



NEW YORK  
ACADEMY

## **NYA BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION POLICY**

We have many birthday celebrations throughout the year, which students thoroughly enjoy!

We do appreciate that it is important to celebrate birthdays in the classroom community. We thank families for helping students feel like they belong to a wider community by sharing with their classmates. Because some celebrations have become more elaborate and may lead to comparisons and competition among students, we are asking that the celebrations be limited to simple treats and a birthday song.

In order to help us reduce disruptions to the daily routine, please follow these guidelines for birthday celebrations:

- The birthday student can come to school in an appropriate birthday outfit.
- Please arrange to bring in small treats like muffins (or banana bread, oatmeal cookies, etc.) or Indian sweets instead of whole sheet or layer cakes, as it is messy for students. Keep the teacher informed if the treats contain nuts as necessary precautions can be taken for the students who are allergic to nuts.
- In order to avoid disruptions to the classroom teaching and learning activities, please arrange to bring in the treats at least 15 minutes before the scheduled morning break or 15 minutes before the scheduled lunch time. Parents should inform the homeroom teacher of their intent to bring in treats at least two days before the birth date and check with the homeroom teacher for the scheduled morning, lunch break times and any allergies that few students might have.
- We request you to limit the treats to the respective class (not to other sections and grades). No gifts and return gifts should be distributed at the school premises.
- If you wish, you can donate books or other items (per the class wish list) to your child's classroom instead of the treats. We will acknowledge your gift during the birthday celebration and with the name of the child on the item.
- We leave the celebration decision up to the parents; teachers do not plan parties for students. Teachers and staff should not be invited to birthday parties. Teachers can not share the contact details of the parents for birthday invites; however, you can email the invite to the homeroom teacher who will then forward it to the respective parent group on behalf of the parents.