

September 2009



Immunizations for grade 7 students

Grade 7 students will once again receive free immunizations against **hepatitis B** and **meningitis** at our school clinics provided by York Region Community and Health Services.



The hepatitis B vaccination requires two doses for full protection. The first is offered in the fall and the second in the spring. Hepatitis B is a serious liver disease that can result in liver cirrhosis, liver cancer and sometimes death.

Students need only one dose of Menatra to be protected against meningitis A, C, Y, and W-135. This is offered in the spring at the same time as the second dose for hepatitis B. Meningococcal meningitis is an uncommon but serious infection of the lining of the brain and spinal cord. It can result in hearing loss, kidney damage, permanent damage to limbs, or even death.

Parents are encouraged to have their children immunized with these vaccines while they are available free of charge. Watch for more information and consent forms.

**For health-related information call York Region
Health Connection at 1-800-361-5653 or visit www.york.ca**