

Room Parents: Helpful Information

Room Party Dates and Times:

- **Three parties throughout the year plus an end-of-year picnic:**
 1. Halloween: Thursday, 10/31 (SIP Day) Parade: 9:45-10:15; Party: 10:15-11:15
 - Kindergarten parties are on Wednesday, 10/30:
 - AM Parade: 9:15-9:45; Party: 9:45-10:45
 - PM Parade: 1:45-2:15; Party: 2:15-3:15
 2. Winter: Friday, December 20th - AM K: 9:45-10:45; PM K and Grades 1-5: 2:15-3:15
 3. Valentine's Day: Friday, Feb 14th - AM K: 9:45-10:45; PM K and Grades 1-5: 2:15-3:15
 4. End-of-year picnic: grade-level picnic held in May

Rules for Parties:

- ★ **No food allowed.** Due to allergy risk - even if you are not intending for the kids to eat the food, please do not plan any games/activities that use food products. Also avoid latex balloons! Best to check with teachers re: specific allergies per classroom.
- ★ **No religious references** in games, activities, crafts, etc. (Note that this includes Christmas themes: Santa, reindeer, elves. Keep the winter party focused on "winter".)
- ★ **No siblings** are allowed to the classroom parties; please remind party volunteers.
- ★ We are allowed a **maximum of 6 attendees per party**. Each class has a max of 4 room parents and 12 room party volunteers. This allows each room parent to attend at least one party. The six collective volunteers (made up of room parents and party volunteers) will work together to plan and execute the party.
- ★ Reference your **Calendar Checklist sheet!** This will be a valuable resource to keep you on track, send emails to party volunteers on time, etc.!
- ★ **You cannot collect money from parents for any reason.**
 - Options for funding:** (parties, end-of-year picnic):
 1. Email the class for specific products/needs. Example: you need white paint for a Halloween project. Once someone has responded with interest in providing the product, you can send out another email saying that the needs have been met!
 2. If you need lots of materials for a party, consider sending out an email through [signup.com](#), or create any [Amazon Wish List](#). This way you will fulfill your class needs without receiving more than necessary.
 3. If crowdsourcing does not sound appealing, consider planning a party that can be funded exclusively by the party volunteers. Parties should be simple, fun, and inexpensive. If you are planning a party that requires a substantial amount of money per student, please reconsider the party.

Other ways to help as a Room Parent:

- Help in the classroom: see if your teacher could use additional help! (Stapling packets, being a guest reader, assisting during learning stations, etc.)
- Offer help with field trip planning: making phone calls, gathering information, available dates, etc.