

Dear Room 11 Parents,

I hope you've had a very nice 3-day weekend. Let's get back to work!

The children are learning to write an opinion piece. They are learning about an opening sentence stating an opinion, two reasons or facts to support the opinion, and a closing sentence restating the opinion. They wrote a piece last Friday. We will practice with several more over the next two weeks, including a piece about Martin Luther King, Jr.

Chinese New Year 2020 begins on Sat., Jan. 25. If anyone would like to share this very special cultural celebration with the class, please let me know. I will be teaching a little about it but we always love more!

Global School Play Day is also on Wed., Feb. 5. While we plan to get some work accomplished, many classrooms at Park will join in the "play" spirit of the day. My class will be joining Kim Kirley's Kindergartners for some serious playtime!

You can watch a presentation by Dr. Peter Gray of Boston College on the decline of play in our culture. In the video he shares his passion for unstructured play and why this day should be celebrated the first Wednesday of February each year at schools around the world.

Decline of Play (Peter Gray - TedTalk) 16 minutes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BgGEzM7iTk&feature=youtu.be&list=PLc695sWmPGpybRuxvaPgvwd2s8eGqAWYj>

Global School Play Day (Peter Gray) 1 min. 25 sec.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VypnawAFTxM&list=PLc695sWmPGpybRuxvaPgvwd2s8eGqAWYj&index=3>

Thank you!

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Volunteers This Week

W Library 9:55-10:50 Tiffany Cleaver

TH Art 9:55-10:50 (A Group) Jim Sheppard

On The Calendar

Tue., Jan. 21 Family Game Night 5:30–6:00 food, 6:00-7:00 games in auditorium

Mon., Feb. 3 Morning Assembly led by 2nd Grade - wear **BLUE** to school!

Wed., Feb. 5 Global School Play Day

Fri., Feb. 7 100th Day of School (that we have been here!)

Feb. 18-21 No School - Mid-Winter Break

Mon., Mar. 9 Morning Assembly led by 1st Grade - wear **ORANGE** to school!

Tue., Apr. 21 KIDDO First Grade Music Performance 8:45-9:45 auditorium

Apr. 6-10 No School - Spring Break

Sight Words: **but, what, all, were, when** (look for these in daily reading)