



**Simsbury Public Schools
Health Services**

To: Parents / Guardians

From: Sue Beardsley
Director of Health Services
Simsbury Public Schools

This is the time of year we begin to see fifth disease in our schools. It is a benign viral disease of children usually seen in the late winter or early spring. Children with fifth disease appear with bright red cheeks and possibly a rash over their arms, legs and trunk. Fever is unusual and mild cold symptoms can be present.

While there is no reason to exclude a child with fifth disease from school, it is important for women who suspect that they may be pregnant to contact their physician if they are exposed to the disease.

So that we may better track this virus, we ask that you contact your school nurse if you suspect that your child has fifth disease.

The CDC has a great web site:

<http://www.cdc.gov/parvovirusB19/fifth-disease.html>

Thank you,

Sue Beardsley