

WINTHROP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you know, school systems work diligently to create safe and healthy environments for all students. Over the past few years educating students and families about healthy eating and food allergies has become a top priority for many schools, Winthrop included. In accordance with the city's Health and Wellness policy please be assured we are taking appropriate measures.

Many students experience their first allergic reaction at school, with no prior warning of an allergy. Since students move around the building, in and out of a variety of classrooms, it is in the best interest of students to make all classrooms NUT-FREE. That is, all food coming in for classroom snack must be nut-free. There are however, no restrictions in the lunch room as we have designated nut-free tables.

Additionally, the Health and Wellness policy states that schools must, "Uniformly minimize the amount of cake, cupcakes, etc. being brought into school by encouraging families to bring in nonfood treats while also addressing life-threatening food-allergy concerns." Therefore, please do not send in food to celebrate a student's birthday. As an alternative, please consider donating a book to the Winthrop or classroom library (we can supply a name plate) or something from the following list:

Pencils
Erasers
Bookmarks
Bubbles

Stickers
Stamp Sets
Sticky Notes
Pens

Magnets
Chalk
Small Trinkets/Toys
Recess Game for Class

Please be mindful of the restrictions for your child(ren)'s particular classroom (letters will be sent home the first day of school should there be allergy concerns), as well as the nut-free criteria for all classroom snacks. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our school nurse, Donna Hanks to seek clarification. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding, and for making Winthrop a safer and healthier school!

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