**Year-long Blogging Project Overview**

This year you will be creating your own personal blog and posting to it regularly, you will also respond to other students’ posts to provide feedback and start dialogues with your peers.

*What will we blog about?*

Anything you want. Really. This is an opportunity for you to explore your interests and passions, cultivate research skills, improve your writing, and cultivate voice. You will decide what blogs and newsfeeds you want read and what topics you want to write about.

*How do we get started?*

1. Generate lists of personal interests and questions as a springboard for writing topics.
2. Use google.com/blogsearch to find blogs about the things you are interested in.
3. Sign up for a reader (such as Google Reader) to pull in and keep track of the blogs and newsfeeds we like.
4. Create a Google doc or spreadsheet for collecting notes/quotes/media that you may want to use in your piece and for drafting.

**The process** *(see the Blogging Cycle checklist for more details)*

1. Every three weeks you will be responsible for publishing a polished post that has gone through a revision and response process. Posts will include an image and references to other blogs, news articles, podcasts or videos.
2. You will also respond to at least three other student posts (after we complete the first round).

**Responding to posts online**

When we respond to the published posts of our peers we will assume that these pieces have been polished and worked over to the satisfaction of the author. It will not be your job to provide feedback about mechanics, syntax, organization or overall effectiveness of the piece - that will be the job of our small response communities. More on that later.

Here is what you **should** do:

* Select a quote from the post that you agree or disagree with or find provocative.
* **Introduce** the quotation. Begin with something about what the blogger said.
* **Insert** the quotation (don’t forget quotation marks).
* **Interpret** the quotation. Why do you think the blogger said this? What are your thoughts on it? What does it make you think about you inquiry question?

*\*You will also use this format to weave quotes or paraphrased info into your own blog posts.*