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# Letter to Parents

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Date:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have been working hard all semester reading stories both short and long, and now it is time to start thinking about our big writing project. Students are required to write an essay about courage, using one of many characters we read about this semester as an example.

Before writing their essays, students will be participating in a fun and unique prewriting activity that is designed to get them thinking about abstract concepts in a concrete way. To complete this activity, your child will need to take 10 pictures of things that he or she thinks represent the idea of courage. He or she will then choose the 3 best pictures and I will scan and upload them to an online blog. Students will then post descriptions and analyses of their pictures.

No identifying factors about your child will be available online, but you will be able to visit the blog to see what your child writes. I have attached a copy of the instructions for this project so that you may better understand them.

Students may use their own cameras to complete this project or I will provide one. In order to determine how many disposable cameras I will need to obtain, I need you to fill out, sign, and return the camera information slip at the end of this letter.

If you would rather not have your child participate in this project, please let me know and I will arrange an alternative prewriting activity for him or her. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

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# Camera Information Sheet

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Please fill out, sign, and return this sheet by \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_ will be using:  
Student's name

- His or her own camera. We will develop the pictures.
- His or her own digital camera. The pictures will be either delivered on a CD, a USB drive, or as an e-mail attachment.
- A disposable camera provided in school.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date