Dear Parents and Students:

Beginning this week I will be adopting the use of Edmodo. Edmodo is a private online environment designed for educators and their students. Edmodo is NOT Facebook in that it contains no games or apps. It is a social learning tool and will be used to enhance the classroom experience. I will be setting up private groups for my Language Arts class. It is not required that your student sign up for Edmodo, however it is encouraged. Edmodo will help students develop good online skills and provides the following benefits:

* I will post conversation starters and open-ended questions to extend the curriculum going on in the classroom
* Students can post messages to their teacher directly and vice versa
* Students can share ideas with fellow classmates within Edmodo
* Teachers can see and moderate all postings by students
* Students have the option to be notified when posts are made to their Edmodo class via The free Edmodo apps for mobile devices iPhone/iPod/iPad and Android)
* An email address
* A text message

Students with Edmodo accounts will be expected to behave appropriately and follow all Code of Conduct rules, including the **Acceptable Use Agreement for Technology**. Because teachers can ‘see’ and moderate all student activity on Edmodo, they can quickly respond to students who break any such rules while using Edmodo. Appropriate discipline consequences apply, if the behavior warrants. In order for students to use Edmodo they must have your permission. According to Edmodo’s Privacy Policy, which can be read online at: [**http://hcde.edmodo.com/corporate/privacypolicy**](http://hcde.edmodo.com/corporate/privacypolicy), Edmodo does not rent or sell your child’s personal information. In addition, the only information a child must provide to set up an account is the teacher’s class code and a username and password that they select. They don’t even need an email address. Once a student logs on to their account, he/she can choose to be notified of new postings to Edmodo via email or text messaging. Parents should tell their children which option to select, especially if they do not want their child to use a particular method such as text messaging. If neither notification option is selected, the student can still use Edmodo effectively by simply logging on to Edmodo on a computer or through the free Edmodo apps. Note that students cannot text their teachers or classmates via Edmodo. They can only receive notification texts from Edmodo telling them that something has been posted to their Edmodo class. Parents can also request a log in code to gain access to the class Edmodo account. All you need to do is e-mail me and I will send you your student’s access code.

If you have any questions regarding Edmodo please feel free to contact me at agough@lsps.org.

 Thank you,
 Mrs. Gough