



Bribie Island State School

NEWSLETTER Term 2 Thursday 15th May 2014

CONGRATULATIONS

Bribie Island State School students!

Learning their way into receiving their awards on parade.



Key Diary Dates

| DATE | EVENT |
|------------|--------------------------------------|
| <u>MAY</u> | |
| 15 | Global Care Free Breakfast |
| 16 | Interschool Sport |
| 19 | Global Care Free Breakfast |
| 19 | Pre-Prep Playgroup 9am-10.30 in Hall |
| 20 | Caboolture Districts Cross Country |
| 20 | Walk to School Day |
| 21 | School Banking |
| 21 | P & C Meeting 9:30am |
| 22 | Global Care Free Breakfast |
| 22 | Senior Transition Day |
| 22 | Whole School Assembly |
| 23 | Under 8's Day 11.30am- 1.30pm |
| 23 | Athletics Field Event Qualifying |
| 23 | P & C Day |

Walk to School Day

Tuesday 20th May

Meet Mr Pickering at the Bike Track at IGA Bongaree at 8.15am and walk to school.

Student Absence Line: 3400 2366 EVERYDAY COUNTS



Welcome

The second newsletter for term two has us all taking a breath and recovering from a hectic and intense start to the term.

NAPLAN this week has interrupted our regular program. Next week we can now get back to our normal routines.

Education Week is next week and this promises to be a wonderful period of celebrating all we do at Bribie.

Soar Into School was postponed due to the inclement weather. This is now planned for **6th June**

Email for Newsletter - We are moving further in the modern era of technology. We now have more families access our newsletter by email, rather than by printed copy. Our goal is to become environmentally friendly by

the end of the year and have all newsletters distributed digitally. This newsletter provides a section for you to return your email address for our use.

P & C Day Friday 23rd May

Friday 23rd May is P & C Day and is time for all in our community to stop and thank the hard working volunteers who do so much for the students of our school. P&C's are generally a small band of very committed parents who go above and beyond to help the school provide the best possible opportunities for the students. At our school we have a small team who do most of the core tasks for the P&C in our school. This includes our hard working executive members, those who attend our meetings and take on roles, through to the volunteers in our tuckshop and at events. On behalf of all at Bribie Island State School I would like to thank this band of champions. We will be recognising this team of volunteers on assembly on the **22nd of May** as **Friday 23rd May** is our **Under 8's Day**. Please take time in the coming weeks when you come across one of our volunteers and thank them. **THANK YOU ALL.**

Working Bee

On **Sunday 4th May** we held a working bee at school. Thanks to the wonderful team of 26 we were able to complete several grounds tasks. Joining me were: Graeme McIntosh, Nicky, Mark, Seth and Phoebe Reilly, Sandra Heginbotham, Amanda Menzies, Deb Dun, Ken Piva, Gerard Clark, Brendan, Brock, Mackeelee, and Makenzie Smith, Sandy Crouch, Joanne, Sapphire, Gypsy and Phoenix Meyers-Cave, Kylie Kerr, Meredith, Richard, Lawson and Natalie Gates and Renee Browne.

Every day counts

Every week I include a section about attendance. I would love to remove this section from my newsletter article. Let's get to 95% attendance so I can take this fortnightly section out. Information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at <http://education.qld.gov.au/everydaycounts/index.html>. Also it is important that I remind all parents that attendance at primary school is compulsory. Serious breaches for this requirement can result in parents/carers being fined.

Enrichment Afternoon 21st May An Enriched Education For All

We are fully committed to providing a balanced and extensive enriched education program and our next round of Wednesday Enrichment afternoons starts next week. Notes have gone home about what is on for each year level as we seek to ensure all students have opportunities to broaden their educational experiences at school.

Over fifty community groups have been invited to attend our enrichment afternoon on May 21st. Guests will be invited to attend an afternoon tea at 1.30pm in the Arts/tech room and will then visit various classrooms around the school. We are very proud of our Enriched Education For All focus and see this event as a way of highlighting the great work going on each and every day.

School Uniform

With the advent of the colder weather I would like to remind all families of acceptable clothing at Bribie Island State School. At all times clothing worn to school must match the school's colour scheme. Eg. red jackets and fluoro green leggings are not appropriate. Jackets and jumpers must also not be the 'hoodie' style. Jumpers and jackets with inappropriate logos or prints are also not acceptable.

