

Children's Birthday Celebrations

As you are aware, birthdays are very special occasions for young children and for most families. We have found that parents have different expectations about how their child's birthday should be celebrated at nursery and what they should provide for them. Some parents will bring in a great deal of party snacks, treats and a birthday cake whilst others may not bring anything. The variation in how children's birthdays are celebrated is quite noticeable to some children. Therefore, we have devised a scheme in order to celebrate children's birthdays fairly and equally, creating a healthier and more inclusive environment.

We ask that instead of bringing cakes and party food into the nursery on your child's birthday, you donate a book or other resource to the nursery, appropriate for children in your child's classroom. Your child's key person will offer you some suggestions of what you can purchase according to the needs and interests of the current children in the room.

In return, the nursery will provide a birthday tea time experience for your child, consisting of, for example, **a watermelon birthday cake and a small fruit platter**, providing a range of healthy fruits for the children to enjoy, full of colour and different shapes and textures for children to experience. The environment will be decorated accordingly, for example with balloons and banners. Children will enjoy music and movement/dancing during the afternoon also to continue the celebrations.

As well as being a more favourable, healthier approach to birthday celebrations the children will benefit from having a more continuous intake of new and exciting resources to engage with!

A short while (usually a couple of weeks) before your child's birthday your child's key person will provide some suggestions of what would be ideal for their classroom. It could be a case of replacing an old worn out favourite book or providing a resource that is at the top of the room 'wish list!'

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.