



October 2020

Dear Teachers,

Welcome to October! We persevered and “pushed through” finding ourselves at the start of another month of social distancing. This month’s Book of the Month is actually two books! Our selections focus on our girls and boys and each book speaks directly to our children with different messages with the aim to resonate with all of our students. The book describes how the world has billions of people, but you are the only you there is and the world needs **you**.

A Girl Like You by Frank Murphy speaks to girls to be brave and try new things. Boys are shown in illustrations, but the book focuses on showing that girls CAN fix broken things, lift weights, study the moon, and see their dreams become their future. The book encourages children to take care of their heart and provides healthy choices for when they may feel bored, lonely or sad. And when those feelings become too big, it encourages the children to ask for help and talk with someone who loves them (an especially needed skill during these unusual days). We see children in a hospital volunteering to read to other children who happen to be patients there. This book shows how the world needs those caring, bold, brave and strong girls.

Our companion book for this month is *A Boy Like You* by Frank Murphy and, as expected, this one speaks to our boys. As Frank Murphy states, “Sometimes boys grow up believing that the best way to be a boy is to be a strong boy,” one who is physically tough and emotionally hard. They believe the most important things are how good they are at sports or how strong their muscles are-and that boys who don’t fit that mold are less important. This book reminds our children that “there are many ways to be strong and all those ways are what make us unique.” Our boys need the encouragement to accept the uniqueness of individuals and in doing so, can become our leaders of tomorrow. The kind of leaders who honor humanity and show strength in a variety of different ways. Leadership skills speak to all of our children, encouraging them to develop their unique voice and thrive.

Here’s to making the world a better place!

Appreciatively,

Karen, Jodi and Diana