

November 7, 2017

Dear 5th Grade Families,

I'm very excited to announce a new project we will be undertaking in the library this year. As part of our year-long quest to "read outside our walls," students **with parental permission** will be matched with pen pals from different countries as part of a six week long "world explorer" project. Throughout the course of this unit, students will be exposed to elements of daily life, food, history, art & literature, and pop culture from countries around the world. We will be exchanging letters with our international pen pals concerning these topics within our own respective communities, so we can compare any differences or similarities we may have. If you are interested in learning more about this project, you can visit <https://go.penpalschools.com/projects/world-explorer>. All communication with our pen pals will occur through the Pen Pal Schools portal, and I will have access to all incoming and outgoing messages through my teacher account. I teach students about internet safety and digital citizenship in the library, but this project provides an excellent opportunity to open up conversations about these important concepts at home as well.

As noted, students will need to obtain parental permission to participate in this project. If you prefer that your student not participate in this activity, an alternative unit of study will be provided for him/her. Please read the options below carefully and have your student return the completed form to the library no later than Monday, November 13th.

Sincerely,

Juli Hoffman
Library Media Specialist
Increase Miller Elementary School

All students who want to participate in the pen pal program must return this signed permission slip to Mrs. Hoffman by **Monday, November 13th**. Please note that if a permission slip is not returned on time, the student will not be allowed to participate.

Please check one.

Yes, my child can participate in the pen pal project during their library class.

If yes, check one:

I give permission for my child to use his/her FIRST NAME ONLY in this project.

I want my child to be identified by a fake first name for this project.

No, I would prefer for my child to participate in an alternative activity instead.

Parent Signature: _____

I will follow the principles of responsible digital citizenship as discussed in library throughout the duration of this project.

Student Signature: _____



Increase Miller Elementary
LIBRARY