Track pants, long pants, tights and leggings must be colour appropriate eg. navy blue. Tights and leggings if worn must be worn under another item eg. shorts or skirt. Wearing tights and leggings by themselves is not appropriate.

Our **P & C uniform shop** sells schools jumpers and jackets in the appropriate colour with the school logo.

Please note the school Dress Code later in this newsletter which has been copied from the school enrolment handbook.

Volunteer's Week 12th – 18th May

Volunteer's Week falls during NAPLAN week and our school will not be able to interrupt this important commitment. However, our school has a very positive tradition through two events which serve to recognise volunteers in our own way. Mrs Lutton who manages our volunteers coordinates a High Tea which is planned for the 27th of June and we also have our Christmas luncheon planned for late in term four. We will look to do a newspaper article for our celebrations. Our deepest thanks will always go to our volunteers who provide a very valuable service to our school. We will also recognise these in our newsletter and on social media.

Walk to School Day

Tuesday May 20th is Walk to School Day. I will be meeting students who wish to walk to school on **Tuesday morning at 8.15am** at the bike track opposite the **Bongaree IGA.**

Have a great term.

Paul Pickering
Principal

Dress Code

The student dress code for Bribie Island State School consists of an agreed standard and uniform that students wear when:

- ◆ attending or representing their school;
- ◆ travelling to and from school; and
- ◆ engaging in school activities out of school hours.

The student dress code explains and documents, standards of acceptable or reasonable dress in relation to uniform, including footwear, and other aspects of personal presentation of students.

The P & C of Bribie Island State School supports a student dress code for Bribie Island State School because it believes that a student dress code promotes the objectives of Education (General Provisions) Bill 2006. In particular, the P & C of Bribie Island State School supports the intention of a student dress code in providing a safe and supportive teaching and learning environment by:

- ◆ enabling ready identification of students and non-students at school;
- ◆ eliminating distraction of competition in dress and fashion at school;
- ◆ fostering a sense of belonging;
- ◆ developing mutual respect among students through minimising visible evidence of economic or social differences;
- ◆ ensuring our legal responsibilities are met re: Workplace Health and Safety requirements as enacted in relevant legislation and policy; and
- ◆ promoting a positive image of our school to the local community in demonstrating that the School has high expectations of its students and that all students take pride in themselves and their school.

POLICY

Uniform: All students at Bribie Island State School are expected to wear the full school uniform when attending or representing their school, travelling to and from school and engaging in school activities out of school hours.

Student Uniform and Personal Presentation

Prep – Year 7

Uniform:

Navy and teal polo shirt

Navy shorts (boys)

Navy skirt (girls)

Navy and teal long sleeved rugby jumper or jacket (winter)

Footwear: Students must wear black, cleanable leather/vinyl joggers or shoes that are fully enclosed with plain white socks.

Hats: Students are required to wear the school bucket hat or wide brimmed hat, which protects their face, and back of the neck for outside curriculum activities and sports.

Hair: Students with shoulder length or longer hair must wear hair tied back.

Jewellery: The following jewellery items may be worn:

- ◆ One pair of studs or sleepers only (other body piercing is inappropriate for a worksite)
- ◆ One watch

One item of neck jewellery may only be worn if it is of cultural or religious significance and it must be long enough to be tucked out of sight under the school shirt

Sports Uniform

As for general uniform with the addition of printed house Polo shirts: Emus – yellow, Kookaburras – blue, Lorikeets – green, Pelicans – red.

Winter Uniform

As for general uniform with the addition of a Navy Blue and Teal Rugby Jumper or jacket (long sleeve).

It is suggested that all school clothing be suitably labelled with the child's name for easy identification.

CONSEQUENCES FOR NOT COMPLYING WITH THE STUDENT DRESS CODE

If a student does not attend school or school related activities in the correct uniform, the Principal or nominees may:

- ◆ Request an explanation note from parents that states why the student is out of uniform;
- ◆ If the occurrence is repeated, reminding parents about the policy through a letter and discussing the issues further if necessary;
- ◆ Providing the student with the use of a second hand uniform for the day.

