

Dear Parents:

Nut allergies are so severe that they can be life threatening. Therefore, **Turtle Creek Learning Academy will be a peanut/nut free school.** I know that this will be inconvenient for some of you, but for the safety of our children and peace of mind for parents who have allergic children, we are requesting that you pack a lunch and/or snack for your child that does not include any peanuts or nuts.

Attached to this letter are some guidelines to help us to create a “**nut-free**” environment. Please read this attachment and take special note of cross contamination. **If your child has a peanut butter sandwich before they leave for school, he/she must wash his /her hands and mouth so peanut oil cannot be carried to our school. Likewise, please read ingredients in all snacks that you send in, to assure that there are no traces of nuts in the product. Some candies may specify made on a machine where nuts are processed, i.e. Gummy Bears. These candies are restricted.**

If you are in **doubt about the ingredients in a snack, please don't send it** in with your child. Children with nut allergies are often sensitive to chocolate since many contain almond extract. Furthermore, **candy such as plain M&M's are restricted because they are coated in the same vat as the peanut M&M's. Children will not be permitted to share snacks; nevertheless, cross contamination is a real threat even with vigilant cleaning.**

Schools are places where we all need to build and support a place of community. These children, in our school, need your help. Thanks in advance for your understanding and support of our peanut and nut free policy. If you have any questions, please speak to [Mamie Weiss](#), our director.

Sincerely,

Virginia McDonald,
Executive Director