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## **Ringworm at School**

## Dear Parent/Guardian:

During the school year sometimes an outbreak of a fungal infection called ringworm will occur. We want to work with you to keep ringworm out of the classroom-and out of your home. Ringworm is contagious but is completely curable.

Ringworm, or tinea capitis (tin-e-a kap-it-us), is not a worm. It is a contagious fungal infection. If not treated properly, it can cause pain, scarring, and permanent hair loss. Touching and sharing personal or communal items such as combs, barrettes and stuffed animals are some of the ways children can pass ringworm to one another. The infection can also be spread through contact with telephones, bed linens, and chair backs.

Ringworm gets its name from the circular, worm like pattern, a common characteristic of the infection on the area it is affecting.

Ringworm needs to be diagnosed by a healthcare provider and treated with proper medication.

If you have further questions about ringworm please do not hesitate to contact your child's school office.