Principal’s Report

TEACHERS PLACEMENTS FOR 2014

The school is currently finalising the staffing profile for next year. We have five advertised vacancies, which cover permanent staff members who are currently on Family Leave from the school. Once the outcome of this process has been determined, teachers will then be allocated to each level of the school. Many teachers request a change of grade level each year in order to further build their expertise and capacity across new levels. To this end, many of the teaching teams at each level will have new staff members next year.

Please note, that we ask that parents refrain from making any requests in regards to their child/ren’s teacher for 2014. Our teachers work very closely at each level to plan and implement the learning programs and we are therefore very confident that the provision in each room is very congruent. Similarly, through our PLC structures we will have intervention and extension staff working at each level of the school next year. As children will be working increasingly across fluid groupings at each level, teachers will have a collective responsibility for all students across their level. We are so fortunate to have such a highly committed staff at WNPS and I am very assured that through all of our very thorough planning processes we will be able to establish highly supportive learning environments for all of our students again in 2014.

COMPOSITION OF 2014 CLASSES

Over the next fortnight, all teachers will be involved in an intensive process to develop the new classes for 2014. We would like to reiterate that the main focus of this process is to generate class groupings that are similarly balanced at each level. Each child’s academic capabilities will be considered as well as their behavioural characteristics and peer preferences. Teachers work collaboratively at each level to build these new classes, and then the Specialist teachers have further input into this process, given their broad knowledge of all children from across the school. The last stage will involve the Leadership team, including Wendy and I, vetting each grouping to ensure a sensitive balance of factors has been achieved.

When the class lists are finalised, teachers are then allocated to each class grouping. As the demographic of each class is very similar, teachers are aware that they may be allocated any grouping based on this premise.

Please be assured that we undertake this process very conscientiously so that we may establish the best learning conditions for all students each year.
**Parent-Teacher Interviews**

In addition to our scheduled family conferences/information sessions throughout the year, please note that a parent may request an interview with a teacher at any time to discuss any academic or social concern. Typically these meetings are normally held earlier in the year so that action plans can be put in place to further support a student’s progress.

There will be no scheduled interviews or conferences at the end of this year, but if you would like to meet with your child’s teacher, then we would be happy to accommodate any requests.

**Head Lice**

Several parents have recently reported cases of head lice for students particularly in Prep – Years 2. Could all parents please make an extra effort over the next week to check their child/ren’s hair. Please note, children are to be excluded from school until treatment has been applied. Further information about head lice treatment can be found at [http://docs.health.vic.gov.au/docs/doc/68EE7A1FCE1254F4CA2579BA0018EDD1/$FILE/Head%20lice%20-%20frequently%20asked%20questions%201111.pdf](http://docs.health.vic.gov.au/docs/doc/68EE7A1FCE1254F4CA2579BA0018EDD1/$FILE/Head%20lice%20-%20frequently%20asked%20questions%201111.pdf) a copy of this information is also attached to this week’s Newsletter.

Enjoy your Week
Jim Cahill—Principal

---

**Children, Cars and the Melbourne Road Crossing**

Lately a small number of parents have been taking liberties with the road rules and their children's safety, by letting their children alight from their cars while waiting in traffic at the red lights or while double parked. This is illegal and dangerous.

Generally, though, the Melbourne Road Crossing is used properly by nearly all families, making it a safe place to get to and from school.

Thank you Vin and Andrea (School Crossing Supervisors)

---

**Willy Waste Whispers**

**WWW & RRRR Aluminium Can Collection**

Year 2L students would like to let the school know that our school now has a big sack to collect aluminium cans. The bag is kept in the covered area opposite room four, near the chess set containers.

We would like students to bring cans from home. Please remove the ring pulls carefully. Remember, there will be a pair of gloves near the bag to wear so you don’t cut yourself. There is a container to put the ring pulls in.

Rinsing the cans before you bring them to school would be very helpful and it will also prevent ants from taking over. When the bag is full it will be taken to a metal recycling centre in Maddock’s Road. By you bringing in cans, you are raising a little bit of money for the school and you are helping the environment.

Thanks a lot.
Lily—Year 2L
Tolerance: a vital ingredient for your child's success

Kids who accept differences in others are setting themselves up for success in the world of diversity that they will enter.

Want your child to be successful way past the confines of the school gate?

Then you need to make sure your child is tolerant of individual differences and accepting of children and adults who look and act differently to them.

There’s no doubt that success in today’s world depends on the ability to understand, appreciate and work with others. The child who is open to differences is likely to have more opportunities in school, in business and in life in general.

