



Castle Camps CofE (VC) Primary School
Church Lane, Castle Camps, Cambridge CB21 4TH
Telephone: 01799 584270
Fax: 01799 584442
E-mail: office@castlecamps.cambs.sch.uk
Website: www.castlecampsschool.co.uk
Headteacher: Miss A.E. O'Connor

19th April, 2018

Dear Parents,

SLAPPED CHEEK

There are a few possible cases of slapped cheek disease in the School.

Slapped cheek disease is caused by human parvovirus B19. It is a mild illness that commonly affects children. The ill child typically has a rash on the face, which looks like slapped cheeks. There may also be a lacy rash on the trunk and limbs. Children may also have a slight fever and cold before the rash breaks out.

A person infected with parvovirus **is infectious in the early part of the illness, before the rash appears**. By the time a child develops the rash he or she is no longer infectious so may continue to attend school.

The infection is usually mild and improves without treatment among children and adults who are otherwise healthy. However, if your child remains unwell or you are concerned about their condition please seek medical information from your GP.

Please be aware that people with chronic illness, certain blood disorders, pregnant women or people with a weakened immune system will need to contact their GP for advice if they have been in contact with a child who has Slapped Cheek Syndrome.

Should you wish for further information regarding the symptoms and treatment of Slapped Cheek Syndrome these can be found on the NHS Direct website www.nhs.uk – or contact your GP.

Yours sincerely,

Miss A.E. O'Connor,
Headteacher

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