



Janine M. Marks, Executive Director

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Pet Addendum

Dear Families,

Oyster Babies enjoys caring for several classroom pets throughout the Center. All pets are healthy and have required vaccinations for their breed. Please inform us of any allergies. **Please sign and return the back of this form to the office.**

- Having to take care of a pet builds a sense of responsibility in children
- Children can develop empathy by caring for a pet, including an increased awareness of the needs and feelings of others
- A classroom pet creates enthusiasm in most students – enthusiasm to pitch in and help, enthusiasm be a team player, and enthusiasm for learning when the pets are involved in the lessons
- A classroom pet allows for creative additions to the lesson plans of your curriculum in various subjects – science, math, art, geography and language arts projects can all be developed around your classroom pet.
- With all the technological advancements, children are spending more time with electronic devices than ever before. A classroom pet provides a crucial bond to the natural world that enhances your students' health and well-being
- Children learn a respect for living creatures and their needs that will serve them as pet owners later in life

This year's pet are.

Preschool rabbit "Thumper" Preschool water frogs (doesn't leave tank)
Guinea pigs "Lenny and Squiggi"

Additionally, Janine's Labrador retriever/therapy dogs "Nero and Otto" will be on site occasionally. You will be informed about specific classroom visits.

Pet addendum

____ I give permission for my child

____ I do not give permission for my child

(Child's name _____ to be in a classroom with a class pet, as listed above.

I understand that children are never required to touch or interact with animals if they do not want to.

Parent/Guardian Signature:

_____+

Date: _____