The school may also impose sanctions on a once only basis per episode of non-compliance. Sanctions are reflective of the severity and recentness of the non-compliance and are limited to one of the following:

- ◆ Imposing a detention for a student during lunch;
- ◆ Preventing a student from attending, or participating in, any activity for which a student is representing school; or
- ◆ Preventing a student from attending or participating in any school activity that is not an essential school educational program.

The only exemptions to this policy are students whose physical impairments prevent their ability to conform to the dress code or students whose families have religious or cultural grounds for conscientious objection, these will need to be discussed, at the time of enrolment.

A student's wilful non-compliance with the school's dress code, may result in the school taking disciplinary action.



LOOM BANDS

Please be advised that **LOOM BANDS** are not permitted at Bribie Island State School. Thank you

National Collection of Data on School Students with Disability

Collecting data on school students with disability helps teachers, principals and education authorities support the participation of students with disability in schooling on the same basis as students without disability.

All Australian Governments have agreed to work together on the annual collection of data on school students with disability. In 2013, 10% of Queensland state schools participated in the first year of implementation. In 2014, two thirds of Queensland schools will participate and all schools will be collect data from 2015. Our school will be involved in the nationally consistent collection of data from this year.

Please be reassured that the Department will not provide on to another organisation any data that can identify an individual student. The only data being collected at the school level to be reported nationally is the:

- number of students in the school who are provided with an adjustment to address a disability;
- level of adjustments we provide for those students; and
- broad category of disability.

Consultation with parents is important not only for the data collection but also to ensure you are aware of the adjustments being provided to support your child. We will therefore continue to consult with you.

While only data that cannot identify your child will be submitted outside of the Department, if you do not wish for your child's details to be included, please let me know. Information and fact sheets are available to help you make a decision from the:

Department's website: <http://education.qld.gov.au/curriculum/disability-data-collection.html>

Australian Government Department of Education website: <http://education.gov.au/nationally-consistent-collection-data-school-students-disability>

Alternatively, if you have any queries about the collection or use of this data I encourage you to contact **Dr Donna Ward** on **3400 2333**, who is leading our data collection requirements.

Dr Donna Ward
A/Head of Special Education

Sensory Movie Day

Sensory Movie Day – Mr Peabody & Sherman

Inclusive event for families with special needs, lighting on dim, sound lowered, volunteers on fire exit doors, no judgement.

Date: **2pm Sunday 25th May 2014**

Location: **Morayfield Birch Carroll & Coyle**

Tickets: **\$8 each**

Children 2years and under are free.

Companion I.D. Accepted

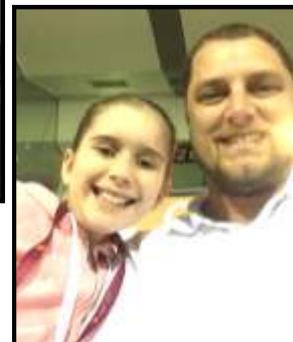
Tickets on sale now or purchase on the day, No diagnosis required, siblings and extended family welcomed.

For more information please call Chanelle on 0422 416 509 or email: sensorymovieday@hotmail.com

AFL RAFFLE WINNER

AFL Raffle winner Zarliah and her Step-Dad Jonny enjoying their prize of VIP Tickets watching the Brisbane Lions!

Congratulations Zarliah!



Help Save the Twinnies Pelican and Seabird Rescue.

My name is **Tegan** and I am a 14 year old who is determined to make a difference.

I have set a personal goal for myself to raise \$100,000.00 for Conservation before I leave High School in 2016. I am on track as my total is currently \$76,500.00. I enjoy my fundraising, I get to have a lot of fun and met wonderful people. Some famous, others just like me who love our wildlife.

I was very lucky to be honoured by being named as Young Citizen of the Year 2014 for Moreton Bay Region and Young Philanthropist Queensland.

I have another event on and this time I am helping **Twinnies Pelican and Seabird Rescue**. With the help of many of my friends we have put together a very affordable and fun day out this coming **Sunday the 18th of May**.

Hope to see you there on Sunday.

