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COVID Update  
May 14<sup>th</sup> 2023

### **Happy Mother's Day**

We will be entering a Code Green\* for the week of May 14<sup>th</sup>

\*We are asking that parents/families of infants that wish to enter the classroom please continue to wear a mask or a facial covering as we do have infants that are not yet 6 months and are ineligible for the vaccine. You do not need to wear a mask if you are not entering the infant classrooms, but if you are in the hallway and we have infants in the baby buggy, please wear a mask or facial covering.

We will no longer be ushering students into the classroom or doing temperature checks under a Code Green, please enter the school and drop off your child/children to their respective classrooms. We are aware that many of you haven't been with us pre-COVID and this is an entirely new process for you, but the protocol of handing off students at the front door was a temporary measure because of the pandemic.

Please continue to alert us if your child has tested positive and/or a household member or a possible exposure to COVID has occurred – the 5 day quarantine protocol is still in effect.

Because BOTH the CDC and State still require the 5 day quarantine (<https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/20220224-general-guidance-child-care-facilities.pdf>) we can go from a Code Green to a Code Black. Less than a year ago, we went to a Code Black before Memorial Weekend because we had 3 teachers test positive. Unlike Elementary schools, we cannot call in substitute teachers – we have a finite amount of staff. If a teacher tests positive on a Sunday and is asymptomatic, said teacher will be out the entire week (The positive test date counts as “Day Zero”). We know some other schools have endorsed a don't ask/don't tell policy to circumvent the 5 day quarantine, but we will continue to follow protocol and report and alert our parents/families. There is momentum (<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2023/04/12/covid-cdc-five-day-isolation-guidance/>) towards shortening the quarantine period (it used to be 10 days) and we hoped with the expiration of the Public Health Emergency on May 11<sup>th</sup> it would be revised. We will continue to monitor if there are any changes and revise our Pandemic Protocol accordingly.