

Weekly Newsletter



Volume 6, Issue 18

Week ending
12 June 2009

SWINE FLU

Please refer to our website or the NSW Department of Health attachment to this Newsletter for up-to-date information regarding student and staff exclusions from School after traveling to high-risk areas, such as Greater Melbourne, Mexico, USA and Canada.



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From the Principal

School Growth

Since our small beginnings in 2005, with just 16 students on day one, we have now grown past 300 students. Many parents have indicated that they were attracted to our school because of our small size. Size is of course a relative thing. The School Board has approved a model for our School's development where it grows to approximately 800 students across Years K to 12. This would entail about 200 students in the primary years (with 1 class at each level K-4 and 2 classes at Years 5 and 6) and 600 in the secondary (with 4 classes at each year level). These numbers would allow for a very comprehensive range of subjects, while still maintaining a school structure in which every child is known and supported through their education. Whether or not this number is achieved will depend on the demand from the community.

There has, as we have seen, been a steady growth in interest in this School and the Board has decided, on the basis of the interest level for next year to offer four (4) classes in Year 7 in 2010. This decision was advertised in the local paper today. Interest in Years 5 and 6 is also strong and there may be 2 classes at each of

these year levels next year as well.

It is important for current parents to know that the growth they are seeing has been planned for in terms of staffing, facilities and systems. The resources are all in place to ensure that our students continue to be well taught and cared for as the School grows.

Festa

The momentum for our biannual Italian Festival is growing, with lots of great ideas for making Sunday 18 October a very exciting day. We are seeking help from our families and also from any local businesses, with Italian style produce, interested in selling their wares.

Swine Flu

Last week a letter was sent out to all families based on instructions from the NSW Department of Health. There has been no change in the requirement that students who travel to the Melbourne Metropolitan Area must remain away from school for 7 days, regardless of symptoms. If they have symptoms they will of course stay away until they are no longer infectious. We are placing updates on our webpage. Please check them regularly.

Andrew P Pullar

From the Deputy Principal

How pleasant it has been to see it raining for a number of days in a row!! I hope our students haven't been coming home too wet! Next week there will be a Winter Sports Day for students who have made it through the trials which have unfortunately been postponed on a number of occasions due to the rain. I believe all teams have been selected at this stage and I would like to thank all students who put themselves up for selection and wish those students who were selected the best of luck next week.

It now appears as though all boys are up to speed with their uniforms and in particular, belts. I'm pleased that we had such a quick response

to an area that had been misunderstood by some.

I would like to ask for parent support regarding sports bags. It has become apparent that some of our students are leaving their bags on the ground in the locker room rather than placing the bag in the locker.

Finally I would encourage all families to support the pencil drive that the Nesbit family are promoting ahead of their trip to East Timor. Anyone wishing to donate new pencils for the children of East Timor can leave them at the office. Thanks.

Ron Couchman



Good Luck, Tara!

An invitation is extended to students, parents and friends to support Tara Pocklington in the VCAA Plain English Speaking semi-final to be held on Tuesday 23 June, 1pm at Treasury Theatre, East Melbourne. This is an excellent opportunity to see a high standard of public speaking from senior high school students from across Victoria.

Numbers do need to be confirmed by Thursday 18th June for catering purposes. Please contact Miss Mason if you wish to attend. The state final will be held on the Thursday 25 June, at the same location at 10am, and all are welcome to attend this event also.

Carlie Mason

Social Service and Justice Committee News



In July our family is going to East Timor for 6 weeks to work in a remote village called Ainaro, which is in the mountains.

East Timor gained independence from Indonesia in 1999 at which time the Indonesians destroyed most buildings and services and took with them most of the countries knowledge and expertise.

Since 1999 they have struggled to rebuild their country.
They have very few resources and are amongst the poorest countries in the world.

Can you imagine life without your Running water, toilets and electricity???

TV, phone and ipod??

