

Dear Parents:

Thank you for your patience and support to the new team as we start off the new academic year with record enrolment of 160 children. This year we are trying something different. In addition to mandatory parents meetings you will be receiving periodic updates from me regarding what we are working on to improve our Balvihar. We welcome your feedback and comments. You can email me, or any of the board members or use the feedback form on our website to do that.

I want to summarize some important issues discussed in the Mandatory Parents Meeting and the last BOD meeting held on 9/30/07.

1. Security Procedure- New security procedure was instituted this year as a contractual obligation with TBI. According to that the main entrance will be locked at 3.05 pm and the parents entering after that will have to buzz in. We are still working to simplify this process and will keep you updated as we develop this further. **Jayesh Naik** is our new security lead.
2. Prayer time change- Prayers are now held from 3-3.15pm and classes will be dismissed according to language levels. Due to fire code concerns there is no need to take off the shoes except for Poojas and Yoga.
3. Yoga schedule- We are fortunate to have enthusiastic and well trained yoga teachers to offer Yoga classes for parents and kids. This year there is a **mandatory parent's attendance** for yoga for culture Munchkins to Culture 3.
4. Volunteering- Balvihar is an organization run by volunteers. Please see the handbook to note your assignments. Please inform Vice President and Event Lead if you are not able to keep the commitment. We will be tracking the volunteer activity this year.
5. Reimbursement procedure- Please refer to the handbook for the procedure for reimbursement. There is a 90 day limit for depositing the reimbursement check once you receive it.
6. Absentee notification and hallway discipline: Parents need to inform the respective teachers or the education secretary by noon of the day of absence. Attendance is tracked regularly. Please refer to the handbook for more information on this and hallway discipline

7. Errors in the handbook: Some errors were identified in the Handbook that was given to the parents. The information on the website is the current one.
8. Addending the by-laws- Board is currently in the process of addending the original by-laws which were written 10 years ago. The procedure for this is clearly stated in the original document and board is following that. The By-laws will be available for review for any interested parent once the process is complete.
9. Financial Update: The new team is currently in the final stages of gathering all the financial information for the current registration year. The budget will be presented to the Board in December and the financial information will be provided to all the members in the Parents Meeting in January.
10. Vacancies on the Board- There are 2 vacancies on the Board for the parent representatives. Nominations are being accepted for these 2 positions. We will send out more information regarding this in the next month. Currently **Jayesh Naik** is the only member from the parent pool serving on the Board. Please contact him if you have any questions about this position.