



POLICY CHANGE

Nativity School Celebration Guidelines 2015-2016

Birthdays are a special event for all of us – children and adults alike. Although we want to offer the opportunity for the children to recognize their special day here at school, we are asking for families to follow the **modified birthday** guidelines listed below:

Due to the growing number of children with significant food allergies, and our commitment to strengthening our wellness policy, Nativity School has made the decision to discontinue the practice of bringing treats to school to celebrate birthdays. Families of our younger students may bring a small party favor or purchase a book or other item for their child's classroom if they choose, in lieu of a treat, to honor their child on their special day...this is certainly not an expectation.

- All students may come ***out of uniform*** on their birthday. If the student's birthday falls on a weekend or a day that school is not in session, the student may choose a day in close proximity to their actual day to celebrate and come out of uniform. (Children with summer birthdays are instructed as to when they may celebrate...some with summer birthdays even choose to celebrate their half birthday!)
- Out of sensitivity to all students, ***we ask that party invitations be mailed, not handed out at school.*** Obviously, due to our large numbers, most parties do not include all students and invitation distribution at school makes it difficult for those children who are not included.
- Again, out of sensitivity to all students, ***we ask that you do not schedule birthday parties directly after school*** so that children are not carrying gifts into the school building. Although we realize that it is convenient to gather the children included in the party at the end of the day – it can be difficult for those not included.

Thank you for supporting these guidelines, which will help all of us, enjoy celebrating your child's special day!



Celebration of Holidays and Other Special Days

Celebration of special holidays is an important tradition at Nativity. We will celebrate some of those days by letting the students come to school out-of-uniform. Our lower school classes may celebrate those special days with games and activities that tie into the theme of the holiday however, candy or other consumable treats will be removed from those celebrations.

