

# BIRTHDAYS: NO OUTSIDE FOOD AND GIFTS

**From Principal** November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Dear parents,

In the coming year, starting from January, 2019 we will be following new guidelines for how to celebrate Children's Birthdays at school and wish to inform all parents early to avoid unpleasant surprises on your child's joyous occasion. In classes we will celebrate the month's upcoming birthdays on the first Wednesday of every month, starting from January 2nd, 2019. Parents of birthday children are welcome to join the fun, sing songs, play games and take photos of your birthday child.

**However, outside foods (incl. birthday cakes and candies) and any birthday gifts for the class will not be allowed.**

The main reason for not allowing outside food/candies is due to considerations of unknown ingredients, children's allergies, food related illnesses, levels of sugar and food waste.

The reason for not allowing the birthday child to share gifts is because we do not want families to experience pressure about buying gifts for the class, which can be troublesome and very expensive. While incredibly generous, it is wholly unnecessary and will often result in a lot of broken plastic toys, erasers, princess pencils etc. within the first week of use.

We want to celebrate each child with a focus on substance, not money. From January, 2019 all children who have a birthday will receive a Birthday Card from their class-teachers made with the help of friends in the class-room. We will also sing a birthday song in the morning at breakfast time to celebrate your child on their actual day.

When it comes to having an "at-school" birthday party it happens together with fellow class-mates in advance of your child's actual birthday on every first Wednesday of the month.

The campus pastry chef will prepare a cake (which will rotate between chocolate cake, fruit cake, cheese cake, cream roulade and rainbow cake with blueberries) together with juice and fruits as part of the afternoon snack

Parents of the month's birthday children are invited to join at 14:10-14:40 for cake, photo and games (e.g. musical chairs). The school will make the following decorations available and request teachers to decorate in advance using a "Happy Birthday Banner", "Festive table cloth", "Birthday hats" for the birthday child(ren), "Birthday music" and "Year candles" for blowing out.

Kindly understand and respect this guideline as all gifts and outside food(s) will be returned to sender from January, 2019.

Please sign to confirm notification and return to your teachers

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Sincerely,

Anders & Anna, principal & nurse  
and the Hui Xin team!