



# MAINE VIRTUAL ACADEMY

## NEWSLETTER



May 1, 2023

Issue 8

### Dr. Melinda Browne Head of School

Welcome back from Spring Break! In this month's newsletter we are happy to highlight student content. Thank you for your contributions.

Many thanks to all the students, families, teachers, and staff who completed the annual Panorama School Climate Survey, which supplies valuable feedback to inform our continuous school improvement.

You may have noticed we have introduced Monday Morning Bulletins! We believe this is an efficient way to communicate with our MEVA families about deadlines and reminders.

Our May programming features both virtual NWEAs and in-person Maine Educational Assessments (MEAs). We are aiming for robust participation. The Spring NWEAs give students the opportunity to show their growth and help teachers design individualized instruction to address their learning needs/gaps. The MEAs measure what students know and can do in relation to grade level content. These assessments inform funding decisions at the federal and state levels that supply necessary support and resources to our school.

Also, this month, we will start sending out graduation boxes and details about the graduation ceremony on June 2nd.

The 2022/2023 school year is quickly ending. Summer is around the corner! Continuing students may contact their guidance counselor if they are interested in taking summer courses.

### Important Dates

- May 2-4 NWEA Spring Virtual Testing
- May 15-19 MEA **In-Person** Spring Testing Grades 7, 8, 10, Math/ELA Open
- May 22-26 MEA **In-Person** Spring Testing Grades 8, 11, Science Open
- June 2 Graduation Day
- June 9 Last Day of School
- June 9 8th Grade Recognition
- June 20-August 4 Summer Session
- **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**
- May 29 Memorial Day
- June 19 Juneteenth
- July 3-7 Summer Session Break
- July 4 Independence Day

### NWEAs May 2-4

The invite for the virtual NWEA testing sessions will be found on your Brightspace calendar, your advisory announcements, and an email will be sent.

If you are unable to log into your session please reach out to your advisor teacher. If you need to test outside of the May 2-4 window, please reach out to Mrs. O'Grady at [cogrady@mainevirtualacademy.org](mailto:cogrady@mainevirtualacademy.org).

It is critical to evaluate and track student learning progress, especially as we strive to fill gaps post-pandemic. The NWEAs allow us to see the growth that each individual student has made and to plan an individualized path for them the following school year.

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## In-Person MEA Testing

Student's IN-PERSON State Testing site, date and time assignments have been sent to everyone over the past 2 weeks. Please check your inbox, bulk, junk or spam folders for an email from "MEVA Testing". Contact us immediately if you did not receive one.

Please email

**[Guidance@mainevirtualacademy.org](mailto:Guidance@mainevirtualacademy.org)**

NOW if you have any barriers which may prevent your student from attending testing.

MEA Math/Reading is administered to all students in 7th, 8th, and 10th grade. The Science MEA is administered to all students in 8th and 11th grade.

We depend on your participation to help show our schoolwide progress toward grade-level proficiency on both MEAs.

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## Graduation Update

Congrats to the Class of 2023!!

- Seniors and early graduates' Grad Boxes will be mailed in mid-May along with information about the graduation ceremony on June 2, 2023. If your address has recently changed let us know NOW! If you do not receive your graduation box by May 26th, email Gina Davis at **[gdavis@mainevirtualacademy.org](mailto:gdavis@mainevirtualacademy.org)**.
- GRADS: If you are in possession of a MEVA laptop, we will send you a mailing label in your Grad Box and will send your Diploma once the laptop is returned. Stay tuned for more details.
- MEVA Senior Swag is now available for sale! Hoodies and t-shirts in sizes S-5XL. They are machine wash cotton and true to size. Purchasing is secure!  
**<https://www.bonfire.com/meva-grad-swag/>**

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# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

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## V-E Day (May 8th, 1945) By Megan Rushing

On May 7th, 1945, The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) brought news that allied countries have been longing to hear: WW2 was finally reaching its end!

What began with Germany invading Poland on September 1, 1939, WW2 saw millions of casualties, and six years of fighting. Following the supposed death of Adolf Hitler in late April, both Germany and Russia agreed to an unconditional surrender- signing the surrender documents on May 8th, 1945.

As the news spread around the world, cheers, tears, and celebrations filled the streets of many nations, while soldiers returned home to their patiently awaiting loved ones. This marked V-E day, or Victory in Europe Day.

As Great Britain's prime minister, Winston Churchill announced the end of the war, V-E day came as a birthday present for the newly

appointed U.S. President, Harry Truman, who dedicated the day to the recently deceased President Franklin Roosevelt, who was president for most of the war.

Although V-E day marked the end of the war with Germany and Russia, the war with Japan was not quite over. The official end of WW2 came three months later on August 14th when Japan finally agreed to surrender, in the week following the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

V-E day was a day of both celebration and mourning, as it is a day that marked the closure of WW2.

