

Thursday June 18, 2009

Health Update: Strep Throat

Dear Parents,

I would like to inform you that we have a case of strep throat in our summer camp.

'Strep throat' is the more common name for *streptococcal pharyngitis*. It is an infection of the upper airway, caused by a bacteria called group A beta-hemolytic streptococci (GABHS).

The incubation period is 1 to 3 days and some of the symptoms that may appear include:

- sore throat
- fever
- stomach pain
- red and swollen tonsils

If you suspect your child may have strep throat, please see your doctor. They will prescribe antibiotics to clear up the infection.

Please **do not send your child back to school until they have been on antibiotics for 24 hours** and have been **without a fever for 24 hours**.

The best prevention for common infections such as strep throat is frequent hand-washing. Please encourage your child to wash their hands frequently throughout the day.

For further information I recommend the website: www.kidshealth.org

Have a safe and healthy summer!

Alison