

*** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ***

Preschoolers Receive Their First Scholastic Book Club Book

Charlottesville, Virginia (10/28/2020) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to announce the first Scholastic Book Club book, *Little Acorn*, has been delivered to the homes of preschoolers in 13 virtual classrooms at seven schools in Albemarle County. The kids also received Go Bananas for QuickStart! nutrition cards for bananas and apples, the Go Bananas! poster card and mini rubber ducks sitting and reading books. In response to the COVID-19 crisis, we started a new initiative, **Racquets** for **Reading!!!**, which promotes a love of reading and healthy eating with a dose of FUN for preschoolers and kindergartners. These books and giveaways for preschoolers were made possible by our good friend and donor, Barbara Fried, an avid proponent of early childhood education, and a grant from the QuickStart Tennis Fund in the Charlottesville Area Community Fund. The preschool giveaway is led by Geisha Goodman, a preschool teacher at Stone-Robinson Elementary and a QCV Board member, with an assist from Family Coordinators at the schools and the other classroom teachers and teaching assistants.



Geisha says, "October brought more than just colored leaves and acorns to the Bright Star Community. Thanks to Racquets for Reading!!!, each student was given a copy of *Little Acorn*. Using this book in the virtual classroom yielded great learning opportunities for

our preschoolers. This was the perfect book for introducing the children to the life cycle of an oak tree, seasons and why the tree is a perfect habitat for many backyard critters.

"The children were super excited to receive a very special rubber ducky. This was shared with the children to be used as "Reading Buddy". The rubber ducky was holding a book and LOVES to read!

"As we transition into the next phase of Hybrid Learning, we will be giving each student a copy of *The Kissing Hand* by Audrey Penn. This is an endearing story about Chester Raccoon who is feeling anxious about leaving his mother and heading off to school for the first time. This book will help provide quite a bit of comfort to our kiddos on their first few days of school.

"Thanks to Racquets for Reading!!!, the Bright Stars have many more books and treasures to look forward to in the coming months."



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

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 Albemarle, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, 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 212 schools with 99,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at: <u>www.quickstartcentral.org</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For additional information, contact <u>quickstartcentral@comcast.net</u>.



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