



The Walnut Ridge School

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Joseph S. Piccirillo, District Director of Special Projects/Principal
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Dear Parents/Guardian:

I just wanted to take this opportunity to reiterate our school policy regarding snacks and food brought into our classrooms. Our school has an outstanding and diverse community of students, each of whom is unique and special in a variety of ways. As you may know, students in our school have a life-threatening food allergy. Children that have life-threatening food allergies look, act, play and learn just like all other children, but they can have a severe and life-threatening reaction if they eat, drink or possibly even come in contact with the food to which they are allergic.

In order to provide a safe learning environment, our classrooms are ALLERGY AWARE and will follow these procedures:

- We request that all children, especially those that have eaten foods containing peanuts or tree nuts for breakfast or lunch, wash their hands and brush their teeth before entering our school. This will help prevent the spread of food residue in the classroom and will also promote good hygiene.
- There will be no sharing of food.
- All snacks, *which will be eaten in the classroom*, are to be **peanut and tree nut product-free** in an effort to keep the classroom environment safe for all students. Please provide a label for all snacks.
- Class parties and special events will still take place, but should focus on fun activities rather than on food whenever possible. If your child is celebrating a birthday, you might like to send in non-food items (such as pencils, erasers and stickers) instead of food treats. (*this is not mandatory; it is just a suggestion*)
- Home-baked items will NOT be accepted for snacks and parties and all store-bought food items must be clearly labeled.

Thank you in advance for your kindness and consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 973-764-6343.

Best Regards,

Jen Gallant, RN, CSN
The Walnut Ridge School Nurse