Address: **Twinnies Pelican and Seabird Rescue**
2147 Steve Irwin Way, Landsborough

Email: info@wildlifeemergency.com.au

Web: www.wildlifeemergency.com.au

Phone: 0407 033 315

Tegan Lather

Brian Bee says, Remember to:

- 1. BE SAFE**
- 2. BE RESPECTFUL**
- AND**
- 3. BE AN ACTIVE LEARNER**



Education Week set to go off with a bang!

Bribie Island State School is putting exploration, engagement and enrichment in the spotlight from the **19th May until the 23rd May** as everyone prepares for a week full of celebrations in honour of **Education Week**.

A number of events are on the calendar, including an afternoon tea to showcase enrichment in action. Community members are invited for an afternoon tea on **Wednesday 21st May** from **1:30pm** to share in a variety of enrichment experiences with students in either their year level program or specialist programs. All learning types are catered for through a variety of experiences, involving science, sports, arts and technology.

All week long you can visit the school book fair in the library from **9:00am until 2:30pm**. On **Wednesday** and **Thursday afternoon** the book fair will feature extended hours until **5:30pm** to assist our working parents in being able to attend. This is a major fundraiser for our school, so come along and buy a great book!

UNDER 8'S DAY

Last but certainly not least, join us in one of Bribie Island's best known annual events - **Under 8's Day**, **Friday May 23rd** on the school oval from **11:30am-1:30pm**. Local families with young children **under 8** are invited to join our students, dedicated team of staff and community groups as we celebrate all things great about being **under 8!**

Please contact the school on **3400 2333** if you would like to register for any of these events, or require more information.

Mrs Aczel
Head of Curriculum

BRIBIE ISLAND STATE SCHOOL PRE-PREP PLAYGROUP

When: Monday mornings (School Terms only)

Time: 9am to 10.30am

Where: In the foyer of the school hall

Cost: Free!

Playgroup is run by the school in conjunction with the Caboolture Early Years Centre.

For enquiries please call the office on
3400 2333.

We look forward to seeing you there .

Student Banking

Student Banking is every **WEDNESDAY**

If you are interested in your child starting School Banking please go to the P & C room on a **Wednesday** morning to speak with **Marcia** or phone **3400 2308**.

Second Hand Uniform donations

If any families are able to help with donations of second hand uniforms or second hand black shoes, donations to help Mr Piva's supply of second hand uniforms are always happily accepted at the school office.

Thank you all once again for your support.

Ken Piva
School Chaplin

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

Monday - Friday: 8.30am - 9.30am

Winter Jackets now in stock \$35 each

For any inquiries regarding UNIFORMS please call into the PARENT ROOM or contact Carolyn or Sharon on **3400 2308**.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR KIDS TO BE SKILLED AND ACTIVE IN SPORTS AND GAMES?

The Australian Government's Active After-school Communities (AASC) program is a national initiative that provides primary school children with access to free sport and other physical activity programs in the after-school time slot of 3.15pm to 4.15pm. The program aims to engage children through a positive and fun experience to develop a love of sport that inspires them to join a local sporting club.

Coaching activities this term are golf skills and multi-sports skills.

Other coaching skills programs that may be available in future terms include triathlons, AFL, athletics, hockey, baseball, tennis and cricket. More sports are being added to this list each term. Coaching is provided by a registered Queensland coach with supervision provided by a Bribie Island State School staff member. Prior to the start of the coaching session each week, the children will be offered a choice of fruit.

The cornerstone of the AASC program is the involvement of the local community in the delivery of the program. This involvement offers opportunities to support and strengthen community cohesion and development.

Keep an eye out for enrolment forms from your child/ren with details of what, when and where the next coaching skills programs will be offered. Make sure you are quick to respond as there are limited positions available for participants.

For more information please see **Mr Stephen Nicholson** in the HIVE.



BUSY FINGERS

Bribie Island State School would like to thank **BUSY FINGERS** for their ongoing generous support to our school.

Donations are needed at Busy Fingers. Please donate any household furniture or second hand clothes to Busy Fingers. All furniture can be picked up for free from your home. Please contact Busy fingers on **3408 1014** to arrange your pick up.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Sports News

Cross Country

Congratulations to the following students who placed **1st** and **2nd** at the recent Cross Country Carnival.

