IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR PARENTS OF CURRENT FIFTH GRADERS

Effective July 1, 2014, all students in Virginia must receive a booster dose of Tdap vaccine prior to entering sixth grade.

- If your child is 11 years old, he or she must get the Tdap immunization and provide documentation to the school.
- If your child is still 10 years old, he or she may receive the Tdap vaccine, Boostrix, which is approved for 10 years old, or you may wait until the 11th birthday to receive the vaccine approved for 11-year-olds.
- If your child’s 11th birthday is after the first day of school, your child must have a medical exemption from the doctor stating when he or she will receive the Tdap immunization in order to attend school.

Please check your child’s immunization records carefully. If your child is required to have a Tdap booster, we ask that your child receive it and that you provide documentation to the school as soon as possible. This documentation can be a copy of your child’s immunization record, or a note from your physician listing the date of his or her most recent Tdap booster shot.
The Tdap booster can be obtained from your child’s physician. Immunizations required for school are also available at the Fairfax County Health Department at no charge. Clinic locations and walk-in hours are listed on the back of this letter and are available online at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/hd/hdclinicsite.htm. Students receiving immunizations at the Health Department must be accompanied by an adult, and students should bring their immunization records to the Health Department clinic with them.

It is most important that you attend to this matter soon. **Sixth graders cannot begin school in the fall without documentation of having had the Tdap booster.**

Please, plan ahead to attend to this matter at your earliest convenience. When the 2014 school year begins, sixth graders for whom the office has no documentation of the Tdap shot will not be assigned to a teacher.

Please contact Sandy Campbell, the school public health nurse if you have any questions. She can be reached at 703-704-6671 or by email at sandra.campbell@fairfaxcounty.gov.

**ARE YOU MOVING?**

The school needs to have current addresses for all our students! If you have moved, please call the school office so we can update our records. If you are planning to move away from Island Creek, also be sure you let the school office know. We really hate to see you go, but there are important documents that need to be filled out by parents in order for a smooth transition to take place and for school records to be sent to your child’s new school.