General Health Office Information for Parents

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Village School. I look forward to a great school year with your children. I have compiled a few items that will help us have a healthy and productive year.

Please call me or drop me a note if your child is home ill with strep throat, "pink eye", "chicken pox" or any contagious illnesses. Contacting me by email is always the quickest way to reach me. If I am aware of any contagious illnesses in the class, I will send home an alert of possible exposure.

If your child has had or will be having a surgical procedure please contact me. Your child's physician should send a note discussing any activity restrictions (gym or recess). The same is true for any orthopedic injuries. Your child will not be allowed to participate until a physician's note clears them.

State regulations prohibit me from administering <u>any</u> unauthorized medications to your child. This includes over the counter cough medicines, antacids, Tylenol and Motrin. Medication Authorization Forms are available in my office or may be downloaded from our website (www.holmdelschools.org.). Go to this website and click on Schools, then Village School and to the Nurse's Office. You'll find the form listed as Authorization for Medication Administration. Your child's <u>physician/medical provider</u> will need to complete the bottom portion and you will sign the top. Any medication must be in its' original container. Most pharmacies will provide you with an appropriately labeled container to be left at school for prescription medications. I have a refrigerator in my office that can be used for medications. All medications should be brought in by a responsible adult. The office staff arrives by 8:00 AM and the Prime Time staff is here by 7:00 AM. A child should not be given the responsibility of carrying in medications. The danger of another child finding and consuming it must always be considered.

If your child has been diagnosed with a flu like illness or has any of the symptoms associated with influenza, please consult with the doctor about when it is safe to return to school and provide a doctor's note to my office. Last year there were many rumors floating about regarding the numbers of influenza cases in the school, happily there were very few cases. These illnesses must be reported to my office. The only way I can keep you informed is if I am informed by you and other parents.

While I believe that school attendance is very important to your child's education, I also know that a sick child should not be here at school. Students must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. This means <u>fever free and not taking Tylenol</u> (acetaminophen) or Motrin (Ibuprofen). Even if your child tells you "I'm fine to go back to school", do not allow him to return. He will only expose his classmates to his illness and the cycle will continue.

I welcome any input you may have regarding your child's physical and emotional health. Please contact me with any questions or information about your child's health. Together we can make this a great year! Sincerely,

Frances Flannelly, RN, BSN CSN

Village School Nurse

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