

Sustainability Committee – Eco-room parent guidelines:

We are trying to improve our diversion rates campus wide. This means reducing landfill waste and increasing recycling and composting. Students are working hard to reduce their lunch waste and they have made great improvements! Classrooms are another potential source of waste and we have some guidelines for ways to make Walnut Acres more sustainable. Below are suggestions for class events and celebrations. Please contact us (Monique Pickering or Libby Oda) if you have questions or suggestions at: sustainability@walnutacrespfc.net

Best choices

- o 100% compostable items (paper cups, paper plates, paper table coverings, wooden cutlery (our regional waste company does not provide a feasible composting facility to compost plant based plastic)
- o For parties, ensure that all waste makes it into the right bins.
- o Instead of providing goodie bags, consider donating items the teacher may need for the classroom (eg. books, technology, yoga balls or straight cash for the teacher's discretionary fund, etc.)

Good alternatives

- o For goodie bags: compostable bags (fabric or paper bags), eco-friendly content (eg. fair-trade pencils, reusable spork, flower or vegetable seeds, drawing pages, etc)

Avoid

- o Plastic single-use water bottles
- o Plastic cups, plates, cutlery and plastic table cloths for all class parties
- o Non-recyclable juice boxes
- o Sack lunches for field trips

Also, please consider collaborating with your teacher to see if they have any ideas to reduce the daily waste stream created in the classrooms. Thank you, your help and intervention is so appreciated to make Walnut Acres super green!