

Dear Families,

At New York City Public Schools, our job is to nurture the next generation—and that includes caring for the environment around us. That’s why we are launching our second year of Climate Action Days in our schools. We are building on our commitment to sustainability to keep our communities clean, green, and safe for our children—today and into the future.

Every school will have the opportunity to take part in four Climate Action Days this year. The first Climate Action Day theme is “Waste,” and most schools will participate on Tuesday, November 19. There are many ways our schools can prevent waste and reduce what we send to landfills. This year, one way we’re taking action is by providing all K-12 schools with curbside composting service five days a week.

I want to encourage you to engage with your child about climate change and how we can all be part of the solution:

1. Learn more about Climate Action Days at on.nyc.gov/ClimateActionDays.
2. Ask your child’s school about:
 - **Climate Action Day plans:** Students will participate in climate-related activities organized by school-based Sustainability Coordinators.
 - **Plastic Free Lunch Day:** Many schools will also take part in National Plastic Free Lunch Day on November 19. If your child brings food from home, pack it in reusable containers, paper bags, or aluminum foil. Unlike plastic bags or wrap, these items can be composted or recycled.
 - **Food Donation:** Ask your school principal if they have opted into the food donation program. Schools can provide unopened food and beverages to families and local organizations, preventing food waste.

By working together, we can build a brighter, more sustainable future. Thank you for being our partners and for all you do to support our children!

Best,



Meredith McDermott

Office of Energy & Sustainability