**As a Room Parent, your role is to brainstorm ideas for a party, communicate with the teacher about the plan, ask parents to send in donations of items needed, and be there at the party (or find volunteers) to run the event. Room Parents should NOT be providing items out of their own pockets, and many parents like to be able to contribute, especially if they are not able to attend.**

For a Party Sign-Up Genius (www.signupgenius.com):

* Craft supplies, if needed (teacher probably has markers, scissors, glue sticks, etc. to use)
* Plates, napkins, juice boxes or cups with a large bottle of water or juice
* Healthy food (fruit or veggie, fruit cups, fruit squeezes, etc.)
* Salty snack (popcorn, pretzels, crackers)
* Sweet snack (small cupcake or cookie)
* Volunteers to help at the party
* *BE MINDFUL OF ANY ALLERGIES/SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS (ask Teacher)*

Ideas for Crafts and Games:

* Pinterest.com or Googling the grade and holiday will offer lots of options!
* Important considerations are how long the party/rotations will last and to keep it simple, age of students, and space required.

Ideas for STEM Activities:

* www.sciencebuddies.org
* www.rasmussen.edu/degrees/education/blog/simple-stem-activities-for-kids/
* www.schoolingamonkey.com/stem-activities-for-elementary-school/
* www.Pinterest.com

Ideas for Service Project:

* Ideally, it is better to have students make something (even a card) instead of just sending in a donation. You can even try to organize having some parents and students bring items to the recipients.
* Sometimes Teachers have requests for organizations to support (e.g., local fire station, candy for troops, etc.)
* Check out http://mlspto.org/bluebirds-care/ for some past projects, for example:
	+ Ronald McDonald House
	+ UVA Children’s Hospital
	+ Local Nursing Homes
	+ SPCA
	+ Homeless shelters or food pantries

**Other ideas to add? Questions? Please email volunteer@mlspto.org. Thanks!**