A team of **33 students** will now compete at the **District Cross Country Carnival** on **Tuesday 20th May**. We wish all the students all the best for this event.

| Age | Runner Up | Winner | Age | Runner Up | Winner |
|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 9 yrs Boys | Christian Skafte | Tyler Haas | 11yrs Girls | Mackaylah Smith | Adele Black |
| 9 yrs Girls | Rose Howden | Jayd Hanes | 12yrs Boys | Harry Bradford | Brodie Friedrichs |
| 10 yrs Boys | Lochi Wall | Mason Alleyne | 12yrs Girls | Chamarel Philippe | Amber Hoskinson |
| 10 yrs Girls | Jade Duncan | Jazmin Crouch | 13yrs Boys | Zane Storey | Bradley Clayden |
| 11 yrs Boys | Wi Taahu Haparuna | Beau Friedrichs | 13yrs Boys | Kira Kohler | Alexis Thomas |

Sunshine Coast School Sport

Congratulations to **Dylan Willis** who was recently selected in the **Sunshine Coast 12yrs Rugby League Team**. **Dylan** will now compete in the **State Championships** at **Goondiwindi** during the next school holidays. This is **Dylan's second year** of representing Sunshine Coast. Let's hope he can follow in the footsteps of Matt Gillett and Jack Reed!

Interschool Sport

This Friday (16th) is the final week for Interschool Sport. Early in Term 3, Interschool Sport begins again with students competing in Rugby League, Touch Football, Soccer and Netball.

Mr Waugh
PE Teacher

Every Day Counts

Every minute counts..... the numbers don't lie!

| If He/She is only missing.... | That equals.... | Which is.... | Over 13 years of schooling that's.... |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10 mins. per day | 50 mins. per week | Nearly 1&1/2 weeks per year | Nearly 1/2 year |
| 20 mins. per day | 1hr. 40 mins. per week | Over 2 & 1/2 weeks per year | Nearly 1 year |
| 30 mins. Per day | Half a day per week | 4 weeks per year | Nearly 1 & 1/2 years |
| 1 hour per day | 1 day per week | 8 weeks per year | Over 2 & 1/2 years |

SHELTERBOX Bribie Rotary Club and our School Earlyact Club



WE are excited to welcome ShelterBox Australia representative **Greville Easte**, who will be bringing a **ShelterBox Display** to **BISS**, **Wednesday May 21st**.



ShelterBoxes have been nominated by the **EarlyAct students** as their **International Service Fundraiser**. The **ShelterBox** goal is to provide emergency housing, water and blankets to help people around the world who are in desperate need, largely as a result of the effects of natural disasters and conflict.

For each \$1,000 donated, a **ShelterBox aid package** will be delivered where needed - this includes all materials, packing, transport and distribution to recipients worldwide and a contribution to stock in readiness for the next disaster **ShelterBox** responds to, as part of an ever growing global network. Our Donation Day and Fundraising Day to be announced. **ShelterBox** began as the brainchild of one Rotarian – **ShelterBox** has grown to become the largest Rotary Club project in the 100 year history of the organisation.



Be Respectful ~ use your manners

- ◆ “Good morning or good afternoon”
- ◆ “Excuse me”
- ◆ Hold the door open for the person coming in
- ◆ Respect your own and other people’s property
- ◆ “Please” and “thank you”



Tidy Turtle Award

The first impression made by our school is the grounds.

We are working together as a school to cut down on the amount of litter we see lying around.

Classes are responsible for looking after a small area in the school and ensuring it is rubbish free.

The Tidy Turtle will be awarded on parade for classes that score highly for their area.

The winners for Weeks 3 & 4 are **5A & 5B**

Congratulations!!



School Attendance Awards

Regular attendance at school is essential to students achieving their full potential. Bribie Island State School is committed to promoting the attendance of all students.

Attendance awards are presented to celebrate the classes with the highest attendance and the most improved attendance each fortnight. Classes will be presented with attendance trophies at each parade. Individual students who achieve a 95% attendance rate during the term will go in the draw for a \$100 toy voucher.

