

Dear Room 11 Parents,

This will be an extremely busy and short month. The students will be learning about Presidents Day, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Washington D.C., the White House and more.

Monday is our Respect Assembly. It will honor Martin Luther King, Jr. and focus on building this important character strength. We have daily dialogues in the classroom about respectful behavior and what it looks like. When I catch a student being respectful, I try to stop and acknowledge them. It often becomes the source of a class conversation. The students are also writing notes to Munchkin (our respect elf) about those friends that they catch being respectful and kind. We read the notes in Munchkin's mailbox every Friday.

Our class will be doing activities to celebrate the 100th Day of School on Wed., Feb. 6. I hope you received my email last Friday about the **collection of 100 objects**. These should be small things that are found around the house: beans, pasta, stickers, toothpicks, etc., that can be glued on a piece of cardboard. **They are due on Monday, Feb. 4** so that we can put them up for the world to see by the 100th Day!

Global School Play Day is also on Wed., Feb. 6. 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>

Your child will bring home a class Valentine list this week. **Please do not send Valentines before Tue., Feb. 12.** We won't have our "mailboxes" ready until then. Thank you!

Thank you!

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Volunteers This Week

W	Library 9:55-10:50	Katie Moore
TH	Art 9:55-10:50 (A Group)	Ben Fort

On the Calendar

Wed., Feb. 6	100th Day of School & Global School Play Day
Feb. 18-22	Mid-Winter Break
Thu., Feb. 28	Math Night
Tue., Mar. 5	Field Trip-creek restoration, Tiburon Marsh 10:30-12:30
Fri., Mar. 8	No School - Teacher Work Day
Tue., Mar. 12	KIDDO First Grade Performance 8:45-9:15
Fri., Mar. 22	Oceans Assembly / Banana Slug Band 10:45-12:00
Apr. 8-12	No School - Spring Break