Schools are diverse places

Walk into any school ground in Australia and you’ll witness diversity firsthand. You’re likely to see children from many different cultural, racial and family backgrounds. You’ll also see kids with different needs and diverse ways of expressing themselves. Some kids will wear their hearts on their sleeves, while others will be taciturn and quiet. Tolerant kids are accepting of these differences. They make friends with children and young people who may look and act differently to them.

Intolerance breeds bullying

Intolerance, or prejudice, is at the heart of a great deal of the bullying that occurs among children and young people. Kids who look and act differently or who are more isolated often experience bullying for no apparent reason other than the fact that they are ‘different’. Whole-hearted acceptance and even appreciation of differences is a preventative bullying measure that we can all support.

Tolerance starts at home

Kids learn attitudes such as tolerance from those around them. Children in primary school usually reflect the attitudes of their parents. While adolescents are strongly influenced by their peers, parental attitudes still have a significant impact on their attitudes to other people. In short, if you want your child to be accepting of differences – whether they are racial, cultural, behavioural or in sexual orientation – then make tolerance a family trait. Here’s how:

- **Help your child feel accepted, respected, and valued.** When your child feels good about himself, he is more able to treat others respectfully.

- **Model acceptance.** Kids learn what they live so make sure you welcome differences in others, and be sensitive to cultural or racial stereotypes. It also helps on a practical level to discuss prejudice and stereotypes when they occur in the media.

- **Challenge prejudice or narrow-minded views.** Sometimes kids, knowingly or unknowingly, can say the cruelest things about others. As a parent respectfully remind your child or young person about the impact that a narrow view can have on his or her own behaviour as well as on those it may be directed towards.

- **Intolerance of diversity is an attitude that parents should make a stand against.**

- **Answer kids’ questions about differences honestly and respectfully.** Teach your kids that it is acceptable to notice and discuss differences as long as it is done with respect.

- **Respect individual differences within your own family.** Your ability to accept your children’s differing abilities, interests and styles will go a long way towards establishing an attitude of tolerance in the children themselves. By valuing the uniqueness of each member of your family you are teaching your kids to value the strengths in others, no matter how diverse.

Modern Australia is such a wonderful culturally-rich place. This diversity is part of its magic. One way to make sure our children fully appreciate this richness is to fully embrace tolerance in everything we do.
Rosters...

Fresh Fruit Friday (FFF)
The parents on the roster for Fresh Fruit Friday this week **Friday 15th November** are: - Martin Ray, Pamela Fernando, Larissa Deeth, Mette Nielsen, Leanne Sutton, Vicky Gibson, Kim Goddard, Davena Toplis and Joanna Gumley.

If you are able to help out weekly, fortnightly or even once a month, please contact Linda Taylor at, taylor.linda.l1@edumail.vic.gov.au. This is a very happy and social group.

Canteen—NEW HELPERS MOST WELCOME
Julieanne Weir manages our Canteen and is always very appreciative of the time parents or family members can volunteer to help in the Canteen. Julieanne can be contacted via the General Office. New parents or family members are always needed, so, if you can spare any of your valuable time, it would be greatly appreciated.

- Thursday 14th November—Heather Hughes
- Friday 15th November—Leanne Sutton
- Wednesday 20th November—Michelle Lopes
- Thursday 21st November—Kaylynn Rasmussen
- Friday 22nd November—Tracey Somerville

Please remember that Lunch Orders are only available on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

No Lunch Orders are available on the Last Day of Each Term.

Uniform Shop News
Primary School Wear (PSW) is now our official Uniform supplier. For Term 4, they will supply uniform items from the Uniform shop on Monday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am to 9.15am. Alternatively, uniform items can be purchased on-line by visiting www.psw.com.au. Kara Kreis is now employed by PSW, and for all enquiries, please contact Kara on 0413 008 185.

School Banking
School banking day is Wednesday. Don’t forget to send in your child’s bank book.

Student Safety
Please take the time to regularly remind your child/ren about safety, especially when going to and from school. Here are the important points to mention:

- Do not to talk to strangers and never accept a ride from a stranger, or accept lollies or gifts from a stranger.
- Immediately report any issue or problem you may have when going to or from school, to your mum and dad, or to your teacher, the Principal, Assistant Principal or office staff.
- Always get permission from mum or dad before going to play with a friend after school and always let mum and dad know where you will be and what time you will be home.

We advise that, wherever possible, children should travel to or from school with an adult or with their friends, rather than travel alone.

