



HELLO December



SCHOOL NURSE NEWS

Important Reminder

All Pre-K 3 and Pre-K 4 students' require an influenza vaccination by **December 31, 2023**. This is in accordance with the NJ state law requiring all school-aged children up to the age of five to receive their flu shot between **September 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023**.

Children who have not received the flu vaccine by **December 31** must be excluded (not allowed to attend preschool) for the duration of the flu season, or until they receive at least one dose of the influenza vaccine or until they turn 60 months of age.

Please send a record of flu vaccination by **December 22, 2023** to prevent exclusion upon return to school from Winter Break on January 2nd 2024.

Health & Learning

During the holiday shopping season, keep these health and safety tips in mind when choosing gifts for your little ones. Don't forget to check the batteries. Small Batteries can become dangerous to children. **Be aware of button batteries and lithium coin batteries.**

Both batteries are found in many toys and household items that can cause a major life-threatening injury if swallowed. **Some items that may contain button batteries are: holiday ornaments, flameless candles, musical greeting cards, remote controls, thermometers, games and toys, hearing aids**

If you suspect ingestion of a button battery take your child to the Emergency Department IMMEDIATELY.

Lithium coin batteries can cause severe tissue burns in as little as 2 hours.

Symptoms may be absent or present as an infection. Some Symptoms may include **drooling, decreased or refusing to eat or drink, difficulty swallowing, gagging or coughing, stomach pain, vomiting.**



Awareness is Key to Prevention!

Be aware of the risk posed by button batteries and tell everyone you know. Keep extra batteries away and out of reach of children. Be sure that all toys and games that contain batteries are secured and taped shut. Safely dispose of button batteries, wrap them in tape and promptly recycle or put them in an outside garbage can.

For more information about button battery safety Visit The Injury Prevention Program at www.chop.edu.

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