**Our Lady of Victories Girls’ School**

**Policy on Birthday/Celebration Cakes**

In recent years the number of requests from parents to celebrate their children’s birthdays during the school day with cake and/or other treats has increased. While it is a nice practice on one level and parents are very generous, there are problems around food allergies, hygiene, pressure on other parents and a significant amount of teaching time lost when there are a number of celebrations in a class during the year. The Board of Management has decided that birthday cakes and other treats will no longer be shared out in school time. Birthday cards and birthday invitations will **not** be distributed in class. Where parents wish to invite children to parties this must be done before or after school, **not** in class. Similarly cards at Christmas, Easter, St. Valentine’s Day etc. must be exchanged and distributed before and after school. **Children’s birthdays have always been acknowledged in this school in a number of ways eg. birthday greeting, singing Happy Birthday, birthday badge etc. This will continue as before.**

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**Ratified by the Board of Management on:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Date**

**Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 **Chairperson**