Early Release
All children collected from school before 3.30pm must be signed out at the Office. Parents will be handed an ‘Early Release Pass’ to hand to the supervising teacher. If a child is signed out at Recess or Lunch time, the Office staff will call the child to the Office and then ensure the Early Release Pass is given to the supervising teacher.

Bikes & Scooters
Many children ride bikes and scooters to school each day. All bikes and scooters must be locked up in either the Bike or Scooter Enclosure to prevent theft. Please ensure your child has a chain and a lock. All children who ride a bike or scooter must wear a helmet which is a requirement by the Government. The school regularly reminds all children about wearing helmets for their safety. All bikes, scooters, skateboards, ribtics and helmets must be labelled, with your child’s name and class. **Children are reminded they must walk their bike, scooter, skateboard or ribstic to and from the school gates. No bikes are to be brought through the school buildings and we request, where possible, that Scooters are also not walked through the building.**

Working With Children Checks
As from the 1st July 2013 the process for applying for a Working With Children Check has changed. Due to the continual changes to the forms they are no longer available at School or the Post Office. The only way to apply for a Working With Children Check is online. These forms are available at [http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au](http://www.workingwithchildren.vic.gov.au)

Reminding Parents, if you wish to assist in the Canteen, Fresh Fruit Friday, Sport, Swimming, Excursions or Camps, you must have a current Working With Children Check. If you have a current WWCC and have not provided a copy to the office, please bring your WWCC to the school office, where a copy will be placed on file. Working With Children Checks remain valid for 5 years.
Movember is a special time of year, when men's health takes centre stage. The time of year where the moustache comes out from hibernation, and we wear it with pride to support a good cause. Yes it’s a bit of fun, and often Movember is seen just as a bit of a laugh, but beneath the fun lies a meaningful initiative. Movember raises not only money to aid the research and treatment of prostate and testicular cancer, but also raises awareness of the mental and physical battles that males often face, but not acknowledge.

This year at Williamstown North, we are calling out to all Fathers, Grandfathers and Uncles in the school community to join the teachers in the Willy North Mo’s team. Follow this link to join the Willy North Mo’s - [http://au.movember.com/team/1076753](http://au.movember.com/team/1076753)

Together let’s make a positive impact on the future health of your sons, grandsons and nephews!

---

**Community Notice Board**

**Mischa’s Boxing**—Join before 30th November and get the first month free, pay $110 per month instead of $120, get a free 30 minute private session, get a free tank top. No Contracts or Joining Fee. Located 10/107 Whitehall Street, Footscray. Contact Mischa on 0408 012 299 or at www.boxingcentral.com.au

**Market**—Date: Sunday 17th November 2013. Raising money for Sidhi Astu Orphanage. Location: Yarraville Senior Citizens Centre, 48 Fehon Street, Yarraville. Time: 11.00am-3.00pm.

**Gooie & Mor-stor Samples and Seconds Sale**—November 29th to 1st December, 10.00am to 4.00pm. Gooie Headquarters, 1/45 Chelmsford Street, Williamstown for more information call 9397 5218. Up to 70% off rrp, discounted designs, samples and seconds.

**Cambridge University Press** is currently looking for staff to process our direct mail marketing campaigns and perform other ad hoc office tasks on a casual basis, following the retirement of our two wonderful long-term mail room assistants. The positions would be ideal for parents of school-age children who are looking for flexible work during school hours. The workload varies throughout the year, with plenty of work in Term 2 and 3 and only some in Terms 1 and 4. Some weeks we may have a lot of work and other weeks we may have very little. The role primarily involves labelling and stuffing envelopes, the light lifting of mail tubs, photocopying and the completion of related mail-room paperwork. For further information or to apply, please contact James Madden on 8671 1428.

**Williamstown Fruit & Veggie Swap - 16th November** Got too many lemons and not enough parsley? Or maybe you have too much silver-beet that the kids won't eat. Why not bring along your excess produce and swap it for something you can use. A Fruit & Veggie Swap is a concept allows gardeners to share their produce with others. If you don’t have a garden, you can still participate. You can swap other items including: recipes, egg cartons, worm tea, coffee grounds or even plant labels. Come along to the Williamstown Fruit & Veggie Swap and find out more. 16th November, 10.30am - 11.30am. Library Deck (weather permitting) or inside Foyer. The Williamstown Fruit & Veggie Swap is supported by Transitions Hobson's Bay - a community group working towards a sustainable future. [http://transitionhb.groupsite.com/main/summary](http://transitionhb.groupsite.com/main/summary)


---

**After School Care**

Dear Parents, Children are required to wear hats for outdoor play during Aftercare. The younger children leave their hats in their tubs in their classrooms, it may be a good idea if parents could possibly put a spare hat in their child’s bag that could stay in their bag for Aftercare.

