

ST. MARY WILLIAMSTON



IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT IMPORTANT

Dear Parents,

With the start of the new school year we are informing parents of our lunch and snack routines, and our birthday celebration policy, in an effort to keep St. Mary a safe environment for students with food allergies and other health concerns. Please know that among our students we have students with **fatal allergies**. You should know that, for whatever the reason, the increase in allergy diagnosis among young children nationwide, elementary schools, both public and private, are swiftly moving in this direction. As has been the policy for many years, our classrooms will continue to be peanut/tree nut free.

NO PEANUTS(PEANUT BUTTER) OR TREE NUTS WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOMS.

“Nut Free Zone” signs will be posted outside of each of the classrooms as well as the library, art, music, and CGS rooms (Most of these have been there already.)

A tree nut is any nut other than a peanut. This includes walnuts, cashews, almonds, macadamia nuts, pralines, pecans, as well as many others. Please read labels carefully. Any product processed in a facility with nuts may contain traces of nuts. Please refer to the link below which includes a list of safe snacks.

During lunch and snack times, grades PK-6 will follow the same procedure:

- Children, teachers, and lunch duty supervisors will do their best to review all food to determine if there are any peanut/tree nut products present.
- Lunch supervising volunteer parents will be made aware of these routines.
- We will have a peanut free designated zone with a separate table set up in the lunch room.
- We ask that you please help your child be aware of the items in his or her lunch.
- It would help us greatly, if you could please label all non-nut butters in your child’s snack or lunch, ie: sunflower seed, apple, pumpkin, and those resembling peanut butter.
- Encouraging your child to get in the habit of washing hands after lunch reduces the chance that the fatal oils can be spread and cause a fatal reaction.

Please contact your child’s home room teacher one week in advance to schedule a treat and get pre-approval and suggestions for treats.

Please refer to <http://snacksafely.com/safe-snack-guide/> as a guide. **Thank you(!)** for your support and understanding in providing a healthy and safe learning environment for all students.

Sincerely,

Mr. Lomas, Teachers, and Staff

(PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE)

(DATE)