



September 1, 2011



STRAWBERRY KNOLL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

# Strawberry Knoll News

18820 Strawberry Knoll Road  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879  
E. Frank Kaplan, Principal  
Rosemary Ford, Assistant Principal  
Web Site Address—<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/schools/strawberryknolles/>

## Welcome !

Recent weather events didn't prevent us from having the best first week of school! While our kindergarten students mastered the morning routine of walking from our front doors directly to their classrooms, our fifth grade students readily assumed the awesome responsibility of being our leaders. Central Office guests even took time from their busy schedules to visit our school. They were quite impressed with the high level of teaching and learning that was observed when they visited classrooms. Our students were welcoming and eagerly shared why they were engaged in their learning. Credit for the compliments we received from guests regarding our students' respectful manner and caring temperament goes to the staff, students, and certainly you, our Strawberry Knoll families!

Our partnership with you remains an important key to your child's success. Research shows children need their families to remain involved in their learning from a very young age all the way to college. We look forward this year to include a new *Parents in the Know* web link. *Parents in the Know* will provide you with helpful tips and research-based information on such topics as, "*Many Ways to Offer Praise*," "*Helping Your Child Succeed*," and "*Talking with Your Child About School*."

Please take time to review the information we sent home with students in this past Monday's red folder. Thank you for completing the various forms. Please make sure your child returns the Student Emergency Form to his/her teacher by next week. We also ask, that if you do not wish for any directory information or parts of the directory information to be released, please make sure your child returns this important form to his/her teacher as well.

Remember, school will be closed for the Labor Day weekend on Monday, September 5, 2011. School will resume on Tuesday, September 6, 2011. We wish you a safe three-day weekend and can't wait to begin our second week of school!

## Mark Your Calendars.

Join us for our annual P.T.A. sponsored *Welcome Back Picnic* on Friday, September 9, 2011 starting at 6:00 p.m. This is a popular event for our Strawberry Knoll families. Our generous P.T.A. will provide grilled hotdogs. Please note, our grills will close at 7:30p.m. Additional information will go home with students next week.

We also look forward to seeing you at our *Back to School Night* on Thursday, September 22, 2011, starting in the gym at 7:00 p.m. This is an event you don't want to miss. Come and hear what your child will learn. You will also have a chance to sign-up for your November Parent-Teacher conference. We will include a copy of our *Back to School Night* schedule in our September 16, 2011 edition of the "Knoll News."

## SPOTLIGHT ON NEW STAFF

### Mrs. Ado—Second Grade

Mrs. Ado was born in Silver Spring, MD and raised in Fairfax, VA. She graduated from WT Woodson HS and West Virginia University where she earned a Bachelor's of Arts. Mrs. Ado is married to her college sweetheart and they have two children, both Strawberry Knoll alumni, Jacob now a junior at Gaithersburg HS and Mary an eighth grader at Gaithersburg MS. After realizing her true passion was working with children, she started substituting at the Knoll where she worked for almost six years. After those many years of Mr. Kaplan encouraging her to work full time at the Knoll, she left the Knoll and went back to school to earn her Master's in Education from the University of Maryland. Mrs. Ado's first full year teaching couldn't be at the Knoll, but instead at Fallsmead ES in Rockville, MD. Mrs. Ado is now back where she started and where she belongs, here at the Knoll!!!

### Mrs. Litton—Third Grade

Mrs. Litton is originally from the tiny rural town of Salem, Missouri (population 4,000). She earned her BS degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education with certification from birth-6<sup>th</sup> grade. She also completed her M.ED in Education Administration with K-12 principal certification both from private universities in Missouri. She taught in her hometown for two years until she moved to Kansas City, Missouri for her husband's job. His company then moved him to Gaithersburg. She most recently taught at Woodlin Elementary in first grade.