Enrolments for 2014 bookings will be opening towards the end of November, keep an eye out for an email from Oshclub as will send all parents an email to inform them that bookings are now open and can be made for 2014.

Children have enjoyed using boxes etc for Junk Art. If you have any boxes (small only), you can donate to Aftercare this would be great.

Any enquiries for Aftercare, please do not hesitate to call Leanne on 0422 236 845.

Thank you—OSHCLUB Staff.
Willy North Concert 2013

11th & 12th December at 6.30pm
Williamstown Town Hall
Dear Williamstown North School Community,

Would like to become a Community Patron Sponsor of the annual Williamstown North Primary School 2013 CONCERT?

The School Concert is a non-profit event. To be a Community Patron Sponsor, the school is seeking donations of $50, $100, $150, $200, or an amount nominated by yourself.

Our School Concert is a major event for the Williamstown North Primary School community, and tickets are much sort after. We anticipate all tickets will be sold—with a total of over 1,300 people attending the two Concerts.

We acknowledge all Community Patron Sponsors;

- In the School Newsletter;
- By advertising your company up on a Multimedia 12’ X 9’ Screen by the stage each night of the Concert;
- Through verbal acknowledgement on the night of each Concert from our Principal/Assistant Principal;
- By acknowledging your company on the Concert program;
- Through promoting your company on our promotional T-shirts worn by staff, in the lead up to the Concerts;
- Continuous advertising on the Schools Website through to 1st February 2014.

If you could consider supporting this wonderful Williamstown North Primary School event, and become a Community Patron Sponsor, please contact Melissa Eastwood—the Sponsorship Coordinator, on 0402 029793 or email: smeastwood@optusnet.com.au. Sponsorship payment details are as follows: cash, cheque—made payable to Williamstown North Primary School—or EFTPOS payments at the office. Seating for Community Patron Sponsors will be pre arranged.

The final date to secure your sponsorship of the 2013 CONCERT is 25th November 2013. This allows sufficient time for all printing and promotional items to be finalised.

Please include a digital copy of your logo for advertising purposes.

The school community values your commitment to, and sponsorship of, the 2013 CONCERT.

Yours sincerely,

Melissa Eastwood and Fran McCormick

---

**TICKET INFORMATION 2013 CONCERT**

**Ticket sales have closed. Tickets will be distributed to families on Monday December 2nd.**

For all ticketing queries please call: Melissa Eastwood on 0402 029 793, or Jan Zahra on 0408 314 062.

---

**2013 CONCERT DVD sale**

The **2013 CONCERT DVD Pre Purchase order** envelope was sent home with students today. The cost to purchase a DVD is $25.00. It is an excellent memento to keep, as the children love watching it time and time again. As the Concert is so close to the end of the year, it is vitally important that we pre-sell the DVD’s. This allows the DVD company time to complete and distribute the DVD’s before the last day of school.

---

**2013 CONCERT: final call for parent helpers**

For the parent helpers of Willy North, preparing for the 2013 Concert is a huge undertaking, not least the roles of ticket and sponsor coordinators. Parent Helpers are centrally important to the smooth running of the 2013 CONCERT—organisation is characterised by clarity and precision to ensure the Concert runs like a well-oiled-machine. Jan and Melissa are calling for helpers, for example, ushering on the nights and helping with hall set-up. Unfortunately past students cannot be ushers. Please give them a call.

I am Fran McCormick, catch you next week!
Supporters of Williamstown North Primary School

Having grown up in Williamstown we understand the importance of community and acknowledge the integral role Williamstown North Primary School plays in our wonderful suburb. We here at socksforliving.com are proud to support Williamstown North Primary and in doing so enable present and future generations to benefit from quality, student centred education to improve their learning, being and living!
School Concert Sponsors—2013

- MEGA HOMES
- ZIGGURAT
- Funky Beats Mobile Disco
- socksforliving
Important Changes to School Banking Reward Redemption

Dollarmites Moneybox Rewards will no longer be available in 2014.

The Commonwealth Bank has removed the rule of only one moneybox per student per year for 2013. A student can redeem more than one moneybox this year if they have saved 10 tokens.

In 2014 the Commonwealth Bank will be introducing **two new reward items** for the students to choose from at each term. These new items offer students a wider selection of items to redeem from.

