

## Silver and Gold

**“Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out,” according to Frank A. Clark. That is exactly what a random act of kindness is, or in texting language an RAOK. “A Random act of kindness,” according to Wikipedia.com, is a selfless act performed by kind people to either help or cheer up a stranger, for no reason other than to make people happier.” I bet you are wondering, “What in the world can an eleven year old K-Kid do to make a difference in the world by performing one random act of kindness?” I believe with all of my heart that I, Rachel Lynn Drennon, K-Kid at Mineola Elementary School, can make a huge difference in the world by treating new students the way I want to be treated.**

**Have you ever played the game I Spy With My Little Eyes? When my family left our home to move to a new town, anybody who played that game could have spied me, the new girl. I was the one with sad eyes, the one who was trying to figure out how to break into a clique of girls and make friends, the one who had awesome friends but now had none, and the one who cried myself to sleep almost every night. When I was at school I felt scared and alone. I was homesick for my grandparents, cousins, old church, and old friends. Then one day, another new girl, Hayden, moved to our school and we became friends for life. I told you this story to tell you how important it is to me that when I spot a new student I make them feel welcome. I never want anyone to have to feel as sad as I did when I had to leave my home. When I see new students, I do my best to tell them about our town, make them feel at home, play with them on the play ground, invite them to church, invite them to k-kids, and to encourage them to get involved in doing things for others in the community.**

**My hope is that my random act of kindness, showing compassion to new students, will be like a tree. I hope that my act will grow deep roots and spread out all over and that the roots will start to grow new trees. Can you imagine what would happen if other schools caught on? Instead of bullying being the hot topic in elementary schools right now, the hot topic could be elementary kids showing kindness to new students. I want to make kindness popular. Instead of forming cliques at school which exclude**

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others, especially new students, I want our K-Kids in Mineola, Texas to be known for welcoming newcomers. When I spy with my little blue eyes a new comer, I want to be spying kids who are excited about an adventure in a new small town. Mother Teresa said that, "We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love." For part of my random act of kindness I pray for new students. I pray that they will feel welcome, that they will be safe, and that they will create dreams for themselves in their new town as they make friends.

One small random act of kindness can make a big difference in the world if I continue to make the choice of working to make new students feel welcome. In Sunday School I learned that you should treat others as you would like to be treated. When I see a new student I remind myself that my dad is a coach and that I might be the new student again soon. I have good friends now, but I always have room for more friends. I am reminded of a song I learned when I was just a baby that starts out, "Make new friends but keep the old. One is silver and the other gold." I want new students to remember that I was kind to them from the very first moment I met them. In closing, Mark Twain said it best, "Kindness is the language the deaf can hear and the blind can see." How will you show kindness today by performing a random act of kindness? You can't change the world if you don't try.

**By: Rachel Lynn Drennon**

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