



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

17 April 2007

Dear Parent/Guardian

Working in Partnership: One Case of Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)

We wish to update you on the latest government warning on Hand Foot and Mouth Diseases and one case of HFMD.

Although Ministry of Health has said that there is no need to inform them until there are 2 or more cases of HFMD, we feel as partners we want to assure you of the actions the school has taken.

One student from Rosewood (Primary 2) was found with HFMD by his family doctor yesterday. The student is now recuperating at home and doing fine. He will be allowed back in school after being certified fit by his doctor to return to school.

This is an isolated case of HFMD. Parents need not be unduly alarmed.

HFMD is a common childhood disease caused by a group of viruses known as Enterovirus. The infection is spread through direct contact with the respiratory droplets, saliva, faeces or blister fluid of an infected person and indirectly by contaminated articles. Fortunately, this disease is typically mild and self-limiting. Details of HFMD can be found in Annex A.

As a school, we have taken the following precautionary measures to prevent an outbreak of HFMD:

- 1) ALL classrooms, special rooms, toilets, corridors, school hall and the school café are now being thoroughly disinfected.
- 2) All class teachers will conduct an inspection of students' hands and feet for rashes before the start of the first lesson. This exercise will commence **tomorrow**. If students are found to have symptoms of HFMD eg rashes, parents will be asked to bring their child home.
- 3) All class teachers will reinforce importance of personal hygiene like washing hands with soap before eating and after going to the toilet, covering mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing and not sharing eating utensils.

To adopt a vigilant approach in the prevention of an outbreak of HFMD, we seek your cooperation for the following:

1) Teach your child:

- to wash hands with soap before eating and after going to the toilet.
- to cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- not to share eating utensils

2) Consult a doctor early if your child has fever, mouth ulcers and rashes on the palms, soles or buttocks. Please do **NOT** let your child attend school if he/she has any of these symptoms. Inform school immediately.

3) If your child is suffering from HFMD, do not let your child attend school until he/she has been certified by his/her doctor to be fit to return to school. Inform school immediately.

If you have any queries, please contact me at Tel: 6459 9951

Yours sincerely,

Ms Anne Chew
Head, Students Affairs & Operations

Cc Ms Denise Phua, School Supervisor/Acting Principal
Ms Linda Kho, Chief Operating Officer
Mrs Jean Koh, Head, Facilities Management & Café Operations
Ms Loy Sheau Mei, Ms Annie Tan, Mrs Mary Gilberts, Track Heads
All staff