[Date Here]

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

This letter is to inform you that an individual in your child’s class was recently diagnosed with ringworm (tinea or dermatophytosis). Ringworm is a common skin infection that is caused by a fungus. Fungi that cause this infection live on skin, surfaces, and household items such as clothing, towels, and bedding.

Symptoms normally appear between 4 and 14 days after a person’s skin comes in contact with the fungi that cause ringworm. Ringworm may result in red, itchy, scaly, cracked skin, hair loss, and a circular rash that is shaped like a ring.

Though anyone may develop ringworm infection, some people have a higher risk for infection including:

* People who have weakened immune systems
* Athletes involved in contact sports
* People who use public showers or locker rooms or who wear tight shoes and have excessive sweating.
* People who have close contact with animals that have ringworm.

To prevent ringworm infections:

* Wash hands with soap and water after playing with pets.
* Keep skin clean and dry. Change socks and underwear at least once per day.
* Wear shoes that allow air to circulate. Do not walk barefoot in areas like locker rooms and public showers.
* Clip fingernails and toenails short and keep them clean.
* Do not share clothing, towels, sheets, or other personal items with someone who has ringworm.
* If you are an athlete involved in close-contact sports, shower immediately after practice or matches and keep sports gear and uniforms clean. Do not share gear with other players.

Persons who develop ringworm should contact their healthcare provider for treatment. If the ringworm rash can be kept covered, exclusion from school is not required. If the ringworm rash can NOT be kept covered, exclusion from school is required until 24 hours after treatment begins.

* If you have questions regarding this information, please reach out to your school nurse.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Principal] [School Nurse]