Christopher Columbus Facts

• Was not unique in thinking the earth was round
• Remarkable sailor and navigator
• Born in Genoa, an Italian province
• Was not the first to sail west to the America’s (that distinction goes to the Viking Norse and Leif Erikson in the 11th century)
• Recognized as first to link Old and New Worlds
• Columbus died believing he had landed in the Indies, hence the term ‘West Indies’ to describe the island chain and ‘Indians’ to describe the indigenous population
• Took 6 Native Americans back to Europe following first voyage
• Funding was rejected by France, Portugal, and England prior to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella of Spain agreeing to finance
• Left Europe in August of 1492
• Landed in the Bahamas (San Salvador) two months later
• Was imprisoned and returned to Spain in chains after being removed from his governorship of Hispaniola (Haiti/Dominican Republic) in 1500
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GD3dgiDreGc
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aF_unlvjcA
How should we feel?

• Columbus has been revered and reviled for centuries.
  – What were Columbus’s motivations? He had more than one.
  – Name two faults and two admirable characteristics.

• How do you feel about Columbus?
  – Should we blame him for what has happened to the Native American population?
  – Do his achievements outweigh his faults?
  – What does Columbus tell us about the ways in which we view history?
Friday, December 12th

• Reflect on your writing from our previous Renaissance exam. Read your essay (no matter how painful this may be) and refer to the rubric.

• Describe in 1-2 sentences how you can improve in EACH category: Claim, Development, Audience, Cohesion and Style/Conventions

• Turn in at the end of the period

• Chapter 2, Section 1
  – Define or describe: Moluccas, Prince Henry, cartographer, Vasco de Gama, Christopher Columbus, Authority, Line of Demarcation, Treaty of Tordesillas, Magellan, Circumnavigate
  – Questions 3, 5 and 6