



9 January 2008

Dear Parents,

We are about to start an exciting new project to promote enthusiasm and excitement about writing!

Your children will use a wiki to collaborate with other fourth grade classes around the world on an international writing project. Our curricular focus is persuasive writing, and we will use this project as a way to communicate and connect about writing with our partner classes. Please feel free to explore the main project page for more information:

<http://es1001tales.wikispaces.com/>

Ms. Cofino, our 21<sup>st</sup> Century Literacy Specialist, will be working with us on this project to help facilitate this new learning environment. Please feel free to read more about what Ms. Cofino is doing with other classes here at ISB on the Connect 2.0 blog: <http://connect2.edublogs.org>

### **Requirements to Participate**

In order to create a student account on Wikispaces, each student will need their own e-mail address. If your child does not have an e-mail address now, Ms. Cofino can help s/he create one during class time. Please fill in the form below with your child's e-mail address or confirm that you would like Ms. Cofino to assist your child in creating an account.

Please note that absolutely no personal information about your child will be shared during the course of this project. We will use only first names or nicknames and each student will choose an avatar (a personal icon that is not their picture) for their Wikispaces account. Online safety will be infused throughout the entire project.

### **More About Wikis**

A wiki is an easy-to-edit, collaborative way to create a website. Our wiki will be "protecte," meaning that anyone can see our work, but only the students participating in the project can actually edit and add to the wiki. One exciting aspect of a wiki is that students from all over the world can collaborate on the same wiki. This means that our students here at ISB can create a wiki in partnership with other fourth grade students around the world.

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☐ My child, \_\_\_\_\_ already has an e-mail address, it is:  
\_\_\_\_\_. S/he knows the password.

☐ My child, \_\_\_\_\_ does not have an e-mail address,  
please help him/her set one up in class.

*parent's signature:* \_\_\_\_\_ *date:* \_\_\_\_\_