

CLASSROOMS

- 🌐 What is the "**evaluation**" done in August of my kindergartener? This is to properly "level" the classrooms – this ensures that good readers and those who need help, students who grasp certain mathematical concepts and those who need some assistance are together in a classroom so that children who are performing well can help lead and inspire those who need assistance.
- 🌐 If I have a **concern** about something happening in my child's classroom, who do I **contact**? We first suggest contacting the teacher. Sometimes, especially with younger children, the issue is a misunderstanding of the expectations in the new environment of kindergarten. Regardless of the age of your child, we recommend developing a relationship with their teacher - through back-to-school night, e-mail, notes in folders, teacher conferences. If you feel that you are having an issue with the responsiveness of the teacher, contact the [dean of faculty]. We strongly recommend you approach any situation with suggestions for resolution and improvement, and that you keep in mind that one child's perception will differ from another and may significantly differ from that of an adult. "Last week" can mean over a month ago to a younger child! Also, please see the Civility Policy in the student handbook.
- 🌐 How do I arrange a **meeting** with my child's teacher? For Kindergarten parents, you'll get a quick chance at the first day of school. The school also hosts Back-to-School night in September where you'll go and hear a little from the teacher about their style and classroom and you have a chance to go meet the "specials" teachers. Also, there are two conference times scheduled during the school year. The PTA recommends contacting the teacher via e-mail any time you feel there is a need to meet, discuss, etc. and go from there.
- 🌐 Why does it seem that GWCS doesn't celebrate some of the **holidays** I would consider secular - such as Valentine's Day or Halloween? Green Woods is open to children of all backgrounds and celebrating some of those events would mean excluding some children whose culture or religion does not allow them to participate. See the student handbook for additional information.
- 🌐 What if I want to send in some sort of **treat** for my child's **birthday**? Both GWCS and the PTA encourage learning opportunity treats rather than "stuff" or "snacks." Contact your child's teacher to see if you could read to the class, come in and talk about your career, bring in some sort of fun but simple learning project, play an instrument or sing, teach them some simple words in your native language, and the list goes on! Be creative! Your child loves to spend time with you (or an aunt/uncle, grandparent, etc.) and often the gift of an adult's time is more memorable than pencils and pretzels.
- 🌐 What is the procedure for **written invitations** to birthday/other parties **outside of school**? The PTA recommends contact your child's teacher, but typically it's either inviting the entire class or all the girls/boys.
- 🌐 Do all the children have **lockers**? How do those work? Kindergarten has a "bin/cubby" in their classroom, but starting in 1st grade they have a locker. They do not have locks, nor can they.