

## **Birthdays, Books and Muffins at Bard Nursery School and Children's Center**

### **PARENTS ARE INVITED TO READ A STORY**

We celebrate your child's birthday by asking you if you'd like to join us for a story during the week of your child's birthday. Visiting is not mandatory and we understand working schedules prevent it for some families. Please talk to the teachers about scheduling a day and time that works for you. We can arrange it so you just come for the first 30 minutes- first thing in the morning, or you can come in midday during snack, or later on around lunch time. We can work with your schedule if we have advance notice.

### **DONATE A BOOK**

We ask families to donate a book to the school in honor of the child's birthday. This long standing tradition has been a great way to grow our collection of children's literature and children love seeing their donated books in our library. Please do not bring a book that is associated with a movie or television show (Sesame Street, Barney, Dora the Explorer, Legos, Disney, etc.) You can read the story to the class on your visit or if you can't stay, you can ask a teacher to read it.

### **A SPECIAL SNACK**

Please bring in mini muffins for your child to share with his/her class mates. They can be home-made or store bought. They can be any flavor – banana, pumpkin, chocolate chip, applesauce - but we ask that they are not frosted. (*We will let you know if there are any allergies in the class*). We have found that a mini muffin is nice and festive, but not too big and sugary like a cup cake. If you have something else you would prefer to bring for birthday snack, that's fine too, just check with the Director, and remember, we take a low key, low sugar approach to all holidays.

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### **Low key approach to holidays**

For Birthdays (and all holidays) we take a low key approach. We respect the many ways families celebrate at home, but we ask that children **not** bring balloons, gifts, decorations, party favors, or candy into the school for birthdays or any holidays. Holidays can be exciting, but easily over-stimulating. We hope our school can be a place set apart – a child's world with a balanced schedule and consistent days that are inviting, nurturing, developmentally appropriate, and full of the natural joys of learning.-