The winning class for Outstanding Attendance during weeks 1 & 2, Term 2 is

PY1

The winning class for Most Improved Attendance during weeks 1 & 2 is

1B

The winning class for Outstanding Attendance during weeks 9 & 10 Term 1 was

PY1

The winning class for Most Improved Attendance during weeks 9 & 10 Term 1 was

1B



Receive our school Newsletter digitally

Please complete and return to the office or email amenz23@eq.edu.au to receive a digital newsletter.

Parent Name: _____

Eldest Students Name: _____

Eldest Students class: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

P & C Report

Hello All,

What a busy fortnight it's been, and there's another coming right up!

Our Mothers Day Stall last week was a fantastic success with many parents lending a hand to make it one of our best! So many excited little faces clutching their money and choosing something special for their Mums, that's what volunteering is about.

Thanks go out to **Adel's Mum Kate Black, Riley's Mum Vanessa Collins, Jessica Carrodus' mum Mary Turner, Mackenzie, Mackeelee, Mackaylah and Brock's parents Melissa and Brendan Smith, Faith's Mum Dinah Barnes, Laurel's Mum Bec Pilkington, Ella's Mum Amanda Miller, Jayden, Alicia and Daniel's Mum Carolyn, Marcia Walsh, Amy Brady, Jacinta's Mum Robbie Heustis, and Xander's Mum Nat Tebbutt.**

I would like to give special thanks to **Mary Turner** for her guidance and **Helen Ronkovich** for a successful event!

The position of **Secretary** will be voted on at the next meeting so if you have some time to give and want to contribute to the running of our school **P & C** and be a part of our executive please come and complete a nomination form and attend the meeting on the **21st May at 9.30am.**

Our next meeting is being held on **Wednesday 21st May at 9.30am** in the **staff room.** Anyone interested in having their say regarding the **fete for 2015** is encouraged to attend and contribute to the discussions. **Ben and Nat Tebbutt** have put their hands up to lead the **fete team** so please consider what skills you have and give up some time to help them make this happen in **2015.** We still have many volunteer roles vacant on the fete team, everyone has something to offer.

Thanks to all those dedicated parents who have volunteered to fill time slots at the Scholastic Book Fair being held next week in the library. Your children will be very proud to see you helping at their school.

Have a great fortnight!

Bet Wishes,

Brendan Smith
President

Pictured below are some of our hard working volunteers and staff from our Working Bee last Sunday.



Headlice

Complaints about headlice have been received at the school. The only way to effectively reduce headlice is for everyone to investigate and treat at the same time. We are sending this information in the hope all will treat this weekend as an action period for headlice.

Please help our school community by checking and treating headlice thoroughly.

The Facts (The following is from various research studies on headlice.)

- Nits (the eggs of the head louse) are small yellowish-white, oval-shaped eggs that are attached at an angle to the side of a hair shaft by glue.
- Nits must be laid by live lice. You cannot "catch nits."
- Once laid, it takes 7-10 days for a nit to hatch, and another 7-10 days for the female to mature and lay her own eggs.
- Head lice are clear in colour when hatched, they develop a reddish-brown colour after feeding.
- Head lice are small, wingless insects which feed on human blood and do not thrive on pets
- Head lice are about the size of sesame seeds and have six legs with claws to grasp the hair.
- Head lice are crawling insects. They cannot hop, jump, or fly.
- Head lice off of their human hosts will starve and die in 24 hours.

What product should I use to treat my child?

There are no 'safe' pesticides, "natural" or otherwise, scientifically proven to be 100% effective against head lice, nits or nit glue. Reliance on head lice treatment products alone promotes repeated use of potentially harmful chemicals and contributes to ongoing infestations, outbreaks, and resistant strains of head lice. Parents should be discouraged from spending unnecessary time and money on "concoctions" for which there is no scientific basis for claims of efficacy and human safety. A wide variety of such "lice remedies" are vigorously marketed to consumers especially via the Internet. The result is more confusion for families already deluged with conflicting and unfounded treatment recommendations.

Manual removal is the safe alternative and necessary component to any head lice treatment regimen. Combing tools enable families to screen often, detect head lice early and thoroughly remove lice and nits.