*Today with the Social Services committee, we would like you to help us make life a little easier for the children at the local school in Ainaro.
We are launching a pencil drive.*

The children at the school that we are going to help at, have no pencils, pens and little paper, or any other stationary bits and pieces that we can walk to the shop to buy.



We are asking each of you to donate a NEW GREY LEAD pencil for us to take to the school in which we will be working. (We don't imagine that they would like chewed or second hand ones though!)

If everyone gives at least one pencil, that will be more than 300 pencils, which is a very practical way that you can be part of our trip and help the children of East Timor.

Also, we have had some hand made scarves and cloth donated from Timor that we would like to use to raise some money for the school in Ainaro. We are suggesting a silent auction as a fundraiser. Please see Mrs. Kemp or go to the office to put a bid in for the auction of these items.

So please bring your pencil donations over the next 2 weeks and give them to your class Social Services committee representative, and together we can make a difference to the kids of East Timor.

Thank you
Catherine & James Nesbitt

**East Timorese Awareness Ribbons will be available for \$1.00 each
on Monday and can be worn for the entire week!**

Uniform News

Uniform Shop hours of operation:

TUESDAY 8:45—9:15 AM

THURSDAY 2:45—3:15 PM

Thanks to these volunteers who will operate our shop on

Tues 16 June — Marlene Stapleton and Deb Furphy Thurs 18 June — Julie Purtill and Kaye Sutton

SECONDHAND WINTER UNIFORM? Please email or deliver the details of any second-hand items you may wish to sell to the school office by Wednesday 4pm in order to be included in the newsletter. Please advise also, when you wish the item to be deleted!

FOR SALE - SECOND HAND UNIFORMS

- 4 x Size 16 s/s shirts @ \$10; 2 x size 5 (87cm waist) boys formal shorts@ \$15
Please contact Rowena 5480 9501
- 1 x Size 12 boys formal shorts @ \$15
Please contact Hilary 0427 539 909
- Size 10 Sports Jacket
Please contact Nicole 5482 5494
- XL Sports Shorts; Med Sports Shorts; Size 20 Kilt; Size 20 Dress
Please contact Andrea - 5484 9208
- Size 12 girls trousers (worn once)—\$30
Please contact Petra—0411 896 901
- Size 10 boys trousers ; Size 9 boys trousers
Please contact Sally—0418 551 941 or 5480 2428
- 1 pair boys trousers, size 16 \$10; 2 size 16 l/sleeve shirts \$10.00ea
Please contact Viv—0437 520 528

Co-Curricula Tuition

PLEASE NOTE There are limited vacancies for instrumental lessons commencing in Term 3. Lessons are available in - Drums/ Percussion; Voice; Guitar; Clarinet; Flute; Piano; Trombone; Trumpet; Cor-net; Theory; Saxophone; Speech and Drama. Parents/students may collect a form from the office

Our **Co-curricula Ensemble Program** is accepting students for term three - flute, clarinet, advanced wind ensembles: Choir and Band.

Enquiries to **Monique Fruewirth—Director of Music**

Assembly Performers

Students who learn an instrument outside of the school are welcome to participate in instrumental performances throughout the week as part of our Assembly.

Please contact **Monique Fruewirth—Director of Music**.

NSW Ministry of Transport—PVC Subsidy

WHAT IS PRIVATE VEHICLE SUBSIDY?

PVC Subsidy is the Private Vehicle Conveyance Subsidy paid to NSW students who travel more than 1.6 kilometres walking distance from school bus stops.

WHAT CONDITIONS MUST BE MET TO RECEIVE PVC SUBSIDY?

- Our students, who are residents of NSW, where there is no public transport available for all or part of the journey to school.
- A special return journey must be made each morning and afternoon.
- No payment is made when students drive or ride their own vehicle to school.
- Motorcycles are paid at half the approved rate.
- Payments commence only from the semester the application is received. **Payments cannot be backdated to previous semesters, so to be paid for first semester 2009, applications must be submitted to our School Office by Friday 19 June.**
- The Ministry of Transport reserves the right to withdraw PVC Subsidy payments if investigation shows the student to be ineligible. Any subsidy paid as a consequence of false or misleading information will be required to be repaid.

