



St. Ann School

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Key Points on Head Lice

In April 2017, *Lice Happens* provided a brief overview of the biology of Head Lice and dispelled myths for parents at St. Ann School. The presentation was informative and aligned with the recommendations and guidelines from the School Nurses in the Diocese of Wilmington and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN).

Some key points:

1. The most proactive way to combat Head Lice is by using a high quality nit comb on a weekly basis and through a very thorough procedure. A visual check is not enough and is the least effective way.
2. Today's super Head Lice have become resistant to the overuse of over the counter treatments. This presents a challenge.
3. The #1 way Head Lice is transmitted is by hair to hair contact, therefore, wearing braids, pony tails, etc. is suggested which removes the hair bridge that allows Head Lice to crawl between children's heads. Boys and girls can get Head Lice.
4. Only 50% of people have a sensitivity to the bites which is indicated by itching. In many cases, a person will have Head Lice and not feel an itch.
5. The biology of Head Lice is that they can only live in heads-an infected classroom is not possible.

The specialist, Jacki McCulley, from *Lice Happens* has offered professional assistance through a phone call where parents can ask questions and learn more free of charge. A confidential visit to your home would cost. Her contact information is 302-545-5442, info@licehappens.com, www.licehappens.com. Your pediatrician may also be helpful and Diane Kerr, RN current School Nurse can also assist you.

St. Ann School will continue to provide education and encourage students to avoid head to head contact. We request that parents do a thorough check weekly and ensure that when faced with Head Lice they are sure it has been eradicated.