

## **Birthday Celebrations**

At NZSJ, we understand that celebrating birthdays is a special and cherished occasion for our students. To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone, we have established the following birthday celebration guidelines:

**Simplicity and Moderation:** Parents are welcome to celebrate their child's birthday at school, but we kindly request that the celebrations be kept simple and brief (generally during a lunch or break period). This approach minimises disruption to classroom activities and ensures that all children feel equally valued during birthday celebrations, promoting a sense of inclusivity.

**Nut-Free Treats:** The safety and well-being of our students are of utmost importance. Therefore, any treats brought for birthday celebrations must be nut-free to safeguard the health of those with nut allergies.

**Advance Communication:** Parents who wish to celebrate their child's birthday at school must communicate their plans with the classroom teacher at least one week in advance. This allows teachers to prepare and communicate the celebration details with other parents, fostering a smooth and well-organised event.

**Opt-Out Option:** We understand that some parents may have specific dietary preferences, restrictions for their children or have lunch plans with their child, etc. Parents have the option to request directly to the teacher that their child does not eat additional food on that day during the celebration.

**Cake Celebrations:** Parents may opt for cake as part of the celebration. However, we encourage parents to consider alternative options (e.g. cupcakes) that can be easily packed and brought home.

**Sustainable Celebrations:** We kindly request that parents consider using reusable containers or eco-friendly alternatives for any treats or refreshments brought for the celebration. This helps reduce single-use plastic waste and demonstrates our commitment to preserving the environment.

**Cultivate Community Spirit:** Birthdays are moments of joy and connection. Our guidelines aim to foster a sense of community within the school, as students share in the celebrations of their peers.

**Weekend Celebrations:** For kids birthday events, our school campus is available for rent. In addition, services or children's activities can be provided at an additional cost. If you are interested in this, please contact the school.