*****Important Health Alert*****

Dear Parents,

As you may be aware, links were recently found between 1kg bags of Nanna’s frozen mixed berries and at least five cases of Hepatitis A, including three in Victoria. The recall has now been extended to 1kg frozen raspberries as well.

As a precaution and on advice from Dr Rosemary Lester, Victoria’s Chief Health Officer, the company has recalled this product on 14 February and subsequently two further products on 15 February due to concerns about potential for contamination with hepatitis A virus. The products recalled as at 9am 18/02/15 are:

Nanna’s Mixed Berries 1kg; All batches up to and including Best Before Date 22/11/16

Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries 300g; All batches up to and including Best Before Date 10/12/17

Creative Gourmet Mixed Berries 500g; All batches up to and including Best Before Date 06/10/17

1 kg packet of Nanna’s Frozen Raspberries with best-before dates up to and including 15 September, 2016.

Consumers are advised to discard any of these products and to be aware of the symptoms of hepatitis A infection in the 15-50 days after consuming the berries.

We are writing to you because the Essex Heights Canteen has been using 1 kg Nannas Frozen Raspberries in serves of ‘Yoghurt with Berries’. Following the recent advice we have discarded the product. Our records indicate that we have sold one serve in 2015 of this item. If your child has ordered ‘Yoghurt with Berries’ from our Canteen this year, please carefully read the attached advice from the Chief Health Officer.

Dr Lester’s office has confirmed that the risk of exposure is very low but cannot be excluded. As for all people who have consumed the affected products, Dr Lester has advised parents and carers to look for symptoms 15 to 50 days after consumption.

Symptoms include fever, nausea, abdominal discomfort, dark urine and yellow skin and eyes (jaundice). Symptoms may last for several weeks but full recovery usually occurs. Please consult the Health Department’s Better Health Channel for more information. Any person who is confirmed to have hepatitis A will be followed up closely and will be provided with further advice through the Department of Health and Human Services. If your child develops any of these symptoms, please seek medical advice from your local GP or Nurse on Call on 1300 60 60 24 and advise the school Office on 9807 4944.

Our student wellbeing team will ensure support is always available for any student who may need it.

If you have any immediate questions, please call the Office or come in and see us.

Kind Regards

Andrew Crossett
Principal

Julie Zuk
First Aid Officer