

October 7, 2013

Dear Junior Level Parents,

On **Thursday, October 24** we will celebrate **UN Day** in our classroom. UN Day is celebrated in many schools all over the world. It has particular relevance to the citizens of the United States, as almost all of our families have emigrated here from other countries. We feel that this is a good opportunity to discuss with your children your family's heritage and ancestry. You might like to take some time to share with your child pictures and stories about your ancestors or relatives, or show your child any family treasures or keepsakes that have been handed down through the generations.

During the week preceding UN Day the children will be making flags and doing research on the countries that they come from. Families have different stories of origin and development (adoption, blended families, etc). With this in mind we offer two versions of family "trees" to outline your unique family make up. In order for us to help each child with this project, please use one of these diagrams to show the nationalities that make up your family's heritage and return it to school by **Tuesday, October 15th**. This will give us adequate time to plan for the week's research. If you have any special items of interest from your family's countries of origin (for example, money, pictures, art objects, or clothing), your child may bring them any time during the week of **October 15th** to share with the class. As part of our school celebration on **Thursday, October 24**, we encourage the children to wear a simple outfit that reflects some part of their family's ethnic heritage and cultural identity.

**We invite parents to join us at noon when we will be sharing a multi-cultural feast for lunch. Please note that we are asking each family to make a dish (please remember the no peanut/no tree nut policy) to add to the smorgasbord – all the better if it is something that is special to your family because it has its origins in your ethnic history!** We will also need some parent volunteers to help us set up and clean up the meal. Please let us know if you can help and what you can bring to the meal by filling out the form below and returning it to Rebecca or Whitney by **Tuesday, October 15th** as well.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at school!

Thanks! Merci! Danke! Gracias!

Scott, Deb, Laura B., Melani, Becky, Dawn and Katri

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Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution to the Feast \_\_\_\_\_

I can help with setup/clean up. (Please circle)