

P.S. 153~Maspeth Elementary School

60-02 60th Lane~Maspeth, NY 11378
(718) 821-7850/51~FAX (718) 386-7392

David Berkowitz
Principal

Margaret DelGrosso
Assistant Principal

Denise Murphy
Assistant Principal

Susan Voogt
Assistant Principal

December 19, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

P.S. 153 is an “allergy aware” school. This means that children within our school have serious allergies to a variety of foods, including peanuts and tree nuts. To keep our children with food sensitivities and allergies safe, we need to call upon all of you, in partnership with our school measures, to be alert, aware, and supportive in this area when sending your child to school with food.

We ask that you please adhere to the following allergy sensitive guidelines, effective January 2, 2020, when sending food into our school.

For snacks and lunch:

- Please do not send peanuts or nuts, or any food containing peanuts or nuts of any type, for classroom snacks.
- If your child eats nuts or peanut products for breakfast, please make sure he/she washes his/her hands before coming to school.
- Remind your child that at Maspeth Elementary School, we do not share food for lunch or snacks.

For schoolwide and grade-level celebrations:

- If the class is having a **schoolwide or grade-level celebration** (i.e. end of year luau or a holiday celebration) any food provided should not contain nuts or peanuts, and a list of ingredients should be provided to the teacher. If the item provided does not contain a list of ingredients then it will be returned to parent.

For birthday celebrations:

- We as a school community, including our School Leadership Team, have decided that **no food (including cupcakes, cookies, and cake), goodie bags or balloons** can be brought into our school for birthday celebrations. If these items are brought in they will **not be accepted and will be returned to the parent**. We do welcome crafts (airplane clothes pins, tissue paper streamers, paper plate flowers). In addition, parents are welcome to coordinate with the classroom teacher to come in and read their child’s favorite book or poem to the class. Also please note that teachers recognize your child’s birthday in various ways such as singing Happy Birthday, giving a sticker or crown, or assigning a special class job for the day.

Most importantly, please help your child to understand that every child has different needs. We all must work together to help all of our students to stay safe and healthy.

We are grateful for your support. Please contact us, or your child’s teacher, if you have questions.

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