

## Ideas for Celebrations at School

We know that birthdays are important to every child and that children like to celebrate with their classmates. In order to ensure that all students may participate fully, we have adopted **food-free** guidelines for these celebrations:

Below are some suggestions for alternatives to food treats for your child's celebration at school. **Always check with your child's teacher first** to see what he/she finds acceptable for their classroom and be sure to provide advance notice to ensure a birthday celebration fits into their schedule.

1. **Party favors** (book marks, pencils, stickers, bouncy balls, matchbox cars, erasers, tops, magnifying glasses, notepads, balloons, whistles, bubbles, etc.). Please limit this to one item.
2. **Buy something for the classroom** (books, games, music, plant, book etc.).
3. Bring in an item that all children **can sign** as a birthday treat for the birthday student (shirt/sweatshirt, tote bag, autograph stuffed animal, pillow case, etc.).

*Please note that it is not the food that makes the birthday special, but the way a child is treated! We promise birthdays will be celebrated and recognized!*

We will also celebrate some holidays in school, but we will ask parents to provide a peanut free snack for three of these events. Classroom teachers will inform you of the events where second snacks are suggested.

Please note that there may be curricular events such as field trips, science experiments, art projects etc. where parents may be asked to send in additional food or food may be involved.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.