MORE INFORMATION?

Please contact Ministry of Transport, Transport Operations Division, Parramatta on 1800 010 123 or 02 9891 8900 or email pvc@transport.nsw.gov.au

HOW DO I APPLY?

Forms may be collected from the School Office and must be completed and returned by Friday 19 June (last day of term).

Please note: A new application form is only required for change of school, change of address (please indicate on the top of the form if it is a change of address) or change of distance.



Lou Kennaugh

Exciting News—NEW Multi Purpose Hall

We have been notified about our successful application for an **\$850,000** grant under the Federal Government Building the Education Revolution. This will fully fund the construction of a new Multipurpose Hall in the North East corner of the School. In addition to the many classes that can be held there such as music, dance and drama the Hall will be a fantastic new facility for many school functions such as concerts, information nights and meetings.

Building will commence soon with expected completion by February 2010.

Jenny Martin—Business Manager



LOST PROPERTY

Our Lost Property trolley is overflowing (again)!

Also a Sports Bag (with uniform and school shoes in side) is missing, believed collected by another student. PLEASE CHECK AT HOME FOR STRAY ITEMS AND RETURN THEM TO SCHOOL!

And, please check student's shoes as we currently have a student with odd shoes.

More Career News at: www.moamagrammar.nsw.edu.au/curriculum/career_education

INTERESTED IN PUBLIC RELATIONS OR ADVERTISING?

RMIT are running their popular career days in Public Relations and Advertising. These career days provide a "realistic up-to-date overview of the industry and employment opportunities". The cost is \$55 per student and you must book before 18 August for the Advertising Day which runs on 22 August and you must book by 1 September for the Public Relations day which runs on 5 September. Contact Jenny Tserkezidis on 03 9925 5658 or jenny.tserkezidis@rmit.edu.au to book and for venue details.

HEALESVILLE SANCTUARY VET FOR A DAY PROGRAM

Healesville 5, 6, 7, 19, 20 or 21 June. For bookings and information phone 03 5957 2818.

A LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

Have you considered surveying as a career? "Surveyors define the world we live in and their work is an integral part of any development, from Melbourne's Eureka Tower, to the study of the Great Barrier Reef sea bed environment to satellite mapping like Google Earth". Surveyors earn great money, are in demand as graduates and you can work indoors or outdoors, for a company or self employed or in rural, coastal or urban areas. Go to www.allfewithoutlimits.com.au for more information.

MARITIME AND MARINE CAREERS

Melbourne Aquarium is running information and tour days on Marine Science on 22 June. You could also experience being an "Aquarist for a Day" during school holidays. For costs and information phone The Education Liaison Officer 03 9923 5911.

YEAR 11—EXPERIENCE LATROBE UNIVERSITY

Participate in workshops and visit the campus of your choice—all areas of study are covered. Dates are available in the holidays and bookings are now open. Visit: www.latrobe.edu.au/experience

INTERESTED IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE?

The RMIT Landscape Architecture program has received accreditation from the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) after announcing a new 5 year program, consisting of a three year degree and a two year master program. Students may exit the program after 3 years with a Bachelor of Design. Bachelor of Design graduates will have the opportunity to apply for entry into the Master of Landscape Architecture where they will be prepared and accredited for professional practice. Contact Rosalea Monacella 03 9925 3492 or email landscape.architecture@rmit.edu.au

CHARLES STURT UNIVERSITY

New courses look healthy

Charles Sturt University (CSU) has announced a \$6 million expansion of the University's health education programs at the CSU Orange campus.

Under the plan, CSU will offer two new degrees in Orange in 2010: *Physiotherapy* and *Health and Rehabilitation Science*. The University will admit 40 students to the new Physiotherapy program and 20 students to the new Health and Rehabilitation Science program in 2010. The aim is to increase the intake for the Health and Rehabilitation Science Course to 50 students a year. For more information contact CSU on 1800 334 733.

