



Happy Valentine's Day Weekly Shoutout



Hey there friends. I hope you all had a good week. I had a hard time this week with some kids in school. I know I always tell you that you shouldn't worry about what other people think, but the truth is when kids are mean to me, I have a hard time with it. I should just do the things I tell you to do, but when I feel bad, I forget all the things I've said.

Next week is Valentine's Day and the teacher said we would have a class party. She also said that there will be a box to put the valentines in and she'll pass them out at the party, kind of like a mailbox. Then she said that if we were going to bring in valentines, make sure to bring one for everyone in the class.

I thought it was a great idea. Of course, I'd bring one for everyone. Leaving some kids out would just be wrong. I started to think about what types of valentines I'd bring. When I was in the store with my dad, I saw they have some that come with a candy treat. I thought that would be the best kind because most kids like candy.

Then at the end of the day, when we were getting our coats and things ready to leave, some of the kids were talking about the Valentine's Day party. One of the girls that is mean a lot of times, said that she was only giving me a valentine because she had too. Then some of the other kids said the same thing. One even told me that just because they give me a valentine doesn't mean that we're friends. Then, the girl that started the mean talk said I would probably just ruin the party and that I shouldn't give out valentines because nobody wants them from me.

I felt really bad, and I started to cry. Lucky for me, it was time to go and none of them even noticed my tears. When I got in the car, my mom could see I was crying. She asked me what happened and then I couldn't hold it back. I cried really hard, and she couldn't even understand what I was saying.

Once my mom calmed me down, I told her what happened and that I didn't want to go to school on Valentine's Day. I told her that I wasn't going to give anything to the other kids. Then I told her I wished I was someone else because I hate being persnickety. I said I hate being me.

My mom looked at me for what seemed to be forever. Then she took my hand and said that she could understand why I felt the way I did. Well, that sure did surprise me.

Then she said that when we got home, we could take down my website and make a post that says Persnickety isn't going to be around anymore. Well, that surprised me even more, but it wasn't a good surprise. I asked her why she'd want me to stop doing my website and posts.

Instead of answering my question, she asked me why I put the website up in the first place. I told her it was to give kids that have a hard time fitting in a place where they do. Then she asked me why I decided to do that, and I told her it was because I know how bad it feels to not fit in. My mom gave me a soft smile and I understood that she was trying to get me to see things a certain way.

I realized that what happened with the kids about Valentine's Day wasn't anything new. Some kids are just mean because I have my persnickety ways and it makes me feel bad. When I thought about everything I tell you to do when things like this happen, I felt a little better. I remembered, I'm not alone. I have friends that like me just the way I am. I have you. And don't worry, I'm not taking down the website or stopping my posts.

What would you do if the kids made you feel like you don't fit in? Who would you talk to if someone made you feel bad? Do you help others feel like they fit in?

Valentine's Day is a time to treat other people nice. You don't have to just be nice to your family or friends, you should be nice to everyone. My mom and I talked. We decided I'd bring in Valentines for the class. Just because the other kids were acting mean, I shouldn't let it ruin my fun, and bringing Valentines for the class sounds like fun to me.

Valentine's Day is a day to show you love people. You are amazing and you are loved. I am so thankful we're friends and I love spending time with you. Maybe the kids you know will be nice, and maybe they won't, but that doesn't matter. All that matters is that you're nice to yourself. Don't ever let anyone else make you feel like you can't be part of something you want to do. Happy Valentine's Day friends!

Until next time,

Your pal, Persnickety Pearson 