Dear Parents,

We currently have several children enrolled at the school who have anaphylaxis- a severe, rapidly progressive allergic reaction which is potentially life threatening.

Peanuts and tree nuts are the most likely foods to cause life threatening anaphylaxis so in order to minimise the risk to these children we ask that no nuts or nut products are brought into or used in the Junior Primary classrooms. This is in keeping with the WA Health Department guidelines due to the young age of the students.

The guidelines also recommend that older children become aware of their environment, the risks within it, and take responsibility for their health and wellbeing with regard to allergies and reactions such as anaphylaxis. Knowing the environment is not 100% safe brings them into the real world. For this reason potential allergens such as nuts and nut products are generally permitted in the Middle, Upper and Adolescent areas of the school, however individual classes may require minimization of certain products in the interest of school safety.

As a caring school community we do seek to lessen the risks so when you are bringing food to school to share or when you are cooking in the classroom, you need to be aware of the allergies in your child’s class.

To assist you, we will be sending a letter home next week, with details of specific food allergies relevant to your class.

Minimising the risk in this way is just one of several strategies already incorporated at Beehive. In addition, teaching staff are trained annually in how to recognise an anaphylactic reaction and how to administer an EpiPen, and each child with severe allergies has their own Action Plan in the event of a reaction.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and for giving it your careful consideration, in the interests of the safety of all students at our school.

Thank you

Rhonda Sheehan
Principal