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**Commitment to Character Education at Nina Harris ESE Center**

Dear Parent/Guardians,

Your child is involved in learning-activities designed to develop good character and empower young people to make good choices for themselves. He or she has been working on “**Responsibility”** the entire month of September. Your cooperation and reinforcement with these activities at home will support our overall program.

This month we learned about **responsibility**.

At Nina Harris, we define responsibility as:

**“Doing your best and taking ownership for your words and actions”**

**Here are some things you can do to support the idea that being a responsible person.**

•  Talk with your children about responsibility. Tell them that responsibility isn't just doing chores; it's following through on commitments, answering for their own actions, being reliable and trustworthy, and using good judgment.

•  "Catch" your children making a responsible choice or behaving in a responsible manner. Tell them how much that means to you. Be specific with what you tell them. Children like to know exactly what it is they did that shows being responsible. Ex. “I like the way you helped me\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”

•  Try to "forget" past failures at being responsible. Focus only on what they are doing that is working right now.

**Remember at Nina Harris: Every student matters and every moment counts.**

**Here are a list of book suggestions to read about responsibility**

Berenstain Bears Trouble at School, Jan Berenstain

Five Little Monkeys with Nothing to Do, Eileen Christelow

The Ant and the Grasshopper, Amy Lowry Poole

Annie Shows Off, Shelagh Canning

Clean Your Room, Harvey Moon! Pat Cummings

Pigsty, Mark Teague

Arthur's Pet Business, Marc Brown

Mrs. Katz and Tush, Patricia Polacco

Tops and Bottoms, Janet Stevens