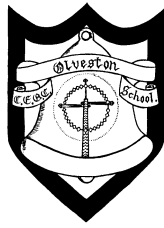


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*Lifelong learning, striving for excellence*

## HEAD LICE INFORMATION

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2011

Dear Parents/Carers

Over the past few weeks, cases of head lice at Olveston School have increased. It really is a joint effort from every parent to ensure we stop the spread of head lice at our school. Please read the information below and check your child's hair for head lice tonight and again at the weekend. If EVERY parent/carer checks their child's hair, we should be able to greatly reduce the spread of head lice. Thank you for your cooperation on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs A Luke  
Acting Head Teacher

Here are 3 ways of finding out if you have head lice:

1. By using a very fine tooth comb you may be able to comb dead lice and nits out of your child's hair. You can buy a special nit comb from the pharmacy. If you comb your child's hair over a piece of white paper, any nits or lice will be easier to spot.
2. A better way to find head lice is to comb your child's hair while it is wet. You will need to use a special nit comb. Wash your child's hair in the usual way and apply plenty of hair conditioner. Comb your child's hair while still wet and before you wash the conditioner off. Keep checking the comb for lice. The conditioner makes the hair slippery, and the lice find it hard to escape from the comb.
3. Another way to check your child's hair for lice is to look for the old eggs (or nits). The hatched nit eggs can be seen fairly easily. The nits are very small (smaller than a pin head), white in colour, and will be firmly stuck to the hairs, about an inch or two away from the scalp. They can be mistaken for dandruff, but you can't brush them away because they are firmly stuck to the hair.

**If you discover your child has head lice there are two approaches to treatment: Use of 'wet combing' or use of a chemical treatment. Please seek further advice from a pharmacy.**

