



September, 2016

Dear Parents,

St. John's School is a nut sensitive school. We have many children who have severe reactions to nuts, which could be life-threatening. In an effort to provide a safe environment for all our children we would like to remind you of these school policies.

- Please choose carefully when packing your child's snack or lunch. Please avoid products containing nuts, tree nuts or peanuts, peanut butter and peanut oils (even traces). Inhaled lingering air molecules, ingested or skin contact with oils on surfaces can trigger severe reactions in some of our children.
- Please take all direction from the classroom teacher when bringing food to school for the children at a classroom function. The teacher must be specific about the safety of his/her classroom students. The teacher will be responsible to inform you of exactly what you may bring. Please be diligent in checking ingredients based on the allergies involved. Each classroom has a different set of allergies and each child must be able to eat any and all food served in his/her classroom.
- When participating in food preparation for a school wide event (i.e. cookie walk, athletic events and Halloween parties), again, avoid all nut products. Also, because many children are allergic to other food products, as well, please label your goodies with an "ingredients card" to help our children make safe choices.

The safety of our children is our responsibility. We must protect and accommodate each child, meeting his/her need to fully participate and to develop a strong sense of belonging. Twenty percent of our student population have one or more allergies. We recognize and respect this growing concern and going forward, we will strive to keep our school a safe and supportive environment for our entire SJS family.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns at 978.531.0444 x319. Thank you for your support and your cooperation.

Maureen Kelleher,
School Principal

Elizabeth Ambeliotis
Lisa Hollis
School Nurses