"My school in Silver Spring lost their status as a focus school and had to transfer several teachers. How did I find Strawberry Knoll? In all seriousness- I drove by the sign the first time I ever came to Gaithersburg and told my husband Strawberry Knoll... that SOUNDS like such a wonderful place... It's my dream to work there! Three and a half years later.....here I am! "

Mrs. Litton has been so impressed by the principals, staff, third grade team, and the kids. "I'm very happy to be on board here and I really appreciate the friendliness and professionalism I have encountered. I can already tell this is a special place. I want to be one of the people my students can count on to be their biggest cheerleader, fan, and forgiver." Mrs. Litton lives in Montgomery Village with her husband Everett and their dog Boggi (rhymes with doggy). Mrs. Litton loves channeling Martha Stewart through baking and decorating. On the weekends one might be able to find her at a random estate sale in Pennsylvania - making other people's trash her treasure!

### Mrs. Gregory—Media Specialist

Mrs. Gregory was born and raised in Des Plaines, Illinois, home of the original McDonald's which is still there with its windows for ordering and the machines used in the 1950's. She earned her BA in Elementary Ed at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana and her MEd in School Library Media at Western Maryland. She has always been in the library or media center from Illinois, to Fairfax County, to the McLean School of MD, to Pine Crest ES, to here. She believes this was truly God's plan. As her position at Pine Crest was cut to .5, after 18 years there and 35 years in the profession she had to write a resume' and apply to interview at other schools. It was very stressful. She kept hearing she should apply to SKES and she knew the excellent reputation of the school. She was excited when Mr. Kaplan emailed her to come for an interview. Her interview was like a comfortable conversation. "I feel like this is where I was meant to be. "

Mrs. Gregory is so impressed with the professionalism of the staff and the friendly atmosphere. "I have met some of the students and parents so far and can tell they love the school. I plan to make everyone feel welcome in the media center, to help make students excited to come for a book, for a story, for a lesson, or to work on a project. I will smile. I will bake cookies. I will try to make our media center a place of enchantment."

Mr. and Mrs. Gregory have been married for almost 31 years. They have lived in Germantown the whole time. The Gregory's have one daughter Bonnie who lives in Phoenix with her husband and Olivia who is 14 months old. "I love being Grandma! " Mrs. Gregory also has three adult step-children and five step-grandchildren. "I have always loved shoes. We have 2 cats that are 18 years old and rule the house!"

### Breakfast for our Students

We want all our students to be able to enjoy breakfast here at the Knoll. Please make sure your child arrives at school by 8:20 a.m. in order to have enough time to finish their breakfast before leaving for class at 8:40 a.m.



### Fall Holidays and Events

September 5	HOLIDAY - Labor Day No School for Staff and Students	A colorful illustration of a tree with orange, yellow, and red leaves. A swing hangs from a branch, and there are some autumn leaves scattered around the base of the tree.
September 9	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. P. T. A. "Welcome Back Picnic"	
September 22	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. "Back-to-School" Night	
September 28	12:35 p.m. Early Release Day	
September 29	Rosh Hashanah No School for Staff and Students	
October 7 - 14	P.T.A. Book Fair - Media Center	
October 10	9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Open House	
October 13	7:00 p.m. Literacy Night	
October 20	Individual Pictures 7:00 p.m. International Night - All-Purpose Room	
October 21	State Conference for Teachers - No School for Staff and Students	
October 28	First Marking Period Ends 2:00 p.m. Halloween Parade/Parties	
October 31	Professional Day for Teachers - No School for Students	
November 10, 11	12:35 p.m. Early Dismissal Day Parent/Teacher Conferences	
November 11	9:00 a.m. Town Hall Meeting - Gym	
November 23	12:35 p.m. Early Release Day	
November 24, 25	HOLIDAY - Thanksgiving	
November 30	10:00 a.m. Makeup Picture Day	

#### Special Point of Interest:

*Si usted quiere tener las noticias del  
Knoll en español por favor llame  
Senora Stevens 301-840-7112.*

**Montgomery County Department of Montgomery County  
Health and Human Services Public Schools  
Public Health Services School Health Services**

Dear Parent:

The following is pertinent information about a condition found commonly in preschool and elementary-age children. Head lice, also called *Pediculus humanus capitis*, are parasitic insects found on the heads of people. Anyone who comes in close contact (especially head-to-head contact) with someone who has head lice is at greatest risk. Occasionally, head lice may be acquired from contact with clothing or personal items that belong to an infested person. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice. Here are some ways you can identify and/or prevent head lice.

