

Godwin School

Dedicated to All Things Kind



Each Kindness

“Each Kindness Makes the World a Little Bit Better”

The theme in Jacqueline Woodson’s book Each Kindness will be woven into our character education activities throughout the school year. ‘Chloe and her friends won’t play with the new girl, Maya. Maya is different--she wears hand-me-downs and plays with old-fashioned toys. Every time Maya tries to join Chloe and her gang, they reject her. Eventually, Maya plays alone, and then stops coming to school altogether. When Chloe’s teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship, and thinks about how much better it could have been if she’d shown a little kindness toward Maya.’

During the Week of Respect, I enjoyed sharing this story with all of the first and second graders. We discussed the lesson they learned from Chloe’s actions and why it is important to treat others with respect and kindness. At our November Kindness Assembly, the whole school will witness the student council members and some teachers mimic the turning point in the story and drop a stone into a bowl of water while sharing an act of kindness. Then all students will have an opportunity to share their own act of kindness with their classmates and drop a stone into the water. Jacqueline Woodson’s words are very powerful, “Each little thing we do



Godwin Greeter
Luke Graham was the first greeter this school year.



October Pizza Lunch

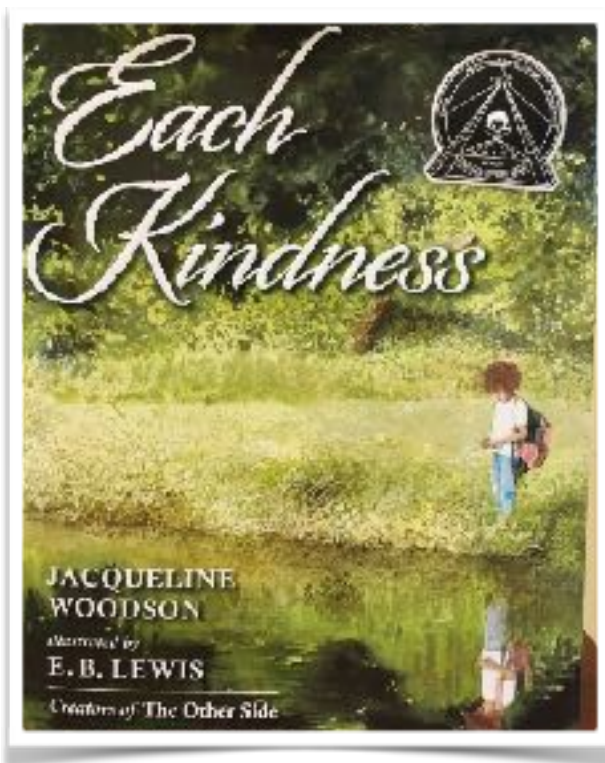
Students picked out of the fish bowl had lunch with Ms. Bache



Sophia and Jimmy sharing their acts of kindness.

goes out, like a ripple, into the world.” Even small acts of kindness matter and may influence others to do a selfless act. Later in the year, we plan to paint stones with kind words and spread them throughout the community. Grade levels will partner together to complete this project and discuss how it has personally effected them. It is our mission to touch **Each** person with a little **Kindness**. If you would like to hear a reading of Each Kindness, click this link. <https://youtu.be/wGKteT5KiSE>

The Second Grade Student Council Members will collect Halloween candy to donate to the troops: Matt Buttino, Juan Cuervo, Jimmy Derwin, Luke Graham, Ian Grayson, Eva Hagan, Sophia Kopshaw, Luciano Mayer, Hazel Mazurek, Alyssa Roizman, Sarah Stern, and Lyla Wilson.



MEET SUZANNE KELLY

Suzanne Kelly is our featured staff member for the month. Mrs. Kelly has been teaching at Godwin School for 26 years! She began her career as a first grade teacher, spent several years teaching developmental kindergarten and then moved to basic skills. Mrs. Kelly practices what she preaches, and spends her free time reading historical fiction and participating in book clubs. She entertains her students while teaching with props, hats, wands, costumes, witches' fingers, and the reading bus. She is the quintessential elementary teacher: an expert in her field, compassionate to every learner, diverse in her approach to instruction, and a role model in the school community. Mrs. Kelly finds the balance between rigorous instruction and the joy in learning. I remain in awe of her dedication to our youngest learners and the lengths at which she goes to help them learn.

Suzanne resides right next door to Midland Park in Ridgewood with her husband and two children: JP and Morgan. Suzanne becomes one with mother nature in the summer; she enjoys her morning coffee on the back patio, afternoons at Graydon Pool and dining alfresco in the evenings. Her love of reading doesn't end with the school year; she also organizes story time at Graydon Pool. Suzanne loves the holidays, especially Halloween. Her house and classroom are decked out with pumpkins, witches, skeletons, a haunted village and more. Suzanne lets her inner child shine through to connect with her students and to have a little fun during the school day.

