

## **PARENTS! PLEASE READ:**

### **OFF TO SCHOOL? NOT!**

If your child appears to be sick, do you have him/her stay at home or do you send your child off to school or day care? It's often a tough decision.

Children can function well in school with many minor common childhood illnesses, though they should not attend school if they are contagious. Some symptoms indicate that the child needs special care and would be better off with a person who could provide that care. Some warning signs are:

- Extreme Pain
- Difficulty in breathing
- ***Fever over 100 degrees (orally). Please use a thermometer and not the back of your hand!***
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting due to stomach ailment
- Extreme tiredness or fatigue
- Severe cough
- Unusual rash
- Unusual behavior

If any of these symptoms appear, or if your child exhibits any other symptoms – mild or severe – which cause you concern, please call your physician.

***If your child comes to school ill, you will be called and asked to pick him/her up.***

**PLEASE** keep your child home for at least 24 hours after they experience diarrhea, vomiting or a fever of 100 degrees. This will minimize the spread of infection and disease. This is a Ridgewood Board of Education policy.

Even on the weekend: Please notify the Health Office if your child has been diagnosed and is being treated for any contagious illness: i.e. strep throat, conjunctivitis (pink eye), chicken pox, etc. It is important that we keep accurate accounts of any occurrences so that we may protect your child and prevent the spread of disease from class to class.