**BE ALERT FOR THE SIGNS OF HEAD LICE:** Signs and symptoms of head lice infestation include a tickling feeling of something moving in the hair, itching and/or sores caused by scratching on the back of the neck and head. If you observe your child scratching in this area, check his/her head for lice and nits attached to the hair shafts. The adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed, has six legs, no wings, and is tan to grayish white. Lice eggs are called nits. Nits are very small, about the size of a knot in thread, teardrop shaped, hard to see and often confused for dandruff or hair spray droplets. The female louse attaches the nits to the hair shaft, close to the scalp with a glue-like substance that makes the nits difficult to remove. Ordinary combing, brushing or shampooing will not remove them.

**INSPECT:** Examine the hair and scalp of all family members regularly throughout the year. This means all adults and children living in the same house. Pets do not carry human lice. Close inspection of the hair and scalp will sometimes reveal the adult lice, but you are more likely to see the nits.

**TREAT:** If lice or nits within ½ inch of the scalp are found, or your child has been excluded from school because of a lice infestation, use a special over-the-counter medication, called a pediculicide, or a medication prescribed by your health care provider. Use the medicated treatment exactly according to directions. After the treatment and the hair is dry, the nits close to the scalp should be removed with a special nit comb. Check the hair every 2 - 3 days for 2 – 3 weeks until you are sure all lice and nits within ½ inch of the scalp are gone.

**CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT:** Check other household members for lice and/or nits and treat if necessary. Wash all washable clothing and bed linens worn or used by the infested person during the 2 days before treatment. Use hot water and dry laundry using high heat for at least 20 minutes. Clothing and other items that are not washable (coats, hats, scarves, stuffed animals) may be dry cleaned or stored in sealed plastic bags for two weeks. Soak combs and brushes for 1 hour in rubbing alcohol, Lysol or wash with hot soap and water. Vacuum the floor and furniture. Do not use fumigant sprays; they can be toxic if inhaled or absorbed through the skin.

**PREVENT A REINFESTATION:**

Avoid head-to-head contact which is common during play at school and at home (sports activities, on the playground, slumber parties, at camp). Do not share clothing, such as hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms, or hair ribbons/clips. Do not share combs, brushes, or towels. Do not lie on beds, couches, pillows, carpets, or stuffed animals that have recently been in contact with an infested person. *You are encouraged to notify the health room if you have found a head lice infestation on your child so that prevention measures can be implemented at school. This information will be kept confidential.*

Please contact your child's School Community Health Nurse if you have any questions and/or look for additional information at [http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht\\_head\\_lice.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice.htm).  
301-840-7112 Mrs. Claudia Leas

## **Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos Escuelas Públicas del del Condado de Montgomery Condado de Montgomery Servicios Escolares**

Su cooperación con éste problema común de la niñez puede ayudar a evitar una grave epidemia en la escuela.

Padre de Familia:

La siguiente es una información pertinente acerca de una condición que se encuentra comúnmente en el prekindergarten y escuela primaria. Los piojos en la cabeza, también llamados *Pediculus humanus capitis*, son insectos parasitarios que se encuentran en la cabeza de las personas. Cualquier persona que está en contacto cercano (especialmente el contacto de cabeza con cabeza) con alguien que tiene piojos está en gran riesgo. Ocasionalmente, el piojo se puede tener cuando está en contacto cercano con ropa u objetos personales que pertenecen a la persona que tiene piojos. Higiene o limpieza personal en la casa o en la escuela no tienen nada que ver con tener piojos en la cabeza.

