

# Central Linn Elementary School District 552-C

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Principal                      Secretary                      Secretary                      Secretary

Dear Parent or Guardian:

In this current allergy season; nose-throat symptoms have been common. Another symptom seen at school has been a mild rash. Rash symptoms come from a variety of sources. This letter addresses a source we want to communicate to you. Your child may have been exposed to scabies at school. Scabies is a skin condition where a tiny mite burrows under the skin and causes a rash.

## ***What are the symptoms of scabies?***

Symptoms include a rash that is very itchy and uncomfortable, especially at night. The rash may look like red bumps or small blisters, and scratch marks from the finger nails are often a common sign. They usually infest the skin folds of the fingers, toes, armpits, elbows, wrists, waistline and abdomen, and the creases of the groin. Children younger than 2 years are likely to be infested on the head, neck, palms, and soles of feet or in a scattered distribution over the body. It takes about 4–6 weeks for symptoms to appear for those who have never been infected before. Subsequent infestations may appear within one to 4 days.

## ***How is scabies spread?***

☐ By direct and prolonged, skin-to-skin contact with someone with scabies? Sharing common household items such as clothing, towels, and bedding may also spread scabies.

## ***How is scabies diagnosed and treated?***

A healthcare provider can take a tiny scraping of the skin and look under the microscope for the mites. Scabies is treated with a prescription cream or lotion. A child may return to childcare or school after medical treatment has begun. Family members and very close contacts should be treated at the same time as the child, even if no symptoms are present.

## ***How do you control the spread?***

Laundry bedding, towels, pillows, stuffed animals and clothing worn next to the skin during the 4 days before treatment began in a washer with hot water and then drying using the hot setting. Items that cannot be placed in hot water should be dry cleaned or sealed in plastic bags for at least one week.

## **How do I get more information?**

**<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/scabies/>**

**Please call our Nurse, Vickie Egan, RN if you have any additional questions.**