Dear Parents,

This letter reiterates our policy regarding food from home. It is critical that all families adhere to this policy to maintain the health and safety of all the children, and specifically to protect children with allergies.

- We do not allow products that contain nuts or were processed in a facility that also manufactures peanuts.

- We do not allow homemade food to be served to children other than the parents' own child. This means no homemade cakes or cupcakes can be given out to the class. You can prepare and send food from home to be served to your child only, but it must be nut free.

- All store bought food items must be on our approved snack list (available on our website) or specifically labeled "food safe." This is true even if your child is the only one that will be eating a particular item.

- Bright Start's approved snack list identifies nut-free products and snacks that may be brought to school for class parties. While the list is a good guideline, ingredients can change at any time, so it is important that you check the ingredients before you purchase any products.

    - If there are nut free foods you would like to provide that are not on the list, please ask the Department Master Teacher or the Director for authorization.

- To be helpful to all parents and considerate of our food policy, BSLC provides cupcakes to all the children once a month for birthday celebrations. Parents may not bring in food items for their child's birthday. If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday in the classroom, please coordinate a non-food activity with the Lead Teacher.

Additional information concerning foods at the Center can be found in the Parent Handbook. The safe snack list and the Parent handbook can also be found on the BSLC website (www.brightstartva.com) under the Family Information Tab.

We recognize these restrictions may be inconvenient, however, they are necessary to protect children with allergies from serious harm. As always our primary concern is the health and safety of all our children.