



Dear Nursery Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your children enjoying the warm, relaxing days of summer and enjoying the wonders of this glorious season. As August progresses, we joyfully look ahead to the new school year. I am so happy to welcome both our returning families as well as our new families to our class. I realize that all of you have navigated through uncharted waters during the past year and a half and I am eager to support you and your child throughout the year ahead. For some of you this will be the very first days of your child's long journey through school. It is certainly an important milestone, and I am looking forward to beginning this experience with you and your children.

We will once again be spending much of our time outside. I look forward to the many healing benefits this outdoor time will provide. As many of you recall in our interviews, we shared a picture of a gentle beginning for your child as they enter their first school experience in Nursery. The first day of school this year is **Thursday, September 9th**. Prior to this, on **Thursday, September 2nd** and **Friday, September 3rd**, you and your child are warmly encouraged to come to school for a visit between **9:00am - 11:00 am**. If you feel your child may benefit from a second day, please feel free to bring them in both days. This may help your child become accustomed to the new surroundings of our classroom.

Some children may be ready to join fully on the first day of school (**September 9th**) after these visiting days, while others may not. If it is possible with your work schedule, we invite you to remain near the school in the event your child needs to be picked up early. Additionally, while afternoon care is available for parents on September 9th, it is not recommended for the Nursery children, as they are still acclimating to being away from home and feeling comfortable with their teachers. For families who require care, we will certainly accommodate and support you. Our goal is to serve each families' unique needs during this time of transition.

## Parent Orientation Evening

Please join me for an outdoor parent orientation meeting on *Wednesday, September 1st at 5:30 pm*. We will discuss what to expect during the first days of school as well as preview the year ahead. Please bring any questions you have, your questions will help contribute to a lively, healthy conversation. This evening will also be a great opportunity to meet one another! Should the weather be inclement, we will meet indoors.

Please feel comfortable contacting me via email ([gumentak@waldorfgarden.org](mailto:gumentak@waldorfgarden.org)) or by cellphone at (516)582-8200. During the school year I am available to discuss any questions or concerns you may have. We will plan for five parent meetings throughout the year as well as personal meeting times, as needed. If you have any special requests or needs, please feel free to contact me or speak to me at the parent orientation meeting.

Many families like to plan ahead, and I thought you might appreciate my sharing with you a list of supplies your child will need for school.

### Supplies for your child's cubby:

1. Approximately 3 changes of clothing (including underwear, socks, pants/shorts and shirts.) Since much of our time will be spent outdoors, multiple changes of clothing will be needed to keep your child comfortable and dry on rainy days. We will ask you to update these articles of clothing throughout the year.
2. Sweater, sweatshirt or light jacket.
3. Sunhat or cap
4. Soft inside shoes or slippers (must completely cover the foot and heel). A canvas sneaker or full slipper works best.
5. Small resting pillow
6. Two sets of rain gear: Raincoat with hood, rain pants and rain boots. Brands such as Abeko, Lands End, Reima Tihku, Oaki and Tuffo are all popular brands and can be purchased on Amazon.

All supplies should be clearly labeled with your child's name (please remember this when new items are brought to school).

I am looking forward to meeting with you and your children in the coming school year!

With best regards,

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