



*Munhall News*  
*November 18, 2016*



*Important Dates*

<b>November 21 – 25</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break – NO School for Students</b>
<b>Monday, November 21</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Conferences</b> 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM
<b>Tuesday, November 22</b>	<b>Parent Teacher Conferences</b> 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
<b>Wednesday, November 23</b>	<b>Report Cards of Home Access Center</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 29</b>	<b>Beginner Orchestra</b> 7:30 AM, Community Room
<b>Wednesday, November 30</b>	<b>Gr. 5 Advanced Orchestra</b> 7:30 AM, Community Room
<b>Thursday, December 1</b>	<b>Gr. 4 Advanced Orchestra</b> 7:30 AM, Fox Ridge Elementary School
	<b>Band Rehearsal</b> 7:30 AM, Community Room
<b>Friday, December 9</b>	<b>Too Good For Drugs Graduation</b> 1:30 PM, Community Room
<b>Monday, December 12</b>	<b>Board of Education Meeting</b> 7:00 PM, Administration Building
<b>Tuesday, December 13</b>	<b>Student Council Winter Party</b> 3:00 PM, Community Room
<b>Friday, December 16</b>	<b>Winter Celebration Parties</b> 1:45 PM
<b>December 17 – January 2</b>	<b>Winter Break – NO School for Students</b>
<b>Sunday, January 1</b>	<b>Happy New Year!</b>
<b>Tuesday, January 3</b>	<b>School resumes</b>



**2017**

## *From the Principal*

Dear Munhall Parents,

### **Happy Thanksgiving**

With the recent weather, it is hard to believe that Thanksgiving Break is upon us. In the past few days we have transformed the display case at the main entrance into a spot where all Munhall staff members can share what they are thankful for. As I read all of the statements last night, I was not surprised to see the number of staff members who are specifically noting how thankful they are for our wonderful students and the supportive families we have. We are truly blessed to be a part of a community that values learning, hard work, literacy, citizenship, and a commitment to our children.

For those of you who plan on leaving St. Charles for the holiday, may your travels be safe and the traffic be light. It is my hope that you enjoy this extended break with your family and loved ones.

### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

It is energizing to see how many families have signed up for parent/teacher conferences next Monday and Tuesday. Conferences mark a great time for teachers and parents to engage in meaningful conversations about student progress, strengths, areas for improvement, and goals, etc. Our teachers are eager to share the great things that are happening in their classrooms! Having a strong partnership between home and school, which includes clear and open communication, is paramount to the short and long success of our students and school.

### **Citizenship**

Not only are we charged with developing young learners, as a community we also strive to develop characteristics of strong citizenship in our students. On the heels of our Veteran's day assembly last Friday, the Munhall Student Council came up with the concept of students paying \$1.00 to wear their pajamas to school today. All collected money will be donated to the Midwest Homeless Shelter for Veterans. I am pleased to say that we had a very high number of students participate and our Student Council will be proud to donate such a generous amount to a worthy cause.

### **Science Night**

I want to thank all PTO members, parent and community volunteers, our high school student presenters, and all other attendees for making last night's science filled evening such a success. It was inspiring to see the amount of natural excitement our students had for the experiments, displays, etc.

Have a Blessed Thanksgiving!

Jarrold Buxton, Principal

## *From the Office*

- Lost and Found items will be displayed on tables in the main hallway when you come for Parent Teacher Conferences. Please look to see if any of the items belong to your family. **All items not claimed will be donated December 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## *From the School Nurse*

**\*\*\* There is NOT an outbreak of lice at Munhall School. This is information assembled by Mrs. Mueller for educational purposes only. Please contact her with any questions.**



Head lice is a very common occurrence. Head lice are found worldwide. In the United States, infestation with head lice is most common among pre-school children attending child care, elementary schoolchildren, and the household members of infested children.

Head lice move by crawling; they cannot hop or fly. Head lice are spread by direct contact with the hair of an infested person. Anyone who comes in head-to-head contact with someone who already has head lice is at greatest risk. Spread by contact with clothing (such as hats, scarves, coats) or other personal items (such as combs, brushes, or towels) used by an infested person is uncommon. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.

Head lice have three forms: the egg (also called a nit), the nymph, and the adult.

Nits are lice eggs laid by the adult female head louse at the base of the hair shaft nearest the scalp. Nits are firmly attached to the hair shaft and are oval-shaped and very small (about the size of a knot in thread) and hard to see. Nits often appear yellow or white although live nits sometimes appear to be the same color as the hair of the infested person. Nits are often confused with dandruff, scabs, or hair spray droplets. Head lice nits usually take about 8–9 days to hatch. Eggs that are likely to hatch are usually located no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the base of the hair shaft. Nits located further than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the base of hair shaft may very well be already hatched, non-viable nits, or empty nits or casings. This is difficult to distinguish with the naked eye.



A nymph is an immature louse that hatches from the nit. A nymph looks like an adult head louse, but is smaller. To live, a nymph must feed on blood. Nymphs mature into adults about 9–12 days after hatching from the nit.

