



\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\*\*

## **BrightSTARS Re-launches at Stone-Robinson Elementary**

**Charlottesville, Virginia** (11/17/2022) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report BrightSTARS–Tennis for Me!, our tennis, nutrition and literacy immersion program, has resumed after a two-plus year hiatus due to COVID. The last BrightSTARS session was held on March 4, 2020 at Stone-Robinson, just days before the pandemic shut everything down. It was fitting that the reboot of the program was at the same school. This year was kicked off in a big way with FUN tennis activities, BrightSTARS t-shirts and *My World* by Priddy Books for all the kids.



**Pass the squishy ball is the first tennis activity and a fan favorite**

Lynda Harrill, QCV's Vice President, QuickStart Coordinator & Founder, says, "It seems like just yesterday I was at Stone-Robinson. I remember that week vividly. We held a training session for Albemarle County PE teachers on Monday. On Wednesday, I went to Stone-Robinson for BrightSTARS. Given the news we'd been hearing, I knew that would be our last visit for a while. On Friday the statewide shutdown began. After waiting many months to see if COVID was going to go away, we decided it wasn't and created Racquets for Reading!!! in November 2020, and as they say, the rest is history. Childhood literacy became a bigger part of our mission and the way in which we connected with 6,400+ kids during the height of the pandemic. We couldn't do tennis, but we could get books and Go

Bananas! cards to preschoolers and kindergartners. Many thanks to teachers Geisha Goodman and Ruth Parham for keeping the preschool tennis tradition going At Stone-Robinson during COVID.

“This return visit to Stone-Robinson was very special to me. The kids seem like normal four-year-olds – adorable, little energetic sponges ready to learn and have FUN. Seeing their smiling faces made thoughts of COVID fade a little more. When one of them called me the ‘Bananas Coach,’ that really made my day.”



T-shirts and books – what a winning combination for kids!

***Want to be a great adult?  
Play tennis! Read books! Eat healthy! Have FUN!!!  
Be a QuickStart kid!***

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QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. QCV’s service area includes, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 214 schools with 101,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs, in 31 Virginia counties and independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in Virginia communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at [www.quickstartcentral.org](http://www.quickstartcentral.org) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/quickstartcentral).

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*A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!*

