

## Waterpark National School

### Policy regarding the celebration of children's birthdays in school

1. If a child celebrates a Birthday during the school term it is appropriate to mark the occasion in a special way.

Some of the more obvious suggestions are:

- Sing Happy Birthday.
- Give the child a special duty for the day... leader, special helper, captain during a game/sport etc...
- Reduce homework or no homework for the child at the teachers discretion.
- Make a birthday card from the class.
- Personal history project.

2. It is not appropriate for a party to be held in the class i.e. for parents to provide food or to decorate the class or to bring family members into the class.

3. Each child's birthday should be celebrated in the same way with minimum variation.

4. Birthday invitations should not be handed out in school as it may be upsetting for children who do not receive an invitation. Birthday invitations and/or presents should be distributed away from the school for this reason. However, if birthday invitations are being given to all children in the class, these can be distributed in school.

5. An exception will be made for Junior Infants only to facilitate children and parents getting to know each other. Birthday invites may be handed to the teacher so that she/he may distribute them discreetly in the children's folders.