

Welcome Spring!



I always view spring as a new beginning, which happens to coincide with our 4<sup>th</sup> marking period. The 4<sup>th</sup> marking period also brings with it a fresh start.

### **LANGUAGE ARTS-**

*The finest gift is a portion of thyself. - Ralph Waldo Emerson*

As we begin a new marking period we are embracing a new unit on creative writing. We are jumping right in with our first exciting challenge with a one-hundred-word essay contest.

The contest is sponsored by Quick Check and PNC New Jersey Festival of Ballooning. The theme is "What the American Flag Means to Me." Of course it would be wonderful if one of the students won, but the main focus is to work toward our common goal of successful writing. Part of that goal is for the student to include "a portion of thyself" within each writing assignment, as each student's work really is a personal endeavor.

As always, language arts wouldn't be complete without good grammar habits and practice. Therefore, we will be incorporating grammar into our curriculum along with writing.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES-**

*"You say you want a revolution, well you know, we all want to change the world..." - Beatles*

I really didn't intend on beginning our 4<sup>th</sup> marking period course descriptions with two famous quotes, however... We are about to embark on our own revolution and I couldn't resist the Beatles' connection. To be more specific, we will begin studying the American Revolution.

As we wrap up our studies of the American Colonies; the Southern Colonies as the most recent, we are about to embark on an exciting trip through American history.

We'll begin with colonists speaking out, their disagreements, the road to war, declaring independence and the Americans and the Revolution. This curriculum promises to be an exciting and enriching experience.

Parents and guardians, as always, please remember to sign all tests requiring signatures. Enjoy the warm weather! - Deborah Zdepski