The fully grown and developed adult louse is about the size of a sesame seed, has six legs, and is tan to grayish-white in color. Adult head lice may look darker in persons with dark hair than in persons with light hair. To survive, adult head lice must feed on blood. An adult head louse can live about 30 days on a person's head but will die within one or two days if it falls off a person. Adult female head lice are usually larger than males and can lay about six eggs each day.

### **What are the signs and symptoms of head lice infestation?**

- Tickling feeling of something moving in the hair.
- Itching, caused by an allergic reaction to the bites of the head louse.
- Irritability and difficulty sleeping; head lice are most active in the dark.
- Sores on the head caused by scratching. These sores can sometimes become infected with bacteria found on the person's skin.

### **How did my child get head lice?**

Head-to-head contact with an already infested person is the most common way to get head lice. Head-to-head contact is common during play at school, at home, and elsewhere (sports activities, playground, slumber parties, and camp).

Although uncommon, head lice can be spread by sharing clothing or belongings. This happens when lice crawl, or nits attached to shed hair hatch, and get on the shared clothing or belongings. Examples include:

- sharing clothing (hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms) or articles (hair ribbons, barrettes, combs, brushes, towels, stuffed animals) recently worn or used by an infested person;
- lying on a bed, couch, pillow, or carpet that has recently been in contact with an infested person.

Dogs, cats, and other pets do not play a role in the spread of head lice.

**CDC guidelines recommends the following regarding Lice and school (CDC.gov):**

Students diagnosed with live head lice do not need to be sent home early from school; they can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun. Nits may persist after treatment, but successful treatment should kill crawling lice.

Head lice can be a nuisance but they have not been shown to spread disease. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice.

Both the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Association of School Nurses (NASN) advocate that "no-nit" policies should be discontinued. "No-nit" policies that require a child to be free of nits before they can return to schools should be discontinued for the following reasons:

- Many nits are more than ¼ inch from the scalp. Such nits are usually not viable and very unlikely to hatch to become crawling lice, or may in fact be empty shells, also known as 'casings'.
- Nits are cemented to hair shafts and are very unlikely to be transferred successfully to other people.
- The burden of unnecessary absenteeism to the students, families and communities far outweighs the risks associated with head lice.
- Misdiagnosis of nits is very common during nit checks conducted by nonmedical personnel.

**The best way to diagnose Lice/nits early is to perform a weekly lice check on you school age children. Here is a tool to help you in checking your child's hair: (This attachment is printable for your convenience.)**

<http://vamousselice.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/LiceHeadCheck.pdf>

**Treatment of Lice/Nits:**

There are so many treatment options for Lice/Nits. Ask anyone and you will get a different answer. My best advice is to follow the CDC guidelines:

<http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/treatment.html>

If you are interested in homeopathic treatment options, search google and you will get hundreds of ideas. I have found the best comb on the market is the Nit Free Terminator comb. You can find it at Target, Walgreens, Amazon, Wal-Mart etc.

**District 303 Policies and Protocols regarding Lice:**

[http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/departments/pdf/Lice%20myths\\_and\\_facts.pdf](http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/departments/pdf/Lice%20myths_and_facts.pdf)

[http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/departments/pdf/Guidelines%20for%20Pediculosis\\_Head%20Lice.pdf](http://district.d303.org/sites/district.d303.org/files/departments/pdf/Guidelines%20for%20Pediculosis_Head%20Lice.pdf)

## *Giving Tree*



It is hard to believe that the holidays are right around the corner! As the holiday season begins, the Giving Tree committee would like to try to help make some of our Munhall families' holidays a little brighter. In order to continue this tradition we need your help!

There will be a large bulletin board located in the Munhall Gallery, where the two hallways meet, starting the week of conferences, **November 21st**. Star tags will be attached to the bulletin board with the gift wishes of students.

If you would like to help, *please choose a tag(s) and bring it to the office to be recorded so we are able to keep track of all the tags.* Bring your wrapped gift(s) back to school before **December 12<sup>th</sup>**, and know that you will be helping a fellow family this holiday season.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Schrandt at (630)549-0787. Thank you for your continued support of this program and have a happy holiday season!

## *Prearranged Absences*

Absences (other than doctor appointments and sick days) during the school year are considered UNEXCUSED unless a pre-arranged absence form is completed. This form allows students to make-up homework missed during the absence. Forms must be received at least two school days prior to the absence. Prearranged (Excused) absences shall be limited to five per year.

Prearranged absence forms are available in the main lobby in the magazine rack and on the Munhall School website. Thank you for your cooperation.

## *From the PTO*

### **Buffalo Wild Wings Home Team Advantage**

Munhall is participating in the Buffalo Wild Wings Home Team Advantage Program now through June 4, 2017. Each time you go to Buffalo Wild Wings in the Geneva Commons, tell them you are with Team G or show them the TEAMMATE CARD (attached to this bulletin) , and they will donate 10% of your sales to the Munhall PTO. Let's show our team spirit and eat to earn!



### **IHOP Benefit Night**

Please help Munhall School by dining at IHOP! Join Suzy Pancake and her friends at IHOP on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00pm. IHOP will donate 15% of all sales back to the Munhall PTO.

Munhall PTO  
TEAM // Expires 06/04/17  
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