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| **Infants:**  Etsome Terrace,  Somerton, TA11 6LY  Tel: 01458 272537  office@somerton.somerset.sch.uk | C:\Users\jennifer.bown\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.Outlook\S2XBYA00\king_ina_logo_large_blue.jpg | **Juniors:**  School Lane, Kirkham St.,  Somerton, TA11 7NL  Tel: 01458 272587  office@monteclefe.somerset.sch.uk |

Registered Office: School Lane, Kirkham Street, Somerton, Somerset TA11 7NL

21st March, 2016

**Important Medical Information for Parents**

**Ringworm**

We have been notified of a case of Ringworm in school so here is some information for you.

Symptoms include:

* a ring-like red or silvery rash on your skin – your skin will look red and irritated around the ring, but healthy inside
* scaly, itchy and inflamed skin

In more severe cases:

* the rings may multiply, grow in size and merge together
* the rings may feel slightly raised and the skin underneath may be itchy
* blisters and pus-filled sores may form around the rings

The ring spreads outwards as it progresses. You can have one patch or several patches of ringworm, and in more serious cases, your skin may become raised and blistered.

#### Face and neck ringworm

Ringworm on the face and neck may not appear ring-shaped, but may be itchy and swollen, and it can become dry and crusted. If you have a beard, you may notice patches of hair breaking away.

#### Hand ringworm

Ringworm on the hand often causes the skin to become thicker on the palm and in between the fingers. It may affect one hand or both and normally only appears on one side.

**Preventing the spread of fungal infections**

**The advice outlined below will help to stop fungal infections from spreading.**The fungi that cause tinea infections can survive on items such as furniture, hairbrushes, clothing and towels, and can be spread through contact with these items.  
  
Therefore, if someone in your household has a fungal infection, you should:

* avoid sharing personal items – such as combs, hairbrushes, towels, clothing and bed linen
* avoid scratching the affected areas of your skin or scalp, because it could spread the infection to other parts of your body

It’s important that other household members check themselves for signs of infection and get treatment if necessary.  
  
If you suspect that your pet is the source of the infection, take them to your vet for treatment. Patches of missing fur is a sign that an animal has ringworm. Always wash your hands after touching a pet with the infection.  
  
If someone in your family has a fungal infection, there is no need for them to stay off work or school. However, treatment should be started as soon as possible. Good personal hygiene should also be followed to stop it spreading to other children.

For more information: www.nhs.uk