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16th November 2023

Our ref: LP/028/KB

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Scarlet Fever

We have a confirmed case of Scarlet Fever within the school. Scarlet fever (sometimes called scarlatina) is a bacterial illness caused by Streptococcus pyogenes, or group A streptococcus (GAS). It mostly affects young children. Symptoms vary but in severe cases there may be high fever, difficulty swallowing and tender enlarged lymph nodes. The rash usually develops on the first day of fever, it is red, generalised, pinhead in size and gives the skin a sandpaper-like texture and the tongue has a strawberry-like appearance.

The scarlet fever rash may be confused with measles. The fever lasts 24 to 48 hours. Scarlet fever is usually a mild illness but in rare circumstances complications such as ear infections, rheumatic fever which affects the heart, and kidney problems may develop. Scarlet fever is highly infectious and is spread by close contact with someone carrying the bacteria. The incubation period is 2 to 5 days.

If you or your child have any of the above symptoms or are feeling unwell you may need to seek medical advice. For further information please access <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>.

Yours sincerely

Lizzie Papworth
Assistant Headteacher

IF YOU REQUIRE ANY LETTERS TRANSLATING, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL

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