

# HEAD START of LANE COUNTY

221 B Street • Springfield, OR 97477-4522

541-747-2425 • FAX: 541-747-6648 • <http://www.hsolc.org>

*“Ensuring that our youngest children have a solid foundation for life.”*

Dear Parent:

## ALERT

A student in your child's classroom has been diagnosed with CRYPTOSPORIDIOSIS, a disease that is contagious. Please read the information below and watch your child for any signs or symptoms of this illness. Thank you for helping to decrease the spread of illness in our classrooms.

**Please notify your center if your child is home ill.**

### **Cryptosporidiosis**

#### **Signs and Symptoms of Illness**

- Watery diarrhea & stomach ache – can involve vomiting, general ill feeling and fever.

#### **How Disease is Spread**

- Through contact with feces (bowel movement) through humans, animals, contaminated food, water.

#### **When Illness Occurs After Being Exposed**

- Anywhere between 1-12 days.

#### **How Long Can Disease Be Spread**

- For several weeks.

#### **Prevention**

- Good hand-washing techniques after changing diapers, toileting, handling animals and before fixing food. Careful disinfecting of diaper changing area and bathroom is necessary.

#### **Exclusion From School**

- Until child or staff has no diarrhea.

**REMEMBER:** Please don't bring your children to school with a fever greater than 100.4° F.