A bright future for technology teachers

With the demand for teachers in Technology and Applied Studies (TAS) becoming increasingly significant, Charles Sturt University will offer a four year on-campus Bachelor of Education TAS program in 2010. Many existing technology teachers have only one area of expertise and, over the next ten years, particularly due to teacher retirements and the newly established trade centres in schools, major shortages of TAS teachers are predicted across Australia. CSU's Bachelor of Education TAS will address this need. On completion of this course you will be classed as a teacher of technology with the ability to teach in the key learning area of Technology and Applied Studies. For more information visit www.csu.edu.au

CSU gives you the edge

Charles Sturt University offers industry-relevant degrees that keep pace with a changing world. So, at the end of your studies, your career gets off to a flying start. What's more, you'll enjoy the experience along the way, in a friendly, fun environment. There is a huge range of scholarships providing financial assistance for people who wish to study through CSU, including industry-related and equity scholarships. Selection is not always based solely on academic achievement. It's worth checking out! Visit www.csu.edu.au/edge

Find us at these upcoming events

NSW—Northern Suburbs Tertiary Information Day – 17 June

VIC—Central Highlands TIS – 17 June, Northeast TIS 22-24 June, Albury Wodonga Tertiary Day - 24 June.

Attention: Parents and Students in Year 10

In order for Students to obtain discounted (concession) fares whilst using public transport in Melbourne on the Careers Camp, a Concession Card will be required. We suggest that all Students obtain and complete the necessary forms for the issue of a Concession Card as soon as possible. These can be obtained from the VLine office in Sturt Street, Echuca or can be accessed online at <http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/fares-tickets/concessions/students/>

Maths Corner

Maths Room 13 is Open on Monday Lunchtimes for any student who would like to bring their Maths to work on. BYO lunch. I will be present and available for those who might need assistance with their Maths.

The following article relates to last weeks Newsletter Math's problem and is taken from The Age. The article is written by the Maths Masters Marty Ross and Burkard Polster who also do public performances on interesting mathematics at the Melbourne Museum.

Every number is special



The other day, one of us managed to catch a taxi numbered 6174. That may appear like just another number, but it is in fact very special.

Starting with 6174, we use the digits to make two new numbers. The first is 7641, with the digits placed in descending order. The second number is 1467, the reverse of the first one. Now subtract the second from the first and you get $7641 - 1467 = 6174$, the number we started with. Pretty neat.

But there is more. Take a different four-digit number, say 8208. Following the same recipe, you arrive at $8820 - 0288 = 8532$. Apply the recipe again and you get $8532 - 2358 = 6174$, which again is our taxi number.

Does this always work? Obviously not for a number such as 3333, where all the digits are the same: we immediately arrive at 0. And, applying the recipe to a number such as 1112 gives 999, and then 0 at the next stage. There are 77 such exceptions, all resulting in 0 after one or two steps. But every other four-digit number eventually arrives at 6174.

Mathematicians call 6174 Kaprekar's constant, after D. R. Kaprekar, the Indian mathematician who discovered its amazing property.

As it happens, we are not the only mathematicians who travel by taxi. There is a famous taxi story involving the great mathematicians G. H. Hardy and Srinivasa Ramanujan. Hardy complained that the number of his taxi, 1729, was very boring. But Ramanujan disagreed, immediately recognizing that 1729 is the smallest whole number that can be written as the sum of two cubes in two different ways:

$1729 = 1^3 + 12^3 = 9^3 + 10^3$ So, we now have two apparently pedestrian numbers, both of which turned out to be extremely interesting. And in fact we can prove that there are no boring whole numbers.

If there were boring whole numbers, then there would have to be a smallest one. However, the smallest boring number is obviously very special, and thus is not boring after all. Ergo, there are no boring whole numbers!

What about decimal numbers? Are all of them interesting as well? The cunning argument above no longer works. And we doubt that there is a different argument. In truth, your Maths Masters find most decimals exceedingly boring.

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEKS PROBLEM: The positive integers less than 50 that cannot be written as the sum of two squares are 3, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 30, 31, 33, 35, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48.