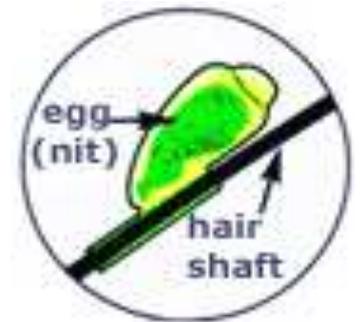


Enlarged image of head louse. Actual size 2-4mm

How do you treat for headlice?

Schools and homes don't get head lice -- people do. Head lice are human parasites and require human blood to survive.

Vacuuming is the safest and best way to remove lice or fallen hairs with attached nits from upholstered furniture, rugs, stuffed animals and cars. Save your time and energy for that which benefits you the most -- thorough nit removal.



Do I have to treat everyone in the house?

Use a nit-removal comb to check everyone first! Lice treatment products have potential health hazards and should not be used 'just in case' a child has lice or in an effort to prevent them. Even if lice are confirmed on an individual careful consideration should be given before deciding to use a pesticide shampoo or other treatment because each person has unique health needs.

Where do headlice come from?

Head lice do not come "out of the air" or from the ground. They are human parasites and come from people. Headlice concerns are not new. Desiccated (dried up) head lice and their eggs have been found on the hair and scalps of Egyptian mummies.

Do headlice jump?

Head lice do not have hind legs to hop or jump, nor wings with which to fly – they crawl.

How are headlice spread?

Head lice can be spread whenever there is direct contact of the head or hair with an infested individual. Lice can also be spread through the sharing of personal articles like hats, towels, brushes, helmets, hair ties and so on. There is also a possibility that head lice can be spread via a pillow, head-rest or similar item.

What is the life cycle of the head louse?

Head lice can survive on a human host for approximately 30 days. Head lice generally cannot survive longer than 24 hours off the host. A female louse lays up to 3-5 eggs per day. It takes 7-10 days for the eggs to hatch and 7-10 days for the louse to mature and lay their own eggs.

Head lice do not jump or fly and cannot survive longer than 24 hours off the host.

Headlice (continued....)

Do head lice cause harm?

Head lice rarely cause direct harm, and are not known to transmit infectious diseases. These lice may occasionally be **burdensome because of annoyance; their presence may cause itching and loss of sleep. The louse's saliva and faeces may sensitise** people to their bites, thereby exacerbating the irritation and increasing the chance of secondary infection from excessive scratching.

Why were my children sent home from school (the 'No Nits' policies)?

The *no-nits* policies variously drafted and adopted by school administrations aim to reduce the transmission of lice by excluding infested children from school. The scanning for the viability of head lice **is best done by the child's carer. This is the prime reason** students are sent home. The school policy comes from a history of parent misconception about headlice and the demand **from parents for the school to "do something"**. The sending home is more a statement of action and care it is not a cure. Lice on children's heads does not demonstrate 'neglectful' or 'abuse'. Headlice generally prefer cleaner hair.

From whom did my child acquire head lice?

Head lice are acquired from other infested people. Upon learning of their child's infestation, parents frequently seek to ascribe blame. This 'knee-jerk' reaction is understandable but unproductive. The offending lice came from some other person, but it is not currently possible to determine the identity of the donor. Parents are encouraged to focus their energies on education and treatment rather than on unsuccessful incriminations.

This information is provided by our school in an effort to educate our community.
Please support our eradication program.

School Policy – Extracted from School handbook

Head Lice are a perennial problem at most schools. The primary responsibility for the treatment of head lice belongs to parents. Please check your child's hair frequently to see if an infestation has taken place. Please treat infestations immediately as this problem can spread quickly. Parents unsure of what treatment procedures to follow can obtain this information from the chemist or Community Health Office.

Children with obvious infestations will be excluded from school until the parents assure the Principal that treatment has taken place.

Confirmation of investigation and treatment is required at school by parents completing the return slip below to their child's class teacher on return to school.

Paul Pickering
Principal

Please complete, detach and return to your child's class teacher
If you are receiving this letter via email please reply to admin@bribislass.eq.edu.au

Child's Name

Class

Tick appropriate

- ◇ I have checked my child's hair and did not find any headlice.
- ◇ I have checked my child's hair and have taken efforts to treat and remove the offending headlice.

Signature of Child's Parent/Carer

Date