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**THE MARTIN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES
“PROTECT DON’T INFECT” CAMPAIGN**



Programs will help educate school kids about the importance of hand washing

When Martin County elementary and middle school students return to school next week they will be asked to become “PDI” agents in the battle against germs. After the students navigate their way through the hallways, greet their friends and find their way to their classroom, the students will sit down to watch a video about the importance of good hand washing.

The video called “Protect Don’t Infect” was developed by the Orange County Health Department and chronicles the attempt of a feisty germ to take over the world. In the end, the germ, known as “Staph Sargeant” is defeated by PDI (Protect Don’t Infect) Agents who wash their hands, cover their cough/sneeze and stay home when they are sick.

Elementary students will view the video on Monday, while Middle School Students will watch it on Tuesday.

The kids will also receive fun activity sheets and information following the video to reinforce the message. In the coming weeks, students will be visited by Martin County Health Department school nurses who will continue to spread the message about the importance of germ prevention.

High School students will watch a video produced by the CDC called “Put Your Hands Together”.
www.cdc.gov/CDCTV/HandsTogether/.

The school hand washing campaign is another element to reinforce the importance of good hygiene during flu season. The Martin County Health Department has worked in partnership with the Martin County School District to develop protocols and information for parents and caregivers on the issue of H1N1/Swine Flu.



Be Smarter than a Germ:

1. Wash your Hands
2. Cover your Cough and Sneeze
3. Stay Home when you’re Sick

Watch the video at: www.protectdontinfect.com

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