessary that day. It is essential that all children's hair is checked and treated on the same day, so that Head Lice will be irradiated from the school community.</p> <p>In an effort to rid St. Matthew's of Head Lice, over the next few weeks, the school is going to text parents three times a week to check and treat your child's hair for Head Lice. We would strongly encourage that all long hair is tied back and that you take some time to read the attached helpful information regarding Head Lice.</p> <p>Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.</p> <p>Naomi Rousseau</p>	



## **Head Lice**

*Unfortunately, head lice can be a part of life; however, it is something that we would all like to avoid. When the school is made aware of head lice in a child's class, parents are informed via a note followed by text messages. The following is some great advice compiled by Olga Keogh, a parent in our school, please take the time to read it.*

From talking to other mums can I suggest the following:

### **Check for head lice regularly:**

- Check your child(ren)'s hair every time you wash it
- You will usually find infestation around the ears and nape of the neck, but not exclusively there
- Use a magnifying glass if you're not familiar with eggs and nits (the head lice egg cases)
- Put conditioner in to help with fine combing
- Brush and fine comb in the brightest spot in your house, daylight is best. The Nitty Gritty

NitFreeComb is an excellent product, every home should have one. They are available from Boots <http://www.nittygritty.co.uk/site/>

- The itching from head lice is caused by an allergic reaction to their droppings, children who normally have allergies will probably react quicker than others and there are some children who will not react at all, therefore do not assume that because your child is not itchy they do not have head lice.

### **If you find head lice:**

- If (and only if) you do find a live head louse or live eggs, Hedrin Once Lotion/Gel Spray is an excellent treatment, you must follow the instructions to the letter, especially about putting shampoo in once the treatment time has elapsed <http://www.hedrin.ie/>
- Check all the family (including adults) thoroughly if you find a live louse in one child's hair
- Let your teacher know so that all class parents can check and treat as necessary and nip a possible infestation in the bud.

### **To prevent head lice:**

- There are a number of products that help aid in the prevention of head lice:
  - Teangi Tea Tree Shampoo
  - Leave-in Conditioning Spray
  - Tea tree oil dabbed around the back of the ears
  - Hedrin Protect and Go is also worth stocking up on, it does have a funny texture but it isn't as bad if applied to wet hair
- Keep long hair tied up in buns / plaits

Don't panic, head lice are as much a part of childhood as Sponge Bob Square Pants!

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/health/parents-warned-not-to-treat-children-for-head-lice-preventively-30525894.html>

THE FACTS OF LICE: <http://nittygritty.co.uk/site/headliceandnits.asp>

**Olga Keogh**