

October 4, 2012

### FREE Flu Clinic for Students

Dear Gilford school family!

Welcome back to a new school year! With back-to-school time comes a whole checklist of things you need to take care of to get the year started off right. Well, there's one thing we can check off that list for you! This fall, Gilford Elementary School will be hosting a free school-based flu clinic for all students where your child can get either a flu shot or nasal mist. Our clinic will take place after school at 3:15PM on Wednesday October 24, 2012 for grades k-4 and our second clinic date will be on November 1, 2012 at 3:15PM for upper grades, and licensed and trained medical professionals will give all vaccines. Our clinic is offered in cooperation with Lakes Region Partnership for Public Health.

Why sign your child up for this year's flu clinic?

- It's FREE!
- Your child will be less likely to come down with the influenza and miss school time
- You won't have to miss work from your child being sick with the flu
- CONVENIENT! You won't have to make a separate appointment or trip to your medical provider!

The best way to protect against the flu and its severe complications is to get a flu vaccine each year. Anyone can catch the influenza, but rates of infection are highest among children. Some children may suffer from complications if they have a long-term health condition like asthma, diabetes, and heart disease. It is important children get vaccinated.

The flu vaccine is recommended for children 6 months of age and older by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

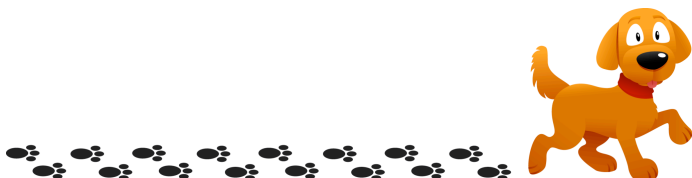
If you would like your child to receive a free influenza vaccine in school, please sign the consent form and send the yellow and white copies back to school with your child now.

We have included two Vaccine Information Statements from the CDC to help answer your questions. You may also direct questions to your school nurse at 524-1661 ext. 612 or the NH Immunization Program at (800) 852-3345, ext. 4482.

Sincerely,

Danielle Bolduc

Principal



**Follow Rufus and get your flu vaccine at school.**