Congratulations on completing your first year of high school. Next year you will begin a two-year study of American history. Our starting point in September will be the first European colonists and their settlement of the Americas. While English colonization began in Virginia, it is the landing of the Pilgrims in Plymouth that often captures the attention of the history books.

Your summer assignment is to read *The Mayflower and the Pilgrims' New World* by Nathaniel Philbrick (Puffin Books, 2009. ISBN# 0142414581) and complete the assignment below. If you have trouble finding the book in a library and choose to buy it, most online sellers have it for under $9.00.

Most people know the basic story of the Pilgrims and the Mayflower, but Philbrick argues that the basic story does not tell us much about the complex relationship between the Pilgrims and the local Native Americans. Philbrick tells the story of Plymouth colony from its beginning to King Philip’s War 50 years later. The information in the book will be an important part of class discussions and assignments for the first month of the course. It is therefore very important that you read the book carefully and critically.

In addition to carefully reading this book, you have two specific assignments:

1. At the time of the first Thanksgiving in 1621, the English settlers and Native Americans had relatively good relationship. Between 1621 and King Philip’s War in 1675-1676 however, this good relationship fell apart. Your task is to write a 1-2 page paper analyzing who or what was most to blame for the break down in good relations between the Pilgrims and the Natives after the First Thanksgiving.
   a. Your paper must be typed and 1.5 -spaced in 11-point font in Times New Roman.
   b. You must use specific information from the book (including quotes) to support your points. Make sure you note these with parenthetical references ex. (Philbrick 35).
   c. Your paper will be evaluated on the strength and quality of your argument, your support with appropriate information from the book, and overall writing style.
   d. THIS PAPER IS DUE, PRINTED OUT, THE VERY FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! IF YOU DO NOT HAVE IT READY TO HANDED IN, FOR WHATEVER REASON, IT IS CONSIDERED LATE AND WILL BE PENALIZED!
   e. You must also be prepared to submit this paper through Turnitin.com shortly after the start of school. This means you must also preserve (save and do not delete) an electronic copy of your paper for submission as well as the paper copy.

2. You must also be prepared to discuss, in detail, each of the following topics starting on the very first day of school in September. Be prepared to be quizzed and/or tested on one or more of these topics at the start of the new school year.
   ● The cross cultural exchange between the 1st generation of settlers and the Native Americans.
   ● The cultural and economic responses of the colonists to the Indians of North America
   ● The impact of King Philip’s War on the relationship between white settlers and the Native Americans.
   ● The similarities and the differences between the 1st and 2nd generation of white settlers in New England
   ● Religious beliefs and intolerance of the Pilgrims
   ● The relationship between the Pilgrims and the more numerous Puritans in Massachusetts Bay
   ● The meaning and validity of Philbrick’s comment that “It was the deepening relationship with the Indians that turned them into Americans.”

Have a great summer. If you have any questions feel free to see Mr. Kyle prior to the end of the year. For questions over the summer, email Mr. Kyle at jkyle@pthsd.net.