Kate Kemp
Maths Co-ordinator

MATHS OLYMPIAD 2009 - POSTPONED UNTIL 2010

The 2009 Moama Anglican Grammar School House Mathematics Challenge (Maths Olympics) has been postponed until 2010. With the weather the way it is at the moment it would be too cold and miserable to do it in the UCA so we are going to wait until we have an Assembly Hall!!!

GNOCCHI

Foods News



Ingredients (serves 4)

- 4 (750g) desiree potatoes, unpeeled
- 1 1/3 cups (200g) plain flour, plus a little extra

Method

1. Place potatoes in a saucepan. Cover with cold water and bring to the boil over high heat. Cook for 20-25 minutes or until just tender when tested with a skewer (don't test too much as potatoes will become waterlogged). Drain well. Set aside until just cool enough to handle. While still hot, peel by hand and discard skins. Using a potato ricer or mouli (French rotary grater), puree potatoes into a bowl. Season to taste with salt. Cool slightly.
2. Add flour to potatoes then use your hands to knead briefly until a soft dough forms. If mixture is still sticky, add a little more flour (the amount of flour added is crucial - too much flour will make the cooked gnocchi heavy and tough, while too little flour will cause gnocchi to disintegrate during cooking). Turn dough on to a lightly floured surface.
3. Cut dough into 4 equal-sized pieces. Using your hands, gently roll each piece out to form a log about 2cm wide. Using a lightly floured knife, cut each log into 1.5cm-long pieces.
4. Roll each ball of gnocchi over the tines of a lightly-floured fork, pressing gently with your index finger or thumb underneath as you go, to form a dent in the back of each one and fork marks on the other side (this creates a textured surface, helping sauces to cling to cooked gnocchi).

Bring a large saucepan of water to the boil. Add 1/4 of the gnocchi. As they cook, gnocchi will rise to the surface of the water. Continue cooking gnocchi at the surface for about 10 seconds then remove with a large slotted spoon and drain well. Repeat with remaining gnocchi. Serve immediately, tossed together with your favourite sauce.

TERM 2 Tuesday 21 April – Friday 19 June			TERM 4 Tuesday 6 October – Friday 11 December		
JUNE	Fri 12	STUDENT FREE DAY	OCT	Mon 5	Staff Day – pupil free
	Wed 17	OMISSA Winter Sports - Yr 7&8, 9&10		Tue 6	Commencement Higher School Certificate
	Thurs 18	BOS Visit		Tue 6	Term 4 commences for all students
	Fri 19	Last Day – Term 2 3:05pm dismissal		Tue 6-Thu 8	Elmore Field Days (School represented)
TERM 3 Tuesday 14 July – Friday 18 September				Thu 8	Parent-Teacher Interviews – Year 5, 6, 7
	Mon 13	Staff Day – Pupil Free		Thu 8-Fri 9	School Certificate Trial Exam
JULY	Tues 14	Term 3 commences		Wed 14	OMISSA Junior Sum Sports – Yrs 7 & 8 Shep
	Tue 21-Fri 24	Year 10 Careers Camp		Thu 15	Springtime Concert, Comfort Resort 7:30pm
	Tue 28	OMISSA - Yrs 5-8 Sports Day – Yarrawonga		Sun 18	Festa Italiana
	Thurs 30	Year 10 (Year 11 2010) Info Night, Comfort Resort		Mon 19-Fri 23	Year 8 Camp – Grampians
AUG	Tue 4	UNSW English Competition		Wed 28	Beacon Big Day In Fonterra Centre
	Thur 6	Yr8 (Yr9 '10) & Yr9 (Yr10 '10) Info Night, Com Res		Fri 30	OMISSA Summer Sports – Yrs 7-9 Wodonga
	Fri 7	Parents/Staff/Board Dinner – RRG 7:00pm	NOV	Mon 2	Exeat Holiday
	Fri 7	Parents/Staff/Board Dinner – Venue TBA 7:30pm		Tues 3	Exeat Holiday
	Wed 12	Performance Rehearsal at Paramount		Mon 9-Tue 10	School Certificate Exams – Year 10
	Thur 13	Rehearsal and Eve' Performance at Paramount		11-13	EXAMS Yrs 7-10
	Fri 14	Performance (Evening)		Mon 16-Fri 20	Work Experience – Year 10
	Tue 18	Interhouse Athletics		Fri 20	Year 6 Celebration Dinner RRG Tatalia Room 1
	Wed 19	UNSW - Maths Competition	DEC	Mon 7	Christmas Service 1.30-2.30pm
	Thur 27	OMISSA Inter School Athletics – Wangaratta		Tue 8	Orientation Day
SEPT	Mon 7	Shepp Zone Athletics		Wed 9	Year 10 Celebration Dinner – Radcliffes
	Fri 11	Interschool Theatre Sports—Echuca		Thurs 10	Whole School Celebration Day
	Tue 15	Interim Reports Issued		Fri 11	Last day of Term 4 – 3.05pm
	15—18	Exams - Year 11		Fri 11	Presentation Evening – Fonterra Centre 7.30pm
	Thur 17	Immunisation Program (Yr 7)		Mon 14	Staff Day
	Thur 17	Parent Teacher Interviews – Yrs 8, 9, 10 from 4pm		Tues 15	Staff Day
	Fri 18	Last Day - Term 3		Wed 16	Staff Lunch
				Wed 16	Office Closed for Christmas Vacation 12 noon

