

Dear Families,

I want to take this opportunity to remind you of our bucket filling philosophy. This year the theme at Old Bethpage is kindness. There's no better way to emphasize kindness and community than to get the community involved! Every classroom received a copy of Carol McCloud's book, Have You Filled a Bucket Today? The story explains that we all carry an invisible bucket in which we keep our feelings about ourselves. When our buckets are full, we are happy; when they are empty, we are sad. We can fill our own bucket by being kind to one another, or others can fill it for us. "Bucket fillers" are those who help without being asked, give hugs and compliments, and generally spread good feelings to those around them. "Bucket dippers" rob us of happy feelings by refusing to help with a task or by saying or doing cruel things. The simple metaphor of a bucket helps children understand the importance of consideration and love. Students and teachers will be reading and discussing the different ways we can each fill someone's bucket throughout the school year.

Over the next few months your child will have an opportunity to share this book with you at home. Each teacher will send home the book with an activity so that you and your child can work together to generate a list of the different ways you can touch someone's life just by "filling their bucket!"

Enjoy your conversations and happy reading!

Sincerely,

Suzanne Gray, Principal