



Dear Lighthouse Families,

What an absolute delight it has been greeting the students this week. I loved seeing their smiling, familiar faces and welcoming new families. I often tell friends that I am the luckiest person in that I have such a rewarding job. Being surrounded by wise, intentional educators, the children's unbridled joy and curiosity, and the spectacular journey of their education is a tremendous honor and a source of great inspiration. Thank you for trusting and partnering with us.

We are excited to kick-off the school year with your family, and we look forward to seeing you at this month's community events:

- Monday, September 8: Extended Day begins and is available until 5:10PM. You can register below. We are thrilled to welcome Zacil Sassy Nash and Nicci Aguiar Peña who will be running our Extended Day program. Sassy and Nicci bring many years of experience working with children and leading creative programs.
- Friday, September 12, 5-7:00PM: Back to School Family Picnic (Please see the flyer below for details.)
- Thursday, September 18: Parent Night (Please see the flyer for the time of your child's Parent Night. This event is for adult family members.)
- PALS Reps: If you are interested in becoming a parent representative for your child's class, please contact Alicia Lynn: alynn@nantucketlighthouseschool.org or 508.228.0427. We will schedule a meeting with this year's reps once the group has been assembled.

I look forward to connecting with you throughout the year - my door is always open.

Warm regards,
Emily

Happy, Thoughtful Kids Grown Here

It is my greatest honor to welcome you to a new school year at Nantucket Lighthouse School! There is nothing quite like the feeling of these first days—watching children’s eyes light up as they discover their beautiful classrooms, hearing the hum of friendships rekindling, and sensing the anticipation of all the growth ahead. It is a privilege to witness these moments and to walk alongside your family as your child begins their journey this year. My role as the school counselor is to be here not only for children but also for you. Parenting and family life bring both joy and challenge, and I look forward to offering resources and simple strategies that can support your child’s social and emotional well-being. Most importantly, I am here as a thought partner—someone you can reach out to when you want to talk something through, celebrate a milestone, or find support in a hard moment.

The transition from summer to the structure of school can feel overwhelming for both children and parents. Research from child psychologists such as Dr. Becky Kennedy reminds us that children grow best when we combine structure with connection. A few small practices can ease this shift:

- Keep boundaries steady and loving. Children may push against routines, but they feel safest when we hold them gently and consistently.
- Make space for small rituals. A morning note in a lunchbox or a goodbye hug routine can offer grounding and comfort.
- Acknowledge mixed feelings. Your child might be excited and nervous. Naming both helps them feel seen: *“It makes sense you feel a little sad. I’ll be here at pickup.”*
- Protect downtime. After the school day, unstructured play and rest at home help children reset and recharge.

We are in this together. Every child comes to school with their own wonderful ways of being, and our shared goal is to nurture those gifts while giving them the skills they need to grow. Please don’t ever hesitate to stop by my office or reach out by email or phone—I am here to listen, to help, and to celebrate this journey with you.

Warmly,
Julia

Important Upcoming Dates:

Friday, September 12: Back to School Picnic- 5:00-7:00

Wednesday, September 18: Parent Night

Wednesday, October 1: Professional Development-
NO SCHOOL

EZ Texting Test Next Week:

We will be sending out a test for our Emergency Texting System on Tuesday, September 9. If you do not receive a text on Tuesday by noon,

Just a friendly reminder about our Back-to-School Picnic this Friday!

Please help us by filling the parking lot as much as possible; overflow parking is available ONLY on the school side of Rugged Road. We'll have a pizza truck (accepting cash and card) and an ice cream truck (accepting cash and Venmo) on-site for delicious treats, but you're also welcome to bring your dinner if you prefer. Additionally, every student will receive a new Lighthouse t-shirt when they go home on Friday, and we'd love to see everyone sporting their new NLS merch at the picnic!

We look forward to seeing you there!

Please join us for a

BACK-TO-SCHOOL PICNIC

Friday, September 12

5:00 to 7:00 PM

Nantucket Lighthouse School

1 Rugged Road

For overflow parking, please park on the
school side of Rugged Road.

What to bring

Picnic blankets, beverages, plates, utensils & napkins.

Eat Fire Pizza Truck & Hang Loose Helado
will join us if you would like to purchase dinner, or you may bring
your own meal.



New Nantucket Lighthouse School merch will be available for
purchase.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Nantucket

Lighthouse
School

Extended Day is LIVE

We are excited to welcome this year's Extended Day Teachers: Zacil Sassy Nash, Nicci Peña, and Meg Glidden. Please use the link below to register.

We will also be offering our Shuttle to the NBGC. That sign up link is below. Do not forget to also sign up to be a NBGC member.

[Extended Day Sign-up](#)

[NBGC Shuttle Sign-up](#)



Nantucket
**Lighthouse
School**

Parent Night

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

1 Rugged Road

5:00-5:40 p.m.

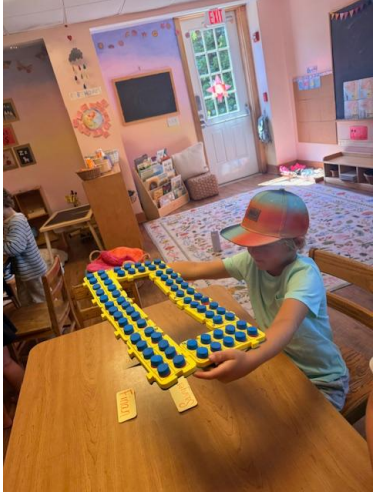
Small School, 2nd Grade, 3rd Grade

5:45-6:25 p.m.

1st Grade, 6th & 7th Grades

6:30-7:10 p.m.

Kinderclass, 4th & 5th Grades





Community Events

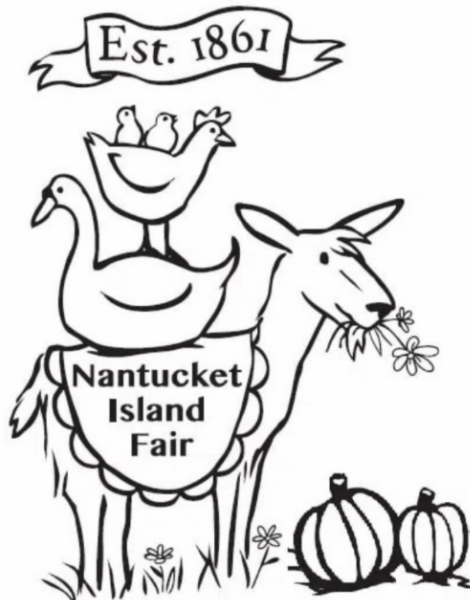


Nantucket Island Fair

**Saturday and Sunday, September 13th and 14th
10:00am - 4:00pm**

Tom Nevers Field

Live Music, Fair Games, Animals, Scarecrow Building, Art Exhibition, Kid's Corner





Nantucket Community School

Spanish for Niños

with Melissa Araujo

Saturday | 9/6-10/4 | \$125 | 56 Centre St.

9:00-10:00am | Ages 5-6

10:30-11:30am | Ages 7-8



This introductory course is designed to provide hands-on learning through music, art, and play. Children will learn basic Spanish language skills, such as salutations and introductions, the alphabet, numbers, colors, and weather.

www.nantucketcommunityschool.org



Nantucket Lighthouse School | 1 Rugged Road | Nantucket, MA 02554 US

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