

# News from Room 233

There is no regular homework this week. Students will be getting the research step of their VIP project today, with the option of working on it this week. Each student has their own graphic organizer to fill in about their chosen person. Bullet point notes are all that are needed, along with any additional print sources they find.



## What's New?

### MCAS-Round 2

On Tuesday and Wednesday morning, the students will be taking their math MCAS assessments. The structure is just like ELA in that the students will come in, get settled, and start testing right away. We have taken time to practice the online tools and reviewed the structure of the test. I am confident that the students' hard work and perseverance in math all year long will make them comfortable with the material on the test. Students are still able to have mints during testing, and I have attached the MCAS checklist here for your reference. Thank you for your continued support with this process.

## Coming

### Soon...

#### Important Dates:

Math MCAS- May 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>  
Benjamin Franklin  
Presentation-May 17<sup>th</sup>  
Recorder Concert- May 18<sup>th</sup>  
Memorial Day Ceremony- May 25<sup>th</sup>  
(9:00)  
**VIP Research Due-May 25th**  
Memorial Day-May 28<sup>th</sup> (No School)  
Staff PD Day- May 29<sup>th</sup>  
(No School)

### Ms. Maloney's Lesson

Last week, we were lucky to have a visit from Ms. Maloney, our lead teacher for student support. She taught a lesson about problem solving during the school day. We heard the book *What Do You Do with a Problem?* and talked about the many opportunities that can come to light from a problem. She and the students developed many ideas, options, and language to deal with day-to-day small problems, and even some of the bigger challenges that could arise on the playground or in the cafeteria. Along with support, students worked in groups of three to take on a fictional situation and brainstorm what positives could come from it. We will continue using Ms. Maloney's language of problems and opportunities as we head into the excitement of the end of the year.



### Geometry-continued

We are continuing to study geometry in the classroom, using many tools to help us. Students have created shapes using geoboards, straws, rulers, and other tools. We are taking time to understand what a special shape a square is. Though it can be a challenge to understand at first, we are finding that a square happens to be a special type of rhombus, while is also a special type of rectangle, depending on how you interpret its attributes. We worked with a few different resources to develop this concept including [Math is Fun](#). We checked out this website to interactively create differently shaped rhombuses. It turns out that we could create one that fit all the criteria for being a square!