Community Billboard

ERH LADIES AUXILIARY FILM FUNDRAISER

When: Opening Night Thursday 18 June 7:00pm

Where: Echuca Paramount Cinema

Tickets: \$15 including supper

Easy Virtue is a story of a clash of cultures and generations, played out within the confines of an English country house. A glamorous young American, Larita (Jessica Biel) - a woman with a past—falls in love with John Whittaker (Ben Barnes), a dashing Englishman. They marry, and he takes her home to meet his parents. ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL PURCHASE VITAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE HEALTH SERVICE.

Tickets available from ERH Kiosk or contact: Marie Fraser—5482 3591 Paula Cockburn—5482 4304 Deidre Madill—5485 5048



A Winters Garden Walk at Wharparilla Drive
Sunday June 7 2009 11:00—4:00pm

All welcome.

Rambling cottage garden on the banks of the Murray, featuring unique garden art

by Julie Guinan, Selected items for sale, as sorted trading tables, Devonshire tea and light refreshments available. Children under 8 are required to be under adult supervision at all times. Sorry, no pets. Gold coin donation—proceeds to Murrayvale Aged Care Auxiliary 202 Wharparilla Drive, Echuca.—5482 2134

POSTPONED
NEW DATES TO BE ADVISED

BASKETBALL VICTORIA SKILLS DAY

For boys and girls born in 1998 & 1999—For more details please call Adam Tarr at the Echuca Basketball Association on 54806903



SWINE FLU UPDATE

Message for parents and staff of schools on exclusion from primary and secondary schools in NSW

Last Updated: 5 June 2009

This policy is constantly under review and parents and carers are advised to check this site daily for the latest information.

Students returning, or arriving from areas where there is a high prevalence of the virus circulating in the community should be instructed to remain at home for seven days following their travel before returning to school. These provisions also apply to before and after school care facilities (BASC).

This includes affected countries and **greater metropolitan Melbourne**. The current list of affected areas is available from [here](#).

Students and staff recently returned from affected areas

Students returning, or arriving from areas where there is a high prevalence of the virus circulating in the community should be instructed to remain away from school for seven days following their travel before returning to school. It is important that excluded students do not participate in after school activities where they will mix with other school aged children (eg sports teams, youth groups, play dates, group lessons).

If they remain well after **seven** days they can return to school.

If a school staff member has been to metropolitan Melbourne, Mexico, Panama, USA, Canada and Japan and has been mixing with local school children (in a group of 10 or more) then they should be excluded from school. Principals should make all efforts to enable staff in this situation to be able to perform some work from home during this exclusion period.

