Dear Lower School Parents,

Your child’s happiness, self-esteem, desire to come to school, and sense of belonging are very important to faculty and staff. As part of developing the “whole child,” we strive to educate your child not just academically, but also spiritually, socially, and emotionally. In order to encourage social development, our faculty works towards, and strives for, group cohesiveness and positive classmate rapport.

To achieve these goals, we are asking for your support from home – particularly regarding inviting classmates to your child’s birthday party. We have the following guidelines in place to help prevent hurt feelings:

- Unless your child’s entire homeroom is invited, invitations must be mailed from home.

- If all children in the homeroom are invited, invitations may be sent to school and will be placed in classmates’ backpacks (grades PK-3) or your child may personally hand them out (grades 4-6).

- We recommend that, if you are having a boys-only or girls-only party, you include all of the boys or girls in the homeroom.

- Remember to be considerate of the members of your child’s scouting troop, sports team, or small club when making your party list.

- Be careful about picking up a group of invitees at school as students do notice when not included. Also, please be aware that limousines/party buses are not allowed for LS students.

We ask that you discuss the importance of not talking at school about parties they are hosting or attending. Encourage your child to think about how a classmate who is not invited may feel. It is more difficult for a child in the primary grades to understand that it is often not possible to invite everyone. A child who is left out may personalize the decision as “no one likes me.”

Please take this opportunity to discuss with your child appropriate party host(ess) and attendee etiquette. Thank you for your support of this important matter.

Sincerely,
Lower School Counselors

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