

Dear Parents,

SCREEN-FREE WEEK CONTINUES UNTIL SUNDAY! Thank you for helping with this very important lesson that there is a LOT more to life than video games and TV shows. I will even keep the newsletter short this week so we can get off our screens.

Highlights from this week to discuss with your child:

1. My wonderful students have set a goal to cover our entire classroom with new vocabulary words. Earlier this year I mentioned that research shows a person needs to use a word 12 times before it becomes part of their vocabulary so if your child does not know some of the words on our wall, it just means he/she has not used it 12 times YET. From Gooseberry Park and the Master Plan: Etiquette, emblem, and drought

2. On last Friday we had a representative from Mid America CropLife Association show us a PowerPoint and provide some hands on activities to demonstrate farming and the water cycle. We have created a chant and actions to "Evaporation...Condensation...Precipitation." (More vocabulary words that went up on our wall, along with transpiration and erosion) Have fun doing the chant with your whole family. Try adding erosion to the chant or see what happens if you put drought into the chant.

3. We enjoyed a beautiful spring nature hike on Monday after lunch. We are getting better at spotting squirrel nests. Vocabulary words that went on the wall after the walk were tadpole, spawn, daffodils, tulips, and public. Enjoy a screen free nature hike this weekend to see the difference a week can make. "I have no special talent, I am only passionately curious" --Albert Einstein.

5. By Monday, May 7th, all the speaking lines should **be memorized** with lots of **expression** and excellent **pronunciation**. (Two more vocabulary words that went up on our wall)

The students will wear black pants (black sweat pants, black jeans, or black leggings for girls) and **plain** white t-shirts. We will be painting on whiskers and a cat nose at the church right before the program and also wearing cat ears. The ears will stay here at school for rehearsals and I will bring them to the program. After the program, your child can keep his/her cat ears as a souvenir of our one-of-a-kind original jazz gig!

Your partner in education, Mrs. Teresa Pape 😊