Esto es lo que usted puede hacer para prevenir los piojos.

**ESTE ALERTA A LAS SEÑALES DE PIOJOS:** La señal más común es una fuerte picazón en la parte de atrás de la nuca y en la cabeza. Si usted ve a su hijo/a rascarse en esas partes, revise la cabeza a ver si tiene liendres pegadas al pelo. Los huevos se llaman liendres. Las diminutas liendres son blancas amarillentas grisáceas y se parecen a la forma de una lágrima. La hembra adhiere las liendres al pelo con un pegamento que hace casi imposible removerlas. Las peinillas, cepillos y champú ordinarios no ayudan a quitarlas.

**INSPECCIÓN:** Examine el pelo y cuero cabelludo de todos los miembros de la familia regularmente durante el año. La familia incluye mamá, papá, tíos/as y niños que viven en la casa. No se preocupe por las mascotas, a ellos no les atacan los piojos. Los piojos son pequeños insectos grisáceos sin alas. Un examen minucioso del pelo y cuero cabelludo puede revelar a veces el piojo adulto, pero es más frecuente ver las liendres.

**TRATAMIENTO:** Si encuentra piojos o liendres a ½ pulgada del cuero cabelludo, o si su hijo/a ha sido excluido/a de la escuela debido a los piojos, utilice un tratamiento especial sin receta médica llamado pediculicida. Use pediculicida de acuerdo a las instrucciones. Luego del tratamiento y secado del cabello, pueden removerse las liendres con el peine especial. **Revise la cabeza cada 2-3 días por 2-3 semanas hasta que esté seguro que todos los piojos y liendres que están a ½ pulgada del cuero cabelludo han desaparecido.**

**LIMPIEZA DEL AMBIENTE:** Revise a otros miembros de la familia por piojos o liendres y haga el tratamiento si es necesario. Lave toda la vestimenta, toallas y ropa de cama que estuvieron con la persona expuesta a los piojos durante 2 días antes del tratamiento. Use agua muy caliente y ponga en la secadora por 20 minutos. Los artículos que no se pueden lavar (abrigos, sombreros, bufandas, peluches) métalos en una funda plástica herméticamente cerrada por 10 días. Remoje las peinillas y cepillos del pelo por 1 hora con alcohol, Lysol o lávelos con agua jabonosa muy caliente. Pase la aspiradora a las alfombras, tapicería, almohadas, colchones y asientos del carro que hayan sido expuestos a personas con piojos. No use fumigantes porque pueden ser tóxicos si se inhalan o se absorben a través de la piel.

### **PREVENCION DE REINFESTACION:**

Evite el contacto con otra cabeza lo que es común durante el juego en la escuela y en la casa (actividades deportivas, parque de juegos, fiestas infantiles, campamentos). No comparta ropa, como gorros, bufandas, abrigos, uniformes, o lazos. No comparta cepillos, peinillas, toallas. No se acueste en sofás, camas, almohadas, alfombras, o peluches que han estado en contacto con la persona infestada. Usted debe notificar al cuarto de enfermería si usted ha encontrado piojos en la cabeza de su hijo/a para implementar medidas preventivas en la escuela.

Esta información se mantendrá confidencial.

Por favor póngase en contacto con la enfermera si tiene preguntas y/o necesita información adicional a [http://www.cdc.gov/incidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht\\_head\\_lice.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/incidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice.htm).

MONTGOMERY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES  
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES

## HOW TO CHECK YOUR CHILD'S HEAD FOR LICE

A lice infestation exists when **live lice or nits less than ½ inch from the scalp** can be observed. Nits farther away from the scalp have already hatched. An adult louse is the size of a sesame seed; younger lice are smaller. Nits (lice eggs) are about size of knot in thread, hard to see and often confused with dandruff. They are yellowish or grayish white, oval shaped and attached to the hair shaft with a glue-like substance. Unlike nits, dandruff is easy to flick away with your finger.

