Dear Parents,

Over the coming weeks, our class will be participating in a national program created by StoryCorps called The Great Thanksgiving Listen.

Using near-universally accessible smartphone technology, students will record an interview with a grandparent or other elder using the free StoryCorps App to foster meaningful connections within families, communities, and the classroom, and create a firsthand archive of American history and wisdom.

In order for your child to participate in The Great Thanksgiving Listen, you must acknowledge that they are not under the age of 13. If your child is under the age of 18, they will need your consent to register for an account on the app or archive platform in accordance with the terms of use.

I understand that this project will include my child recording an interview with an elder and taking a picture with that individual. I understand that with the consent of all interview participants, my child will have the option to publish the interview and photograph online to a public website at archive.storycorps.org. I understand that the publication of the interview and photograph will result in them both being archived in the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress.

I also understand that publishing an interview online is not a requirement for credit in this project and that my child will have the option to keep the interview and/or photograph private if they or their interview partner desire.

I hereby give permission for (student’s name) to participate in The Great Thanksgiving Listen.

_______________________________________       ___________________
(parent/guardian signature)                              (date)

For more information, please see thegreatlisten.org.

ABOUT STORYCORPS

Founded in 2003 by Dave Isay, StoryCorps is an independently funded 501(c)3 organization that has given over 500,000 people—Americans of all backgrounds and beliefs, in towns and cities in all 50 states—the chance to record interviews about their lives. The organization preserves the recordings in its archive at the Library of Congress, the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered, and shares select stories with the public through StoryCorps’ weekly podcast, NPR broadcasts, animated shorts, digital platforms, and best-selling books. These powerful human stories reflect the vast range of American experiences, wisdom, and values; engender empathy and connection; and remind us how much more we have in common than divides us. Learn more at storycorps.org.