On This Date

1520 – Martin Luther publicly burned a copy of Pope Leo X's papal bull, an act of defiance that led to Luther's excommunication and marked a watershed moment during the Protestant Reformation.

1901 – The first Nobel Prizes were awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace. Alfred Nobel regretted inventing dynamite in 1875 and so established the Nobel awards for those who fostered peace and progress.

1953 – British Prime Minister Winston Churchill received the Nobel Prize in literature.

1968 – The largest heist in Japanese history occurred when a uniformed officer on a motorcycle stopped a car carrying nearly 300 million yen—and sped off with the cash.

Punny Business

The ability to fly would be so uplifting!

Quote of the Day

"The more I study, the more insatiable do I feel my genius for it to be."

~ Ada Lovelace

Happy Birthday!

Ada Lovelace (1815–1852) was the daughter of famed poet Lord Byron. Unlike most girls her age, she enjoyed the rigorous study of mathematics and science, largely at the insistence of her mother. Around age 17, Lovelace met Charles Babbage, a mathematician and inventor of the "analytical engine," the world's first computer. When asked to translate an article on Babbage's invention from French to English, Lovelace did much more, adding her own notes and ideas on the machine. Her thorough additions detailed processes of computer coding that have earned her recognition as the world's first computer programmer.