

### THE BOOKS

They lined up class by class to come in, each child eagerly anticipating the opportunity to pick up a few new adventures. They were allowed to select three books each this year, thanks especially to the generosity of those of you who have given to The Book Drop. By the end of the school year in May, we at The Book Drop had given the IEP program at this particular elementary school over 1,000 books to give to their young readers to keep and read. The kids got to choose the books they wanted out of the options that had been thoughtfully laid out on full tables throughout the school library. They were so grateful, as most of these children from low income families don't have many books at home or ways to access a library, especially during the summer.

After the children picked out their gifts, discussing the merits of this or that book amongst themselves, they sat on the floor waiting for their classmates to join them. It was a treat to see them eagerly open their books, begin to read, and proudly show them off to each other. They had selected everything from Dr. Seuss to The Magic Treehouse chapter books to Spiderman to books about animals and sea creatures to...well, you get the idea.

The lead IEP teacher and the school librarian were both so excited to be able to share so much with the young ones they worked with all year. They know the value of the endless opportunities that can come from being able to read, having books in hand, and having the desire fueled in children to discover pretty much anything through a good book.

If you have children's books you would like to share with children like these through The Book Drop, please let us know! Be encouraged to love and share with those around you...especially the children!



*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.  
The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these.*

## THE PRAYER CIRCLE

There are three of us who have been meeting weekly on Friday mornings as a *PRAYER CIRCLE*. We pray through a growing pile of cards with all manner of prayer requests that have come from many different places. As we have met, it has been a great blessing to see how God has moved in the lives of those we pray for and how He has answered requests, even as we ache and cry out for others who continue to struggle through various things.

We would love to have you join us if you are nearby and able. There are more chairs at the table for you!

If you aren't close enough to actually sit with us, be encouraged to find one or two others who you could pray with on a weekly basis over things that weigh on and affect those in your lives and community. God will be there in your midst, and you will be blessed beyond measure.

## THE NEW IDEA

I had just gone in for a very special (and much needed) birthday treat of a massage, never thinking the conversation would take this turn. It was just a short explanation of what I am involved in with The Encouragement Project, but it got my masseuse friend thinking. By the end of my heavenly hour, she had questions and a plan. It. The idea of *THE BOOK DROP* had struck a chord, and she wanted to set up a box in her office to collect books from those she helped and worked with. And she wanted to share about this much needed outreach with her network of friends! It is exciting to find new opportunities to share with others and find open doors for possibilities to grow and be able to help more children in this way. Would you be willing to share about The Encouragement Project with those around you? We would be grateful!



*The name of the LORD is a strong tower;  
the righteous run to it and are safe.*

*Proverbs 18:10*

*THE ENCOURAGEMENT PROJECT* is run solely with the financial gifts and donations of those of you who are interested in helping and encouraging others through this ministry. Gifts of any amount are helpful, and go toward seeing believers encouraged, and those in need helped. We greatly appreciate your willingness to be a part of this team. Would you join us monthly at the...

\$10 ~ *ground level* ~ \$25 ~ *creative level*  
\$50 ~ *encouragement level* ~ *other amount*

Checks made payable to "The Encouragement Project"  
can be mailed to: **The Encouragement Project**  
PO Box 452 ~ Alpharetta, GA 30009

If you prefer to set up a recurring monthly gift, please let us know and we will send you the banking information.

The Encouragement Project is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

## JUST AN UPDATE

Our special friend that we shared about last month, who had crocheted 100 hats for *HUGS and KISSES* at that point, has reached another astounding achievement. As of this week, she has completed her 200<sup>th</sup> hat for children in need. What an incredible blessing for these kids who will need warmth this winter! And what an incredible investment of our friend's time and ability. We are so thankful for her willing hands and generosity!

*CONTACT US... WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!*

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