

LEGACY PUBLIC SCHOOL

WEEKLY EBULLETIN FOR SEPTEMBER 13, 2013



Welcome to all of our Legacy Families. This is the first of our weekly newsletters that will be coming to your mailbox. The purpose of our weekly email is to keep families current with upcoming dates and events at the school, as well as to celebrate the good things happening at Legacy.

START UP

It has been a busy few weeks. We returned to an exceptionally clean and organized school (many thanks to our outstanding caretaking and office staff)! Teachers and educational assistants have been busy setting routines and preparing engaging programs for our students. All this work proved to make an easy start to the school year. There has been a staffing change since June. Mr. Bull is currently on a leave and we welcome back Mr. Mainprize as our vice-principal!

SCHOOL SECURITY

Over the summer our school was fitted with a surveillance system that will allow us to have the entire school locked with access only through the front door. This will be implemented across York Region once all schools are ready. This will change some of the routines (e.g. Lunch Drop off) since the new procedure will require our office staff to identify and then allow entrance to school visitors.

We recommend students bring their healthy lunches with them to school in the morning. This will set up a better routine and will alleviate the stress on our office staff prior to lunch.

During this week and next we are practicing safety preparedness drills including Lock Down and Fire procedures in the school. Teachers will be explaining what we do in case of emergencies with an emphasis on safety.

LICE

With the start of the year we have had several cases of lice detected in the school. Please check you child's head regularly to ensure that they have not been infested. Attached is some information from York Region Health Connection.

EPIPENS

School staff and parents are responsible for creating safe and healthy environments for students. This is an additional challenge for schools attended by children with allergies, especially life-threatening allergies. While we take every step to create a risk-free environment, school staff and parents can take important steps to minimize potentially fatal allergic reactions as there are implications for the whole school, not just individual classrooms. It is especially important that parents communicate a life-threatening allergy to the school as soon as they are aware of it. Please notify the principal and your child's teacher so that we may take the necessary steps to create accurate records and inform staff of the established protocol.

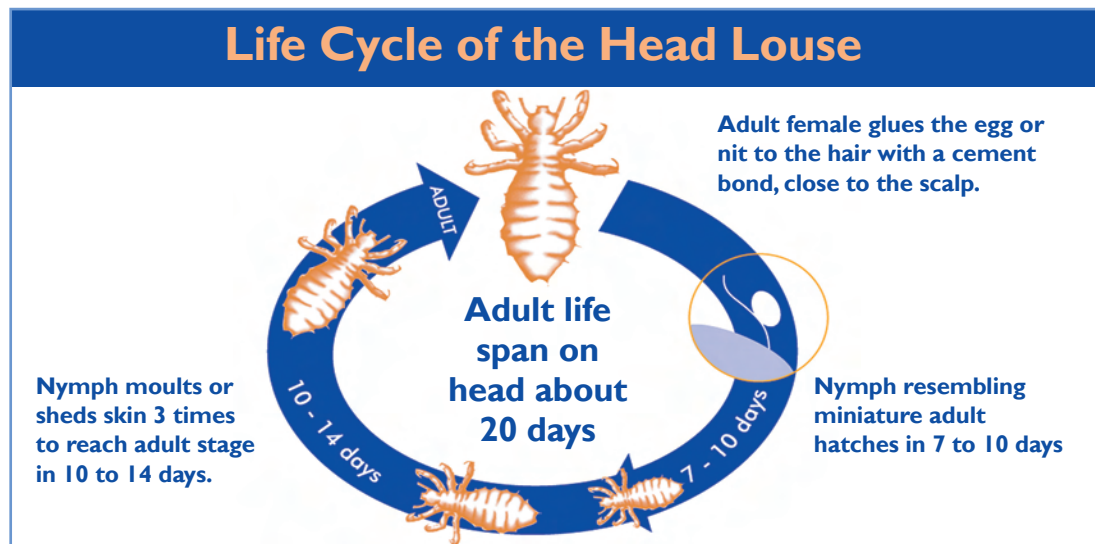
SEPTEMBER 2013

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 LABOUR DAY SCHOOL CLOSED	3 First Day of School	4 Rosh Hashanah	5 Rosh Hashanah	6
9 3:30 Staff Meeting	10	11	12	13 Yom Kippur
16	17	18	19	20
23 PA DAY (NO SCHOOL)	24 Monday Class Schedule PM - School Terry Fox Walk/Run	25	26	27
30 7 - 8:30 School Council Meeting in Library	1			
	School Bus Evacuation Teaching Program			

Head Lice

What are head lice?

