

November 9, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health and that the H1N1 informational material mailed to you has been helpful in keeping your family well and providing guidelines of when to keep your child home if he/she becomes ill.

While most people who get the flu will be mildly ill, as you know, some people have become seriously ill and have died, especially those with preexisting conditions. We must join together as a community to prevent the spread of flu, to our own and each others children and keep our school open.

To review, handwashing and good sneeze and cough etiquette is the most effective way of preventing transmission of any infectious disease, including the H1N1 virus.

If your child has not received the seasonal vaccine or the H1N1 vaccine, please have him/her vaccinated as soon as the vaccine becomes available, unless your child's physician advises against it. For example, a person with an allergy to eggs should discuss with their physician if their child should receive the vaccine.

Preparations and planning have been made and continue at TLC to prevent and effectively manage individual cases of the H1N1 flu on campus.

If we see your child with ILI (influenza like illness) we will contact you right away and expect you to come to school immediately and bring your child home and be in touch with a physician for further direction and plan of care.

Remember to ask your child's physician about a prescription for Tamiflu, a medication that may lessen the severity and the length of time of illness.

You must keep your child home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever and feel well, without the use of fever reducing medications such as Advil Tylenol or other cold medicine which usually contains Advil or Tylenol.

It is critical that we have your updated contact information in order to reach you and communicate with you. If you have not returned your Health Emergency form, do it now. If you need another form, we welcome your call to April Corl in the front office, who mail another form to you right away.

If you have sent your forms in and have had a change of phone/pager or email address, please contact April Corl and she will notify all involved re: the changes.

These measures are the best way to protect our community and lessen the possibility of contracting the flu, as well as effectively managing the case of flu that we will see.

Roberta Kelley RN
Director of Health Services