



St. Anthony of Padua
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Dear Parent/Guardian,

There has been a reported case of ***Impetigo*** at school.

Impetigo is a highly contagious skin infection caused by bacteria, which is normally found on the skin. When the bacteria gets under the skin by way of a cut, scratch, insect bite, papercut or abrasion, it begins to multiply and grow. The wound becomes swollen and reddened, a small pus-filled blister forms, and when the blister breaks, it forms a distinctive honey-colored crust. The lesions are most commonly found on the face, arms, or legs, but can occur anywhere on the body. If lesions are not treated, they will continue to grow as the bacteria spreads. The lesions are typically not painful but may be tender to touch.

People of any age may get impetigo but it occurs most frequently in children 2 to 5 years of age. Impetigo is spread through contact. Fingers, clothing, or anything that touches the lesion can transfer the bacteria to other areas of the skin and to other persons. Good hygiene and thorough hand washing can help prevent the spread of infection. Impetigo requires treatment by a physician, usually with oral antibiotics or antibiotic ointment.

A student infected with ***Impetigo*** may return to school with a physician letter and when the blisters and drainage can be contained and maintained in a clean, dry bandage.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please consult with your physician or healthcare provider.

Sincerely,

Leslie Pavlock

Leslie Pavlock, LVN
School Nurse

Nurturing Souls. Enriching Minds.

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