For more info about Victory in Europe Day, visit these websites:

- **<https://www.history.com/news/remembering-v-e-day>**
- **<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/victory-in-europe>**
- **<https://www.iwm.org.uk/history/what-you-need-to-know-about-ve-day>**

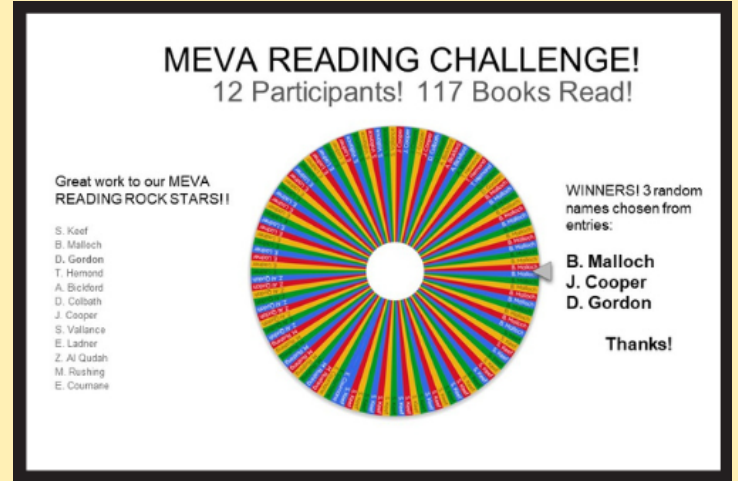
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## Where I'm From

Where I'm From poetry is a project that originated in 1993 by George Ella Lyon. Since then the poetry has blossomed and traveled far and wide serving as a way to connect and unite.

We want to gather and celebrate diversity amongst our students where remote learning can feel distant at times. Here is a collection of Where I'm From poems written by the American Literature class taught by Mr. Campbell and Ms. Lugdon.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xABuob5v5WN-SyTPc2cUSP5Ou6P9u7Tysv0NVCH7-pl/edit?usp=sharing>



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## ART DEPARTMENT

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**Ayla  
Conger -  
Girl with  
Bat**



**Everett  
Knowlton  
- Shell  
Hero**



**John Pearson -  
Asclania's Roots**

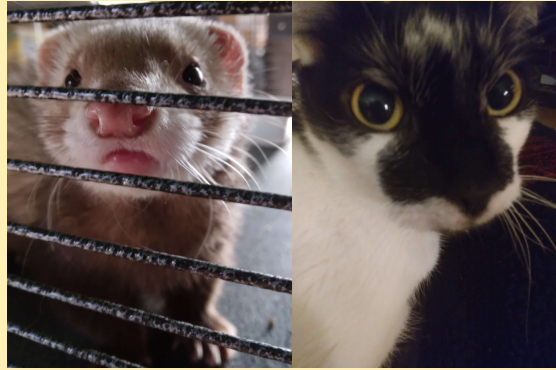


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# PET CORNER

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## Marshmallow and Natsu



Mylee Hill's pet ferret, Marshmallow, loves to play with stuffed animals. Kitty's name, Natsu, means summer in Japanese which matches him perfectly...he loves the A/C in the summer.

## Mae-Belle



Skyla Aubut's kitten Mae-Belle is also known as Mayday.



## Rosie

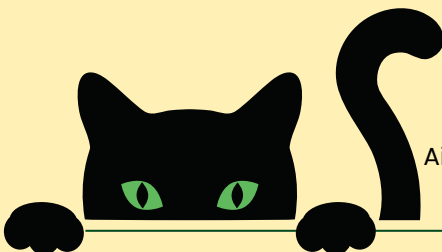


Ari Main's pet horse, "Say cheese!"

## Gryffin and Rosie



Aimee Eivers' pets. "An animal's eyes have the power to speak a great language." -- Martin Buber



# CONGRATULATIONS

## Student/Teacher/Staff of the Month

Congratulations to our Students, Teachers and Staff of the Month for May! You have been recognized by your peers, teachers and school faculty as a standout individual. Great job!

Thank you to everyone who participated and voted.

To vote for June's Student/Teacher/ Staff of the Month -- the last vote for this school year, please vote by May 15th at this link:  
<https://forms.gle/MWULqrMkmPMQss7j6>.

7th Grade Student: **Tianna Siedell**  
7th Grade Teacher: **Jan White & Lindsey Bosk**  
8th Grade Student: **Caitlyn Lourie**  
8th Grade Teacher: **Kim Clark**  
9th Grade Student: **Selah Cournane**  
9th Grade Teacher: **Mary Violette**  
10th Grade Student: **Josiah Drayton**  
10th Grade Teacher: **Carlotta Thompson & Zach Campbell**  
11th Grade Student: **Aimee Eivers**  
11th Grade Teacher: **Vanessa Richardson**  
12th Grade Student: **Andy Fortin**  
12th Grade Teacher: **Carla Hamilton**  
Staff: **Mehry Mohammadi**



## Student Shoutout!

EJ Wasel participated in the Eastern Maine Math League Spring Meet on April 4. Approximately 580 6th-9th grade students from the region participated. EJ was the top 7th grade scorer on her team.

Congratulations EJ! Great job!

## NEW Self Paced Anime

New self paced class! Do you like anime? Dr. C is offering a self paced anime class which runs from now until August 11th. High school students and select 8th graders qualify. Reach out to guidance to be added or email Dr. C for more information.

### How can HelpDesk help you?

HelpDesk is where you have access to the teachers for all of your subjects. In HelpDesk we ask questions, complete homework, and conquer missing assignments. You can even access one of our student tutors. Some students may be required to attend if your teacher(s) feels it is appropriate.

Please join us and see what you can accomplish!

HelpDesk meets everyday 2:00-2:50pm

For more information, please check the **HelpDesk** content called **Students Corner** or email Nicole Hart at [nhart@mainevirtualacademy.org](mailto:nhart@mainevirtualacademy.org)



### Newsletter Ideas

We are happy to highlight the successes of MEVA Students!  
Please send your newsletter ideas and shoutouts to [SCarter@MaineVirtualAcademy.org](mailto:SCarter@MaineVirtualAcademy.org).