

Dear Tri-County Family,

This letter is to inform you that Tri-County Primary and Intermediate are **nut aware schools** due to student allergies. It is important that there is strict avoidance of these foods in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. We are asking your help to provide our students with a safe school environment.

A child with a serious nut allergy can suffer a reaction merely by touching a nut-containing food. To reduce the chance of this occurring, we are putting the following safety guidelines into effect:

- Foods containing nuts or that were manufactured in a facility that processes nuts are not allowed in the school. If these items are sent in for classroom snacks or lunch, the food will be removed from the room and a substitute food will be given. Please check the ingredient listing on foods before sending the items to school.
- Birthday parties and holiday celebrations are a special time for children, but can be a difficult time for the food-allergic child. If you would like to send in baked goods, please list the ingredients on the outside of the package and when preparing treats please pay close attention to cross contamination in your kitchen. To prevent cross-contamination, it is necessary that cooking utensils and preparation surfaces be carefully washed after each food is touched.
- If your child eats a food containing nuts or peanut butter before coming to school, please make sure that his/her hands and face are washed with soap and water before leaving for school. Water alone does not do the trick.

We appreciate your support of these procedures. This is a learning process for all of us, but we trust that you understand how deeply important it is to respect and adhere to these guidelines.

If throughout the course of the year you have any questions or concerns about food allergy-related issues, please do not hesitate to contact myself, a school nurse, or the classroom teacher.

Sincerely,

Elaine Hall and Brian Hagan  
Principals