**CURRENT HEALTH CONCERN FOR CHILDREN. 12 MARCH 2021.**

**FROM DR FEB HOUGH**

There is currently a health concern among children within the community caused by a bacteria called **streptococcus**.

Streptococcus causes a wide range of disease in children, from mild illnesses such as tonsillitis and skin infections, to more severe infections which can cause kidney inflammation.

It is spread by close contact.

The following can be symptoms of severe infection and should prompt a medical opinion

* High fevers
* Severe muscle aches
* Sore throat
* Cellulitis
* Diarrhoea or Vomiting
* Severe Headache

This infection can be treated with antibiotics but it is important to take the full course of antibiotics prescribed. If this is difficult it is important to inform the clinic as an alternative treatment may be needed.

It is important that a urine sample is tested among children with these symptoms, so be prepared to be asked for this by the clinic.