If the staff member has not mixed with a group of 10 or more school children then they may return to school, but be excluded if they develop any influenza-like symptoms.

Only the individual who has travelled to an affected area is currently required to be excluded from school. This is because it is only that person who has had a potential contact with a person infected with human swine influenza.

Family members and other household contacts are not required to remain at home, assuming the traveller is well. This is because they have not yet had any direct exposure to anyone who is affected by human swine influenza.

Students and staff members who become ill after recent travel to an affected area

Anyone with flu-like symptoms should stay away from school until their symptoms end, so they can recuperate and to prevent the spread of illness to others.

If you need further medical assistance please call your local public health unit (see below), call your GP or present to an emergency department.

If students develop symptoms at school, the parents should be contacted and advised that their child is ill and should stay away from school until their symptoms end, so they can recuperate and to prevent the spread of illness to others.

If staff members develop symptoms at school, they should be advised to stay away from school until their symptoms end, so they can recuperate and to prevent the spread of illness to others.

The school principal should also alert the local public health unit (see below).

Students and staff who develop flu-like symptoms, but who have not travelled

Anyone with flu-like symptoms should stay away from school until their symptoms end, so they can recuperate and to prevent the spread of illness to others.

If students develop symptoms at school, the parents should be contacted and advised that their child is ill and should stay away from school until their symptoms end, so they can recuperate and to prevent the spread of illness to others.

If staff members develop symptoms at school, they should be advised to stay away from school until their symptoms end, so they can recuperate and to prevent the spread of illness to others.

Schools where there is a confirmed case of human swine influenza affecting school students or staff

NSW Health staff will help arrange the provision of appropriate medication and health care for staff, students and contacts where appropriate.

If the person with human swine influenza is a school student or staff member NSW Health staff will identify any people who have been in close contact with the person while they were infectious and provide them with advice and anti-viral medication, if appropriate.

NSW Health staff will also decide upon the recommended actions for preventing further spread within the school.

Actions may include close contacts being placed into home quarantine with antiviral treatment, increased "social distancing" at school, partial closure (eg, only the affected class or year) of the school, or complete closure of the school.

Any decision to close schools would not be made lightly and full consideration would be given to the social support issues an unexpected closure may create for some families.

Students and staff with symptoms in the school where a human swine influenza case is confirmed

Students, staff and contacts who have reported respiratory illness will be contacted by NSW Health and assessed as to whether they will need to be placed in isolation.

Students, staff and contacts with symptoms will be treated with Tamiflu if the onset of symptoms is detected within 48 hours.

Students, staff and contacts who have respiratory symptoms for more than 48 hours before assessment will not be offered Tamiflu as it is unlikely to reduce symptoms. In certain circumstances, for example when a person is very seriously unwell, a clinical decision may be made to offer Tamiflu even after 48 hours from symptom onset.

Students and staff who reported contact with people with symptoms in a school where a human swine influenza case is confirmed

Students, staff who report contact with people with respiratory illness in the school will be contacted by NSW Health and placed in quarantine..

They will be provided with Tamiflu for 10 days as a preventive treatment.

If they develop respiratory symptoms, they should immediately call their local public health unit.

Household contacts of people with symptoms in a school where a human swine influenza case is confirmed

These people will be assessed by health authorities. If assessed as a "contact" they must remain in quarantine.

They will be assessed and where necessary, will be provided with Tamiflu for 10 days as a preventive treatment.

If they develop respiratory symptoms, they should immediately call their local public health unit (see below for contact numbers).

Related Links

- NSW Health swine flu information page www.emergency.health.nsw.gov.au/swineflu/index.asp
- NSW Health influenza factsheet (usual human influenza) www.health.nsw.gov.au/factsheets/infectious/influenza.html
- Department of Health and Ageing - Health Emergency website <http://www.healthemergency.gov.au>
- Travel Advice (Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade) <http://www.smartraveller.gov.au>