

Dear Parents of Blessed Trinity Students,

The H1N1 virus is widespread in the community, and it is possible our children will be exposed to the virus. At Blessed Trinity we have not yet seen an unusual number of absences due to flu-like illness, but we continue to take precautions and ask that you also help us by keeping sick children at home.

The following is a list of CDC warning signs to look for. They recommend you take your children to the doctor immediately if any of the warning signs are present.

Call or take your child to a doctor right away if your child of any age has:

- Fast breathing or trouble breathing
- Bluish or gray skin color
- Not drinking enough fluids
- Severe or persistent vomiting
- Not waking up or not interacting
- Being so irritable that the child does not want to be held
- Flu-like symptoms improve but then return with fever and worse cough
- Has other conditions (like heart or lung disease, diabetes, or asthma) and develops flu symptoms, including a fever and/or cough.

We will be calling you if we see any such symptoms in your children while they are at school. We are also asking teachers to stay home if they exhibit these symptoms.

The H1N1 vaccine is available now for medically fragile children and will be available for all children in the coming weeks, so speak with your medical provider about getting your children immunized against the virus.

Please screen your children before sending them to school, and notify us if your child is suffering with influenza-like illness, as this information is being tracked for the Minnesota Department of Health.