Head lice, or louse are a common parasitic insect that can be found on the head, eyebrows and eyelashes of people. Head lice feed on human blood and live close to the human scalp. Head lice are not known to spread disease. There are three forms of head lice; nit (egg), nymph or adult.



Nit (eggs)

- Half the size of the head of a pin and shaped like a tear drop
- Are a creamy colour and found close to the scalp, on the shaft of the hair
- Are cemented to the hair so they cannot be blown or flicked off

Nymph - immature louse

- Transparent or rust coloured after blood meal and very difficult to see
- Reaches maturity in about 10 days
- Lice have six legs with claws so they can cling to human hair

Adult - mature louse

- Larger than a nymph
- The female louse can lay up to 150 eggs during the life span
- Lice do not like movement or light and crawl from head to head

For further information, please call:
York Region Health Connection 1-800-361-5653
TTY 1-866-252-9933 or visit www.york.ca



Head lice will cause:

- Itchy scalp; especially around the hair line and behind the ears
- Tickling in the hair
- Sores caused by scratching the itchy bites

Head lice move by crawling quickly not hopping or flying. Head lice are spread by direct head to head contact or sharing personal items like hats, scarves or brushes. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.

A co-operative community effort will help to control the spread of head lice. This means that all families need to have regular head checks and treat their children if head lice are found.

Steps to check for head lice:

- Sit in a well lit area - near a sunny window or bright lamp
- Divide the hair into sections and look carefully, one section at a time
- Look carefully in the hair, behind the ears, nape of neck, hairline of the head
- Check the heads of all family members

Be sensitive to children's feelings if they have head lice.

If you find head lice or nits, proceed with treatment. Speak to a pharmacist or health professional about treatments and follow the directions on the package.

If you don't see lice or nits, continue to check the head regularly twice a week for one month, or more often, if your child has been in close contact with a confirmed case of head lice.

To control the spread of head lice:

- Do not share personal items
- Wash all bedding, towels and hats in hot water or use a hot drying cycle. Place items that can't be washed into airtight bags for 10 days to two weeks
- Vacuum surfaces where head may have rested, but no extra cleaning of the home is required
- Use treatments if live lice or nits are found in the hair. Check the head daily and repeat treatments if necessary
- Follow-up with anyone who may have had close contact to ensure they are checked for lice

SickKids

<http://www.aboutkidshealth.ca/En/HealthAZ/ConditionsandDiseases/SkinHairandNailDisorders/Pages/Headlice.aspx>

Canadian Paediatric Society:

<http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/whensick/HeadLice.htm>

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416 885 3479

Juanita.Nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca

Message from our Trustee

I am very pleased to welcome our new and returning families as we start another school year. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and feel refreshed and energized.

There is a lot to look forward to in the first few months of school, and I hope you will find an opportunity to get involved in some way. Partnerships with families are essential, not only to student achievement and well-being, but also to creating a positive, caring and supportive school environment in which students can thrive.

There are many ways you can get involved and support your child's education from communicating with your child's teacher and asking your child about what they are learning to volunteering in the school or participating in the school council.

Thanks to your support and the hard work and commitment of our staff, students, families and community partners, we continue to be one of the top performing school boards in Ontario.

As an elected trustee and an advocate for high quality public education, I am committed to ensuring the highest quality public education possible for our students and their families. In the coming year, we will continue our focus on the priorities set out in our Multi-Year Plan: student achievement and well-being, the delivery of effective and appropriate educational programs and the responsible stewardship of Board resources.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me by email at Juanita.nathan@yrdsb.edu.on.ca or by phone at 416-885-3479. If you would like to be kept informed about various initiatives or topics that relates to your child's education and well being, please send me your email address and I would be happy to keep in touch with you on a regular basis.

I hope you have a great start to the school year and wish you all the best for 2013-14.

Juanita Nathan
Trustee | York Region District School Board – Area 4
Town of Markham – Ward 7&8