**The maximum tokens that can be carried over into 2014 is nine (9).**

Any students currently holding 10 or more tokens must redeem them for their chosen reward before the end of Term 4, 2013.

All items from 2013 are still available as well as a limited number of USB sticks from 2012. Please complete a rewards card for 2013 rewards to avoid missing out on items or losing tokens at the end of 2013.

If you have questions please email either:

- Our School Banking Co-ordinator Leanne Sutton - leanne@e-counting.com.au
- Susan Brailsford – Commonwealth Bank School Banking Specialist - Phone 0422 116 040 or email susan.brailsford@cbu.com.au

Thank you for supporting our School fundraising efforts and teaching your child how to save. Keep up the great work and remember to bring in your deposit book each Wednesday.

Williamstown North School Banking Volunteers
Looking For Summer Activities?

Our age-appropriate art classes are crafted to enhance creativity and imagination through the joy of visual art. Children are free to explore and develop their own personal style using the techniques we teach — from painting to drawing, sculpture to animation, and everything in between. No matter what the creative result new skills and confidence are assured.

It’s not about being the next Renoir. It’s about collaborating, playing, learning and creating in a bright, safe environment.

Holiday programs are run during term break and are aimed at children aged 6 to 12 years of age.

Head to our website for details www.littlecreaturescollective.com

Request to Join Our Email List For $10 off Jan 2014 Holiday Programs!

beck@littlecreaturescollective.com

PLEASE CONTACT BECK ON 0402 338 767 OR EMAIL BECK@LITTLECREATURESCOLLECTIVE.COM

---

Lifestyle

LFK INVITES YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL DANCE PRODUCTION

"THE LFK JUKEBOX SHOWCASE "

2013

Date-  -Saturday 23rd November @6.30pm
       -Sunday 24th November Kinder Dance Show@11am
       -Sunday 24th November @2.30pm
Venue - Xavier College
       Senior Campus Performing Arts Centre
       135 Barkers Road Kew
Tickets- $35.50 Adult       $25.50 Child/student/concession

Buy tickets online @ www.lifestyleforkids.com.au
or call LFK on 9397 7766 for more information

Come and support 200+ local girls from Lifestyle for Kids from 4 years –Adult.
Styles include Jazz, Hip Hop, Contemporary, Classical Ballet and Kinder Dance.
Dancing to a mix of music from the decades like AC/DC, Abba, Great Gatsby
One Direction, Rihanna and more. Fabulous routines, sets, backdrops, music
and a great community night out. Look forward to seeing you there!
Love Music?
NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR 2013
CALL US TODAY TO BOOK YOUR TRIAL SESSION. LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

Lessons, Programs and Courses for everyone
• Universal Music Program for Piano, Guitar, Vocal, Bass, Drums, Violin
• Children’s Music Program (2 - 5 years)
• Music Mastery (Theory, Aural)
• Recording & Music Production
• Vocal Ensembles
• DJ Courses
• Band Programs
• Workshops and Master Classes
• Regular Performance Opportunities
• Scholarships and Awards

Call today on 9397 3388
www.universalschoolofmusic.com.au

CHRISTMAS FAIR
SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER
11AM-4PM AT SEAWORKS,
82 NELSON PLACE WILLIAMSTOWN.

FREE RIDES
FREE FACE PAINTING
FREE ENTERTAINMENT
FREE ENTRY FOR CHILDREN
SPECIAL VISIT FROM SANTA
FREE ENTRY FOR ADULTS
GOLD COIN DONATIONS
FREE PRAWN COOKOUT
FREE PARKING

MARKET STALLS
AND FOOD COURT

A ROTARY CLUB OF WILLIAMSTOWN INITIATIVE
TO FUND COMMUNITY HEALTH PROJECTS.

Artz Collective
MARKET DAY
SUNDAY 24 November
10am – 3pm
2/59-61 Hudsons Rd
SPOTSWOOD
www.facebook.com/artzmmarket

Sausage Sizzle
Crafts
Clothing
Children’s Wear
Bric-a-brac

Community in harmony...
LAVERTON FESTIVAL
Sunday 24th November
11.00am to 4.00pm
Aviation Road
Family Event
Free children’s activities, entertainment and showbags.
A variety of market stalls and a special visit from Santa.
Large display of classic cars
Police Pipe Band performing plus a range of other great talent
On-Campus Uniform Sale!

SHOP DURING REGULAR ON-CAMPUS TRADING HOURS BETWEEN MON 11 NOV - SAT 14 DEC AND...

