

Date:

Dear Parents/Guardians:

An increased number of students are absent or have become ill at school with gastroenteritis. Symptoms of gastroenteritis include vomiting, diarrhea, nausea and/or stomach cramps.

All persons feeling sick should stay home. Any person with diarrhea and/or vomiting should not return to school for 48 hours **AFTER** the symptoms have resolved.

The following measures are recommended to prevent the spread of illness:

- Frequent hand-washing
- Thorough cleaning and disinfecting of contaminated surfaces immediately after an episode of illness with a diluted bleach solution
- Immediate removal and washing of clothing or linens that may be contaminated with virus after an episode of illness (use hot water and soap)
- Washing and sanitizing all utensils after each use and not sharing utensils, food and drinks

Frequent hand-washing is being encouraged by school staff; the custodial staff has taken appropriate steps to clean and disinfect classrooms and other areas in the school.

While almost all people who get gastroenteritis recover completely, it is important to prevent dehydration (severe loss of fluids) during this illness.

For more information refer to the Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, San Francisco Department of Public Health website at www.sfcddcp.org

For any questions, please consult your school district nurse or your child's health provider.

With your support at home, we will be able to keep our school a healthy place to learn.

Sincerely,

Principal