



## Birthday Celebration Policy

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0.1	Birthday Celebration Policy	Final	Phase Leaders	Principal/Vice Principal	June 2024	August 2024	August 2025
Regional Director		Principal			Vice Principal		
Head of Foundation Stage		Head of Primary			Head of Secondary		

## **Aim:**

At Newlands school, we acknowledge that each child's birthday is a 'special event' and needs to be celebrated. The school implements a Birthday Policy guidance to ensure that celebrations of children's birthdays are managed in ways that are safe, equitable and included in the daily routine.

In line with our healthy eating policy, cupcakes, cookies, sweets and other food stuff are not to be sent to school. Instead of food treats, if families wish to do something special, we suggest that you send an item such as a book for the whole class to enjoy or party bags (without sweets or cakes) for the children to take home at the end of the school day.

## **Procedure for Birthday Celebrations in school:**

1. Students are welcome to wear colorful clothes on their birthday to celebrate the special day.
2. Staff are aware of children's dates of birth and discuss birthdays with the children.
3. Parents/guardians are informed that birthdays are celebrated with the children in the classrooms.
4. Staff inform parents/guardians of their right to request that their child does not participate in the celebration of birthdays if this is their wish.
5. Staff and other children will sing Happy Birthday to the child celebrating his/her birthday.
6. Photos of the birthday child are taken by staff and will be shared through class dojo or email.
7. Staff advise parents/guardians that they may provide alternative non-food items such as:

## **Non-Food Alternatives to Celebrating Children's Birthdays at Newlands School**

1. Non-Food Party Bags: Such as pencils, erasers, coloring books, etc.
2. Book Donation: To your child's book corner or the classroom library. A special birthday nameplate with your child's name can be put on to be recognized by your child.
3. Guest Reader: Volunteer to come into your child's room to be a special guest reader and share a birthday story or a story about your child. There are lots of great books that can be shared and our staff would be happy to make a recommendation if needed.
4. Show and Tell: Younger children may bring in special items to show and tell their peers about. Things such as baby photos or a souvenir from a vacation etc., are fun ways to let their peers and teachers know more about them.