Take 5% off everything!*

Don’t Miss out! Limited time offer!

*Take 5% off original RRP for purchases made in store between November 11 and December 14, 2013. Lay-bys available with a 20% deposit. Offer not available online.
Where do head lice come from?

Head lice have been around for thousands of years. As with any insect, they learn to adapt to their environment in order to survive. We are never going to be completely rid of them, but we can make managing them easier.

Do head lice fly or jump?

Head lice do not have wings so they cannot fly. They can’t jump because they do not have ‘knees’.

So how do head lice move around?

Head lice crawl very fast and require head to head contact for transmission. It is possible that because of the way young children play, head lice are seen more widely amongst primary school children than adolescents or adults.

Can head lice spread disease?

No. Head lice cannot transmit or pass disease on to people.

Who is responsible for checking and treating head lice?

Like similar health conditions such as scabies, and ringworm, it is a parent or guardian’s responsibility to treat and care for their child.

Do head lice live in carpets, clothes, hats or sheets?

No. Head lice very rarely fall from the head. They require blood to survive. Head lice feed three to four times a day and without blood, will dehydrate in six hours in a dry climate and 24 hours in a humid climate. An egg requires warmth to hatch and is the reason why they are laid close to the scalp. The further away from the scalp, the less likely they are to survive.

Is it true that head lice only like clean hair?

No. Head lice are not selective. They don’t care if hair is long, short, blonde, brown, washed this morning or last week. As long as they are warm, and have blood to drink, then they are content.

What treatment kills 100% of head lice or eggs?

There is no single treatment that kills 100% of head lice or eggs. Whichever treatment you choose it can take time and persistence to get rid of head lice. Use a method that will not risk the health of your child.

Is there a way to prevent head lice?

No. It’s important to check your child’s head regularly with conditioner and comb even when you don’t think your child has head lice. There is no research to prove that chemical or herbal therapies can prevent head lice.

How does the conditioner and comb method work?

It’s a very cheap and effective way of finding head lice. Hair conditioner does not kill lice, but it does stunt them for about 20 minutes, meaning they do not move around. and it is difficult for them to hang on. This gives you time to comb through the hair with a fine tooth (head lice) comb.

How does a chemical treatment work?

Only use products that are licensed or registered for head lice. There are four different active chemicals that target head lice, each works differently and aims to kill lice and/or eggs.
Do some products work better than others?
Over time, head lice may develop resistance to some chemicals. It is important to check if a treatment you used has worked, and if not, treat again with another product that has a different chemical in it.

Why do you have to treat again in seven days time?
Head lice eggs take six to seven days to hatch. And when you treat, it’s easy to miss an egg or two. By treating again in seven days, you are aiming to kill and comb out any head lice that have since hatched from eggs, which were missed.

Should I treat everyone in the family?
It is important to check each family member, using conditioner and comb, for head lice but only treat those with live lice.

What should I wash or treat at home?
As head lice only live for a short time off the head, the only extra cleaning needed is to wash the pillowslip on the hot cycle or place in clothes dryer. Head lice combs can be cleaned in water hotter than 60 degrees.

Why does my child keep getting re-infected?
Re-infection is the least likely reason for head lice returning in a week’s time. If eggs do not die, or were not removed during the original treatment they may hatch and the lifecycle starts all over again. To break this lifecycle you must re-treat (regardless of treatment method) seven days after the first treatment and continue with weekly checking.

Does my child have to miss school?
According to the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009, children with head lice can be readmitted to school after head lice treatment has commenced. A certificate from a doctor or council is not required before your child goes back to school. Head lice are not the fault of schools, other families or children.


Information and photograph used are courtesy of Assoc Professor Rick Speare and the team of researchers at the School of Public Health, James Cook University, Queensland.

HELPFUL HINTS

- Using the conditioner and comb method every week is the best way to detect head lice early and minimise the problem.
- Tying back hair can help prevent the spread of head lice.
- Many parents will complain that they are doing the right thing but other parents aren’t. Placing the blame will not achieve anything. Instead of pointing the finger, help each other.
- A school with a head lice education program and policy in line with Scratching for Answers? is a proactive school attempting to help families address a common health concern.
- The department’s head lice management strategy is supported by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

TREATMENT CHOICES

- Chemical: Treat and comb to remove the head lice and eggs; and repeat in seven days.
- Non-chemical: Use conditioner and comb to remove the head lice and eggs; and repeat every two days until no live lice have been found for 10 days.