



TEMASEK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learn, Lead, Serve & Grow

Homelink: H/026/2017

2 February 2017

Dear Parents / Guardian

In-School Birthday Celebration Policy

Over the years, we have received requests from parents to celebrate their children's birthdays in school. We understand the good intention behind these requests. Moving forward, however, there are valid reasons that compel us to regrettably decline such requests in future.

Some of the reasons are as follow:

1. Food allergy is a common problem raised by parents whose children may have a health condition such as diabetes, peanut allergy, etc. In some cases, it can lead to serious health problems.
2. Food licensing guidelines by NEA need to be adhered to and for our Muslim parents, they are also concerned if the food served to their children are certified Halal.
3. Such celebrations may create undue pressure upon pupils to get their parents to do likewise, whether or not, they can afford the time and/or finance. This may result in unhealthy comparisons among pupils.
4. When celebrations include gifts, these gifts can create concerns. As stated in our pupil planner, pupils are not allowed to bring toys and card games to school. On several occasions, the gift/ goodie bags were found to contain such items which violate the school rules and parents have given feedback to the school about their children possessing such items.
5. Recess is a treasured time for most of our pupils. The school and parents would like their children to take a proper meal and maximise their playtime during recess.
6. Our recesses are back-to-back for P1-P6 and the canteen tables are allocated to the classes for usage during the level recesses. Whenever a celebration overruns, it deprives the pupils of the next level the proper space to consume their food.
7. Curriculum time is limited and tight and as such we would like to maximise the use of time for learning.

We are fully aware of the joy of celebrating your child's birthday alongside his/her classmates. You may want to consider inviting some of your child's classmates to your home for the celebration party instead.

We therefore seek your understanding in cooperating with the school in this matter.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully


Mr Francis Foo
Principal



STAFF WELL-BEING



TEACHING & LEARNING



AESTHETICS



PHYSICAL FITNESS



SPORTS



CHERISH



LOTUS



Monthly School Award



National Arts Education Glow Award 2013