Words and Deeds Guidelines & Ideas

While the purpose of Moms in Prayer International is to pray, if your group chooses to reach out to the school with written notes of appreciation, goodies or gifts, we call that "Words and Deeds". Encouraging and supporting the school staff in this way is an optional activity of Moms in Prayer. Remember, we are not to evangelize by sending gifts or messages with scripture, Christian slogans, etc. Unless you have a personal relationship with a teacher and know he/she is a Christian, we encourage without sharing that teachers are prayed for. Everyone loves being appreciated, but not everyone appreciates being prayed for. "Words and Deeds" should never be a burden to the group, either financially or in time commitment, and the permission of the principal is required.

Guidelines

- Words and Deeds is optional, prayer is the priority of your Moms in Prayer group.
- Your group is to be well established before introducing Moms in Prayer to the school. The size of your school and your group will determine what kind of projects can be done and how often.
- Visit the principal and obtain permission before taking any Words or Deeds to the faculty. Be sure to make an appointment for your visit. You may wish to take your co-leader or another member of your group with you.
- Much prayer needs to precede any visit. Seek the Lord's wisdom on the timing of your visit and pray that the principal's heart will be receptive.
- As the leader of your group, you may wish to delegate responsibility for Words and Deeds to another mom in your group, especially if she is enthusiastic and gifted in this area.

Visit to the principal

- Introduce yourselves and let the principal know who your children are. Share something positive about the school.
- Acknowledge your appreciation of his/her leadership and the tremendous responsibility that he/she has, sharing your concern for the pressures students are facing today.
- Let him/her know you belong to a group of moms called Moms in Prayer, who meet weekly to support the school through prayer. Do not give him/her the Moms in Prayer *Booklet*; however, you may want to to prayerfully discern whether or not to share a Moms in Prayer Prayer Card.
- Indicate that your group of moms would like to bring treats at various times throughout the year to encourage and show appreciation to the faculty and staff.
- Most principals are delighted to have goodies, but if your principal says "no", respond in a warm and gracious manner: "That will be fine. If at any time in the future you feel the staff could use a little encouragement, please give us a call."

School guidelines

- Pray about each project! Obtain permission from the principal prior to each delivery.
- Do not use scripture in any project. Do not reference the true meaning of Christian holidays. (Exception: Christian schools)
- For each project, sign a note from "Moms in Prayer." Use caution in signing individual names. We do not want to draw attention to ourselves.
- Project planning time must not take place during your Moms in Prayer group prayer time.
- If there are several Moms in Prayer groups for the same school, coordinate your Words and Deeds.

Ideas to spark your own creativity in ministering to the teachers and staff at your school are available under <u>Teacher Appreciation</u>. The suggestions are not a"to-do list"! They are ideas for you to adopt, adapt or ignore.