



February 2020

Theme: Having the Courage to Be Who You Are and
Using our Voice to Change the World

Books: Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun, by Maria Dismondy
Say Something!, by Peter H. Reynolds

“How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

- Anne Frank

Dear Students, Teachers and Parents,

Last month, we participated in the Great Kindness Challenge and learned all about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and his important message of peace and equality. The world also recognized Holocaust Remembrance Day. I love the quote from Anne Frank above. We all have the power to improve the world, and we need to use every moment we can, NOW, to do so.

Therefore, it is kind of fitting that we head into the month of February, a time of year where we celebrate friendship and love. To me, being a good friend is about accepting that we are all unique and different. It should not matter what we look like, how we dress, what food we eat or language we speak, we can all be friends. In Spaghetti in a Hot Dog Bun, by Maria Dismondy, we meet a little girl who is not afraid to be herself. Another boy in school is mean to her but when he needs help, she has the courage and kindness to help him. In the end, it is all about remembering to treat others the way you want to be treated. In Say Something!, by Peter H. Reynolds, we learn that we all have something important to say. We can say something through our actions, words, pictures, poems, etc. The author wants us to know that our voice can inspire, heal and transform – it can change the world!

In our Harbor Hill community, we strive every day to use our voices in a positive manner and to be kind and inclusive to everyone. Harbor Hill is **No Place for Hate** and we work hard to ensure school is safe, fun and welcoming! Mrs. Hazen and I recorded a video of us reading a special story, with a special message, to all the students here at Harbor Hill. Check out our special pajama day read aloud of All Are Welcome Here, by Alexandra Penfold:

<http://video.roslynschools.org/Playback.aspx?guid=bbc6fc0f-0536-4eb2-9311-eff84751e0ed>

As always, thanks for helping us make the world a better place, one child at a time!

☺ Mrs. Kemler