

BRUSSELS AMERICAN SCHOOL
PSC 7913 AS APO AE 09714

TO: Parents of students in grades K to 5

FROM: Office of the School Nurse

SUBJECT: Fluoride Rinse Program

Your child, as a student at BAS, has the opportunity to participate in our School's Fluoride Rinse Program. This program is designed to reduce dental caries (cavities), a bacterial disease. This fluoride mouthrinse program is sponsored by BAS and the NATO Dental Clinic. This is provided at no cost to the student.

This program consists of rinsing the mouth with a safe sodium fluoride solution for 60 seconds one a week at school. The procedure, which is simple and safe, will require very little time in the classroom. The 0.2% neutral sodium fluoride is safe even if your child should accidentally swallow the rinse. Studies conducted with the rinse have shown that the number of newly decayed teeth have been reduced by as much as 40%.

The most effective method of tooth decay prevention is by community water fluoridation. The use of fluoride mouthrinse is not a substitute for fluoridated drinking water. But in communities such as ours, where water fluoridation is not provided, the mouthrinse program provides a reasonable adjunct to regular professional dental visits and daily home care. Also, this program does not replace topical fluoride treatments by your dentist but does increase the benefits of those treatments.

Participation in the rinse program is voluntary and only requires signed consent of the child's parent or guardian at the time of registration into BAS. If you want your child to participate in the Fluoride Rinse Weekly Program please check yes, on your child's Medical/Emergency Record form, which you will receive at registration.