

October 20, 2009

Dear Parents,

The school year has begun and students and staff have acclimated well to their new schedules. As the cold weather begins to descend upon us, we are reminded that cold and flu season will begin soon.

Our health staff and administration have worked closely with the Dutchess County Department of Health, New York State Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control. We receive regular notices from these agencies and collectively the advice is consistent.

The steps Maplebrook School has taken to prevent the spread of cold and flu viruses are:

1. We encourage everyone to wash their hands and use hand sanitizers located throughout campus, avoid touching one's face, and covering mouths when coughing.
2. All bathrooms have appropriate soap and paper towels. The cleaning service is being vigilant about cleaning surfaces such as bathrooms, door handles, desks and tables, etc. in all buildings.
3. Should the flu (H1N1 or other strains of flue) hit campus, sick bay areas have been set up to help isolate those inflicted and ensure a speedy recovery.
4. Member of the school community are required to report to the Health Center if fevers, aches, or coughs are present. Individuals should be isolated at home or school for a minimum of 24 hours after symptoms recede.
5. Vaccinations for the regular flu will be dispensed in November/December. It is highly recommended that your youngster receive the vaccine to protect him/her and others. If you did not sign the permission form for this, and wish your youngster to receive the vaccination, please contact Ms. McGill in the Health Center.
6. The H1N1 vaccine will not be dispensed at school. Should you want your youngster vaccinated, please make arrangements while your youngster is home.

I hope this information is helpful. Should you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Ms. McGill.

Sincerely,

Donna M. Konkolics  
Head of School/CEO

DMK/dc