

Headteacher: Jayne Mullane N.P.Q.H.
Deputy Headteacher: Claire Chilvers N.P.Q.H.

Valley Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport SK4 2BZ

Phone/Fax: 0161 442 7535
headteacher@merseyvale.stockport.sch.uk
www.merseyvale.stockport.sch.uk



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Dear Parents/Carers,

Health and Hygiene - Threadworms

We all want our children to be fit, healthy and free from illness as much as possible. Unfortunately, some children do occasionally suffer from conditions which can cause discomfort and distress for both the child and their family.

Currently, as well as the more common illnesses such as coughs and colds, head lice and sickness/ diarrhoea we are aware of at least one case in school of **threadworms**.

Whilst many parents may feel uneasy about discussing such problems, these medical complaints are part of raising a child and at some point in their life, many children will be affected. Warm weather or close regular contact such as that naturally experienced by primary children, can make the conditions spread more easily and create further problems if personal hygiene is not maintained to high standards.

In school we encourage all children to regularly and thoroughly wash their hands especially after they have been to the toilet or before they eat. Our caretaking and cleaning staff clean all areas of school on a daily basis and carry out more intensive cleaning during school holidays to minimise the spread of infections. However, successful control is more likely to be effective when parents and carers also promote good personal hygiene for the whole family at home, and carry out regular checks and, if required, treatment with either an over the counter medicine from a pharmacist or prescription from your GP. Details of possible symptoms and control measures for threadworms can be obtained through the NHS website at the link below;

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Threadworms/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

We have a school nurse who can phone or meet with parents/ carers to offer advice and help. Contact can be made via the school office and meetings can be held in school and in confidence if required. Please help up to promote cleanliness and hygiene in school and to reduce the impact of these complaints upon your children. This ensures they receive the maximum benefit of their education and with the most comfort and confidence.

Should you have any queries concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, the school office or myself.

With best wishes,

Mrs J Mullane
Headteacher

