**English Language Arts 9: Creative Shakespeare *Group* Project**

In English class this year, you will begin studying William Shakespeare, a Playwright who wrote during the 16th century in Elizabethan England (during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I). In fact, you will probably study Shakespeare every year until from now until you graduate high school. To get acquainted with the time period, culture and language that existed when Shakespeare was alive and writing, choose one of the following creative projects that will allow you to explore these areas.

**Evaluation:** This project will be marked out of 100 and will be marked on thought and detail, creativity, completeness, and correctness.

**Project Ideas:** You can choose one of the following project ideas or come up with one of your own that must be approved by Mr. DiDonato prior to starting the project. The entire point of this project is to BE CREATIVE! So choose a project that will allow you to do something that you enjoy and will have fun with! Each ***Google Slides Presentation*** must have 10 total slides:

* 1 Topic slide (group members; title)
* 8 informative slides (include as many pictures as possible; little wording)
* 1 works cited slide (MLA format; minimum of 3 cites)

1. Research the **Elizabethan Era Culture**: the look (hair styles/make up etc.), & clothing of the peasant class during Shakespeare’s time. Focus on styles, materials colours etc. What did these people eat? How did they live – what did they do for work?
2. Research four of the plays which are considered **‘tragedies’**; what are the lessons inherent in these plays? Do the themes still have a place in today’s society? Explain with examples.
3. Research the Shakespearean **comedies**; what are the major factors included that help develop the humour in these plays? Why do these factors have such a popular voice during Shakespeare’s era? Who enjoyed these plays most? Why?
4. Research the **Globe Theatre**; how was it built, where and why? Ensure to include how seating was arranged and who would go see the plays. What are the differences between what patrons who went to this theatre could do/say, and what would be acceptable today?
5. Create an illustrated dictionary of **common Elizabethan/Shakespearean words and phrases** with their modern English translations. Create a dialogue that might occur between 2 people who are arguing, OR 2 people who are in love with each other.
6. Research William Shakespeare! Create a biography of the **Bard of Avon**, and track his life from his birth to his death. Include as much information that you can find.