

Dear OHES Families,

We are writing to let you know that OHES classes will be participating in “Days of Play” once a month throughout the year. These schoolwide days will be held in connection to Global School Play Day in February. **On these designated days, classes will dedicate a portion of their day to self-directed play.** GSPD has been promoted by *Psychology Education Today* and is celebrated at schools around the world. In conjunction with the district’s Portrait of a Graduate and Orchard Hill’s vision, we believe in the importance of play in a child’s development.

We are inviting all students to bring in one item to play with on these days. Some ideas include board games, dolls, Legos, blocks, trucks, cars, racetracks, playing cards, and puzzles. **Restrictions include no battery-operated toys, electronic devices, or toy weapons.** It is not required to bring in anything, as we have plenty of items to play with here at school. If your child does bring in an item from home, make sure it is labeled with their name.

Though our time dedicated to play will be self-directed, it will still be supervised by teachers. We are looking forward to these fun-filled days! You can learn more about the benefits of unstructured play by visiting the official GSPD website: www.globalschoolplayday.com.

A schedule of monthly “Days of Play” can be [found here](#) and will be added to our school website.

