

POLICY REGARDING PARTIES

In order to reinforce in our homes the values, concepts, and *mitzvot* that are taught in school and to allow the opportunity for all children to attend schoolmates' celebrations, we ask that you follow these guidelines when planning a party or Bar/Bat Mitzvah that involves Hebrew Academy students.

- Parties must not be held on Shabbat or holidays. In planning the timing of a party before or after Shabbat or a holiday, please keep in mind the amount of time that a family would need to begin or end the observance of Shabbat or the holiday. For example, a Friday afternoon party should end well in advance of candle lighting time, and a Saturday evening party should not start until Shabbat has ended and sufficient time has passed to allow the guests to prepare for and travel to the party.
- In order not to exclude any child, the laws of *kashrut* should be observed. Cooked foods prepared in non-kosher establishments should be avoided. Also keep in mind that many parents and our youngest students may assume that everything you provide will be kosher.
- If you wish to celebrate your child's birthday in school, please obtain permission from the office and the teacher involved and follow the guidelines found in the section on *kashrut*.
- Invitations may not be distributed in school. Do not ask your child or the teacher to do so.