WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

SUMMERLEA C.P. SCHOOL

Windsor Drive, Rustington
West Sussex, BN16 3SW
Headteacher: Mr J Todd
Tel: (01903) 856783
Email: **office@summerleaschool.co.uk**

'Growing thoughtful learners and independent thinkers'

10th Nov 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Head lice

A case of head lice has been found in your child's class. Please check your child's head for infection and treat as necessary.

Please see over for effective treatment methods.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher

Apart from using insecticide treatments you may wish to try 'Bug Busting'.

The 'bug busting' method is an alternative method, devised by the charity 'Community Hygiene Concern', which avoids the use of insecticides. After washing the hair, copious amounts of conditioner should be applied. Once detangled 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 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. Re-infection can, of course, occur if head to head contact is subsequently made with someone with head lice. 'Bug buster' kits, containing instruction leaflets, five combs (a de-tangler comb and combs for removing baby and adult live and empty shells) and a plastic cape, are re-usable, and are available from some local chemists or from Community Hygiene Concern, http://www.chc.org/homedir/whatisbugbusting.cfm