LAERSKOOL THERESAPARK

CIRC 48/15   22 May 2015

Dear Parent

We would like to bring the following to your attention:

RING WORMS (TineaCapitis)

It has come to our attention that there are some students who may have this fungi and we would like to inform you about it.

Ringworm or else called TineaCapitis is a common fungal infection of the skin and is not due to a worm. Fungi are germs that can live on the dead tissue of the hair, nails, and outer skin layers. Tineacapitis is caused by mold-like fungi called dermatophytes.

The fungi grow well in warm, moist areas. A tinea infection is more likely if you:

- Have minor skin or scalp injuries
- Do not bath or wash your hair often
- Have wet skin for a long time (such as from sweating)

You can catch tineacapitis if you come into direct contact with an area of ringworm on someone else's body. You can also get it if you touch items such as combs, hats, or clothing and unsterilized hair cutting equipment, such as razor blades that have been used by someone with ringworm. The infection can also be spread by pets, particularly cats.

Symptoms of tineacapitis are:

- May involve only parts of the scalp, or all of it. Areas that are infected appear bald with small black dots, due to hair that has broken off
- You may have round, scaly areas of skin that are swollen (inflamed). You may also have pus-filled sores called kerions
- It may have a crusted rash that may appear as round, red patches on the skin
- Ringworm include patches of hair loss and the head may be itching

Ringworm can be successfully treated with antifungal medications used either topically or orally. Because it is contagious your child must be removed from the school premises until medical clearance can be provided.

If any of these symptoms are visible on your child please call your health care provider. Home care is not enough to get rid of tineacapitis.The health care provider will prescribe medicine you take by mouth to treat ringworm in the scalp.

Uitnemendheid	**Eerlikheid**	**Opregtheid**	**Lojaliteit**	**Respek**
Excellence	**Honesty**	**Sincerity**	**Loyalty**	**Respect**

- Griseofulvin, terbinafine, and itraconazole are the types of medicine used to treat this condition.
- You will need to take the medicine for 4 - 8 weeks.

Here are some steps you can do at home to reduce the chance of getting tineacapitis :

- Keep the area clean.
- Wash with a medicated shampoo, such as one that contains ketoconazole or selenium sulfide. Shampooing may slow or stop the spread of infection, but does not get rid of ringworm on its own.

Other family members and pets should be examined and treated, if necessary.

- Other children in the home may want to use the shampoo 2 - 3 times a week for around 6 weeks.
- Adults only need to wash with the shampoo if they have signs of tineacapitis or ringworm.

Once the shampoo has been started:

- Wash towels in warm, soapy water and dry each time they are used by someone who is infected
- Soak combs and brushes for 1 hour a day in a mixture of one-half bleach and one-half water. Do this for 3 days.

No one in the home should share combs, hairbrushes, hats, towels, pillowcases, or helmets with other people.

Thank you for your cooperation.

DR W A HENDRIKZ   **MR W BOSMAN**
PRINCIPAL   **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL**

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RETURN SLIP
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I, parent/guardian of _____ in Gr. ___/___ acknowledge the

receipt of circular 48/15.

SIGNATURE : _____   **DATE : _____**

/elr

_____ 2014

Laerskool Theresapark

Dear Parent of _____ Gr. ___/___.

After the school has sent out the letter about ring worm, it occurs to us that your child has all the symptoms of ring worms and may have the fungi.   Please see to it that your child sees a health care provider, and report back to us.   If not, we will phone you and ask to come and pick your child up immediately, for it may put the other children's health in jeopardy.

Thank you for understanding and cooperating.   We thank you in this regard.

_____

RETURN SLIP

I, parent/guardian of _____ in Gr. ___/___ acknowledge the receipt of the letter.

SIGNATURE : _____   **DATE** : _____

/elr

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