

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are about to start a new global communication project focusing on the Essential Question, *How does where we live influence how we live?* We will be connecting to classrooms around the world via email to learn more about how to answer this question. The students will be keeping journals to record notes, reflections, and questions while communicating with their ePALS. Please engage your student in a discussion about what he or she is learning through this global exchange.

To assure your student's safety while communicating, we will be using ePALS Classroom Exchange, an online classroom community. You can visit ePALS online to learn more about the program at www.epals.com*. ePALS provides a service that allows teachers to monitor email and assure messages are safe and appropriate. Your student will be given a free ePALS email account and password for school use. Your student's teacher will have a copy of your student's current password from ePALS and will therefore be able to access your student's messages at any time.

To allow us to assign an email account to your student, please complete the EPALS Consent Form and return it to your student's teacher. Your student will not be allowed to use ePALS email at school until we have received your signed consent form.

It is a privilege to have an ePALS email account and to correspond with students around the world. Any use of ePALS deemed inappropriate by the school will result in the cancellation of your student's email account, and a notification will be sent to you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email me.

EPALS Consent Form

I have read this letter, and, by signing this form, I give consent to allow my student to be registered with an ePALS email account.

Student's Name: _____

Parent's or Guardian's Signature: _____ Date: _____