



February 10, 2019

Dear Parents,

In order to enhance our learning in 6th grade this year, I plan on having the students use an Instagram account to work on class assignments and projects via the school's iPads. Instagram is a social media service where pictures and videos can be shared and captioned. With social media becoming more and more ingrained in our society, and with the current generation being highly tech-savvy, I find that using this tool for educational purposes will be very engaging.

I have so many exciting ideas for using Instagram in my classroom! For social studies, students can use this tool to pretend they are an historical figure. We will soon be learning about Confucius, the ancient Chinese philosopher, and the positive behaviors he promoted. By using Instagram, students can act as if they are Confucius taking pictures of positive-relationship interactions to demonstrate an understanding of the five relationships he encouraged. In science, students can use Instagram to capture their observations from a class experiment. We will be working on a lab activity shortly where students will create their own battery. They can capture the process of building one by posting images and explaining the steps in the captions. And finally, in reading, students can take pictures of books they enjoy, or ones they are currently reading, and they can talk about them in the captions.

While these are exciting ideas, I want to assure you that when using this tool in my classroom, students will be safe and protected. A class account will be made with the help from our technology coach, and each student will post on it. The class Instagram account will be private so that only approved followers can see it. Additionally, student images will not be seen from Google search results as access to third-party websites will be revoked. Students are only allowed to use this account for school purposes.

If you have any questions regarding account privacy, or about using Instagram in the classroom, please do not hesitate to contact me. For further information about Instagram, please visit www.instagram.com

Sincerely,
Mrs. Laura Walls

Please sign and return the bottom portion of this page:

6th-Grade Instagram Permission

_____ Yes, my child can use Instagram in the classroom for academic purposes.

_____ No, I do not want my child to use Instagram in the classroom for academic purposes.

Student's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____