Here are 4 steps to help you check your child's hair.

**STEP 1: Gather your tools** including your glasses, a magnifying glass, and a pointed stick for separating the hair. A toothpick, paint brush handle, chop sticks or any pointed object that will not scratch the scalp will do. Hair clips to separate the hair are very helpful.

**STEP 2: Find a good spot** to examine your child's head. It should be comfortable, have natural daylight or a very bright light. Explain to your child that you will be examining his/her head for five to fifteen minutes. Use this time to talk to your child, listen to your child read, or watch a movie.

**STEP 3: Start at the nape of the neck and cover the entire head.** Part the hair in a straight line and examine the exposed scalp. Proceed to cover the entire scalp making parts every 1/4 inch from the previous one and examine the scalp.

**STEP 4: Look for live lice and nits less than ½ inch from the scalp.** Live lice will hide at the bottom and *behind* the hair shaft near the scalp. Look long enough for your eyes to focus and to spot any speck or any slight movement. Live lice are tiny and they shy away from light however their quick movement may catch your attention.

For further information on how to identify health lice infestation and treat go to CDC websites  
[http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht\\_head\\_lice.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice.htm)  
[http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht\\_head\\_lice\\_treating.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice_treating.htm)

**DEPARTAMENTO DE SALUD Y SERVICIOS HUMANOS  
DEL CONDADO DE MONTGOMERY  
SERVICIOS PUBLICOS DE SALUD  
SERVICIOS ESCOLARES**

## **COMO REVISAR LA CABEZA DE SU HIJO POR PIOJOS**

Una infestación de piojos existe cuando se observa que el **piojo vivo o liendres están a ½ pulgada del cuero cabelludo**. Liendres que están lejos del cuero cabelludo ya han incubado. Un piojo adulto es del tamaño de la semilla de ajonjolí; los piojos jóvenes son más pequeños. Las liendres (huevos del piojo) son más o menos del tamaño de un nudo del hilo, difícil de ver y a menudo se confunden con la caspa. Ellos son de color amarillento o grisáceo, de forma ovalada y adheridos al pelo con una sustancia pegajosa. A diferencia de las liendres, la caspa es fácil de sacarse cuando usa sus dedos.

Aquí están los 4 pasos para chequear la cabeza de su hijo/a;

**PASO 1: Reúna todas sus herramientas** incluyendo sus lentes, una lupa, y un palito para separar el pelo. Se puede usar palillo, el mango de una brocha de pintar, o cualquier objeto puntiagudo que no raspe el cuero cabelludo. Las presillas para separar el pelo son muy útiles.

**PASO 2: Encuentre un buen lugar** para examinar la cabeza de su niño/a. Sería mejor si lo hace usando la luz natural o una luz artificial muy clara. Explique a su hijo/a que usted revisará la cabeza de cinco a quince minutos. Use éste tiempo para hablar con su hijo/a, escúchelo/a leer, o mire una película.

**PASO 3: Comience en la parte del cuello y continúe con la cabeza.** Parta el pelo en una línea recta y examine el cuero cabelludo expuesto. Proceda a examinar todo el cuero cabelludo dividiendo el pelo cada ¼ de pulgada.

**PASO 4: Busque por piojos vivos y liendres que estén a menos de ½ pulgada del cuero cabelludo.** El piojo vivo se esconderá en la parte de atrás de la nuca y cuero cabelludo. Mire meticulosamente para que sus ojos visualicen cualquier señal o movimiento por pequeño que sea. Los piojos vivos son pequeños y huyen de la luz sin embargo su movimiento rápido puede llamar su atención.

Para mayor información de cómo identificar la infestación y tratamiento de piojos usted puede usar la red electrónica de CDC

[http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht\\_head\\_lice.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice.htm)

[http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht\\_head\\_lice\\_treating.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dpd/parasites/lice/factsht_head_lice_treating.htm)