Blogging Your Classroom

Why do you want a website?

Why would I read a blog?
* Knowledge sharing
* Professional development (i.e. blogs of other educators)
* Discipline specific blogs to remain current in one’s field

Blogs and Classroom Websites
* Annotated links for students and personal knowledge management
* Class administration blog (homework etc.)
* Instructional tips for students
* Discipline specific blog as professional practice / network / personal knowledge sharing

Web Address: http://edublogs.org/
Pick a blog ID (i.e. Room102, SS6, Lim, etc.).
Sign up for an account.
Check your email to get the assigned password (mail.bcisd.org)

View Blog: http://__________________________.edublogs.org/
Login is on the bottom right.
Note: My username is: ______________________. My password is: _____________________.

Settings & More
After you login click on the Users tab. Update your name and other information as desired. Click Update Profile, and then update how your name is listed.

Options
Next click on Options, and select the General Tab. Update your weblog’s name and description. Recommended: Under Membership, require users to be registered and logged in to comment. Click update options when done.
Writing Your First Entry
Click on Write on the menu. Write a welcome to your new classroom weblog. Think of a short creative title. Write your message. Note the writing options.

- Highlight text and then click the link button to add a link to a website.
- Click the smiley to add an “emoticon”.

Check it over. If you wish, turn off comments. Click the plus sign next to Discussion and uncheck Allow Comments.

Now Publish! Click the Publish button. (Save keeps a draft.)

Then click View Site to check it out.

What else do you want to add?

Links etc. on the right column
Now of course you want to edit what shows up on the right column! (Quickest way is to click Edit at the bottom of your blog entry.)

Pages are non-blog hierarchical web pages. Put static content here. Edit under Manage, Pages.

Archives are automatically created and archived in date order.

Blogroll is a link category already set up. You can change the link name and the links under Links, Manage Links, Add Links and Link Categories.

Meta means “about” and includes important links you can’t and shouldn’t delete! Note the Logout/Login link, your best friend!

Finally, if you have time, play with the look of your site. Under Presentation select a different template and then click View Site to see it. Click back to go back and select a different template.

Don’t play too much! It's about the content, remember!!!