

FOOD ALLERGY NOTICE

ALLERGY VIGILANT CLASSROOM

Dear Families of Mrs. Buerkle's Class:

This letter is to inform you that there are students in your child's class who have a **severe and life-threatening food allergy to peanuts, tree nuts, and sesame seeds/oil. This is an Allergy Vigilant Classroom.** These foods, even in trace amounts, may cause a severe reaction (anaphylaxis) that can lead to death. Therefore, the only way to prevent a severe and life-threatening allergic reaction is strict avoidance of the Allergens.

As a school community, we are committed to the health and safety of all of our students. As such, we need your help in providing a safe learning environment and to reduce the chance of a child having an allergic reaction. **We want to make you aware of our protocols that apply in each Allergy Vigilant Classroom and throughout the school.** Please support us in keeping all children safe by observing the following guidelines:

Classroom Snack Protocol: Please do not send any of the Allergens (as defined above) to school with your child to be eaten in the classroom for snack. This only applies to foods for snacks. Please avoid snacks containing these Allergens or snacks for which the label states one of the following (wording may vary): "may contain traces of peanuts/tree nuts" (or the Allergens), "manufactured and/or processed in the same facility as peanuts/tree nuts" (or the Allergens) or "manufactured and/or processed on the same equipment as peanuts/tree nuts" (or the Allergens). Additionally, please pack your child's snack **separately** from his/her lunch every day.

Hand Washing Before School: If your child has eaten any Allergen before coming to school, please be sure your child thoroughly washes his/her hands and face before entering the school.

Lunch Room Protocols: Your child may bring any food, including any Allergen, for lunch. However, if your child wants to sit with a friend who has a food allergy, at an Allergy Vigilant Table for lunch, he/she must purchase lunch from the cafeteria (see Allergy Protocols for further details). If your child brought any Allergen for lunch, he/she should notify the teacher prior to returning to the classroom/special period and thoroughly wash his/her hands and face immediately upon leaving the cafeteria. You may also want to consider sending a wipe packet or Purell to school with your child so he/she may clean his/her hands and face upon finishing lunch.

No Sharing Food: As a school policy, we discourage children sharing food at snack and lunch. Please talk to your child about the importance of not sharing food.

School Allergy Protocol: Please review our school's Allergy Protocol at <https://www.ardsleyschools.org/domain/705>.

Remember, the safest way to reduce allergy risks is to ***take the time to read ingredient labels carefully.***

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Susan Caporal
CRS School Nurse

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