

## Toddler Supply List and Topics

### Backpacks:

Backpacks provide the primary vehicle for written communication between parent and school. Please purchase a medium-sized one (instead of large, wheeled backpacks or tiny animal-shaped packs) with a **zipper pocket in the front for papers**. Help us keep you informed by keeping the communication channels open. Please remember to check backpack daily for messages and we'll do the same.

### Photos:

All children should bring a photo of themselves as well as a family photo to the All School Registration **Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>**. (This is in addition to the photo requested by the Office for your child's file.)

The photos will be put up at each child's coat hook.

This will facilitate finding the hook and offer much enjoyment to the children!

### Clothing Needs:

At the All School Registration & Orientation, each child should bring a complete set of extra clothes (underwear, socks, slippers, shorts, t-shirt) in a labeled, plastic shoe box to be kept at school. The shorts and t-shirt will be sent home in the fall to be replaced by long pants and a long-sleeved shirt. During potty training, at least five changes of underwear, pants and socks may be needed daily. Any wet or soiled clothing will be bagged and placed in the backpack. Please replace soiled clothing as needed.

Please bring a supply of diapers to the All School Registration & Orientation, **each individually labeled** with your child's name, as the toddlers may sort diapers out of the container and we have no way of knowing which diaper goes with which child. We prefer to use disposable diapers, and **please avoid pull-ups in favor of traditional cloth underwear**. If you want wipes and ointment used, please label, supply and send with a note giving the school permission to apply. You will receive a note from the teacher when it is time to replace items, prior to our supply running out.

Pacifiers and blankets may come to school for **nap only**. We discourage sharing, to avoid spreading illness, so please label with initials, since many look alike. It is easier to keep a labeled pacifier at school if needed for nap, rather than transport daily.

Toddlers staying for nap will need a crib sheet to cover their individual mats and a small blanket which can be kept at school for the week and sent home weekly for laundering.

**Please label all possessions clearly with name.** As we go out daily, all toddlers need a complete set of outerwear daily, including snowsuit (tops and bottoms are easier than one full suit), hat, mittens, and boots. We are not staffed to remain inside with one child; therefore, it's an all-or-nothing outdoor play day.

### Toys:

**Please keep toys at home!** Toys may cause great stress and, frequently, tears as ownership is paramount and sharing is sometimes impossible. We have enough toys, games, and manipulatives to keep children stimulated and content. Many toys are too personal to share, so please keep them at home or in the car where they will be safe.



*Please turn over*

## **Snacks & Lunch:**

**Peanut Alert:** *It appears that more and more children are allergic to peanut products. Although we can not and should not tell you what to feed your child, we respectfully suggest that you talk to your child about NOT SHARING ANY PEANUT PRODUCT with his/her friend just in case! When sending in snacks or birthday goodies, please avoid any use of peanut products to ensure the safety and well-being of all our students, especially those under six.*



Families will be scheduled for snack days throughout the year. Here are some ideas for when it's your turn:

**Suggestions:** Dry cereal, raisins, crackers & cheese, yogurt, pudding, trail mix (w/o peanuts), fruit (pineapple, grapes (cut in half lengthwise), plums, etc.), sliced vegetables, sliced meats, bagels, healthy homemade treats (oatmeal cookies, granola bars, muffins), whole grain mini waffles or pancakes, mini sandwiches.

**Things to Avoid:** Pastries, cupcakes, chips, and any food that may cause choking (popcorn, nuts, uncut grapes, or uncut grape tomatoes) foods that contain peanuts.

All children remaining past 12:00pm should bring their lunch to eat with the group. Lunchtime is a fun, social learning experience. Lunch should be in a lunch box with a thermos. **Please do not send in paper bags —ideally, use recyclable plastic containers.** Please put food in a container which can be easily opened. Try to pack food in containers which can be used again (plastic containers or thermos for leftovers like pasta, etc.) Most children like to be involved and tend to eat more lunch if they have something to do with the planning and packaging. We do not force children to eat, but rather encourage them, so send foods that your child likes and can eat in a reasonable amount of time, about 20 minutes.

## **Observation Time:**

You may observe in your child's classroom at any time and without an appointment. If possible, we ask you to follow certain guidelines:

During the first four (4) weeks of your child's time spent at school, we suggest you refrain from visiting your child's classroom for his/her stability and continuity. However, if you feel the need to visit during this time, you are free to do so.

Sometimes a phone call helps to make everyone feel more comfortable. We request you schedule an appointment to visit when possible, as this helps to keep the number of adults in the environment to a minimum; however, this is certainly not mandatory. We have an "open door" policy to all parents. The best way to observe is not to let your child know you are there to help reduce any separation anxiety that may occur, when you leave. This will enable you to witness a more natural day.

