

19<sup>th</sup> June 2019

**RE: Ticks**

Dear Parent,

It has been brought to my attention that a child who attended the Year 6 Heatree residential last week was found to have picked up a couple of ticks.

Ticks are common in areas of long vegetation such as bracken and grass. They wait for passing animals (including humans) to attach themselves to, feeding on their blood before dropping off. It is more likely that pets will pick up ticks than humans, however, it is important to remember that there is a small chance of picking up a tick. Ticks inject saliva into their host as they feed and, although most ticks are not infected with bacteria, they can sometimes transmit disease with the saliva, including Lyme disease. For this reason, it is important to check for ticks and to carefully remove any that are found.

Please see the attached guide from NHS Choices on how to remove ticks.

Yours sincerely,



**Jonathan Bishop**  
Executive Headteacher