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Dear Lighthouse Families,

Last month we launched Nantucket Lighthouse School's Annual Appeal. We are off to an excellent start and are so heartened by the generous response from our community. While a majority of the gifts are typically received by December 31, the Appeal extends through the school year, specifically through June 30. We are eager to reach 100% parent participation with this year's Annual Appeal, and with your help, I am certain we will get there.

As I shared back in September, the Annual Appeal is the school's single largest and most important fundraiser. It accounts for approximately half of our annual fundraising, and it is the method by which we maintain our strong programs and keep our tuition accessible. When every family participates, no matter the size of the gift, it signals to the broader community of donors that Nantucket Lighthouse School is strong and supported by the families whose children attend the school.

Consistent with small, independent schools, there is a gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating each child at Nantucket Lighthouse School. That gap is over \$5,000 per student. The Annual Appeal helps us bridge the gap and ensures that we are able to hire the most outstanding educators and offer an exceptional learning experience for the children.

I invite every family to join me in supporting this year's effort. Your participation, at any level matters, and it inspires others to give as well. **You may click here to make your gift, or you may contact Mackenzie Thompson to discuss other avenues of giving.**

Thank you for supporting Nantucket Lighthouse School and the vibrant community of children who are forever impacted by your generosity.

With gratitude,

Emily

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### **Happy, Thoughtful Kids Grown Here**

Recent research continues to affirm what guides so much of our work at Nantucket Lighthouse School: the need to protect childhood—now more than ever.

A major new study published in the *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities* examined more than 27,000 young adults worldwide, ages 18–24. Researchers found that those who received their first smartphone at age 12 or

younger were significantly more likely to report poorer mental health outcomes later in life (particularly higher rates of suicidal thoughts, feelings of isolation or detachment from reality, aggression, and lower self-worth) compared with peers who received their first phone at age 13 or older.

While the study does not prove that smartphone use directly causes these challenges, it strongly suggests that early exposure to social media, online comparison, cyberbullying, and disrupted sleep may play a major role. The authors recommend delaying smartphone ownership and promoting digital literacy and boundaries as key protective factors for developing minds.

Last week, a parent from California reached out after discovering our school's philosophy. She shared how, in her child's kindergarten class, social media influence is already shaping friendships and play. She longs for a community of parents who share her instinct to slow down. Her story was a powerful reminder of how rare and precious Nantucket Lighthouse School truly is.

Together, we are ensuring that children are given the space to build forts instead of followers, to explore nature instead of navigating online trends, and to form relationships face-to-face rather than through screens. These are not small things; they are the foundation of emotional health and resilience. When we, as parents and educators, choose to delay devices, model mindful technology use, and promote real-world connections, we are not just protecting our own children- we are engaging in a collective act of care.

Warmly,

Julia

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## Why We Give

### ***Every child benefits.***

I've spent seven years of my life entering and exiting the Lighthouse School parking lot twice a day. With three children at the school, I've seen a range of emotions, growth spurts, milestones, and challenges overcome. I often reflect on what the school means to our family, and why we return, year after year.

During school conferences last week, I had yet another reminder of our why: my kids love to learn here. They love to learn because of the *way* they learn at NLS. In their small classes, they can explore topics in a multitude of ways, often loading up into the vans to explore, work materials through their hands, and engage in meaningful conversations that enable them to consider different points of view.

Each and every day, my children are heard, they are seen, and they are valued for their contributions to the school community. To be a Lighthouse School teacher is a demanding job, and yet our teachers continue to show up every day to make this experience possible for our children. They arrive early to give extra assistance to middle school math students so they may earn an A on a test, they are endlessly devoted to professional development so they may continue to support our children on the road to literacy, and they wake up early in the morning thinking about new ways they can offer scaffolding to students who may have challenges with focus.

Our family continues to contribute to the Annual Fund because I am committed to spreading a love for learning around the community for generations to come. It is not always possible to offer a large gift, but I know that even a small gift is impactful because the most important thing is that we reach 100% school participation in Annual Fund giving. Please consider a gift

of any amount today.

Sincerely,

Erin Henry

NLS Board of Trustees  
Chair of Strategic Planning



Support Our School  
Here

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### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

Tuesday, November 11:  
Veterans Day  
NO SCHOOL

Wednesday, November 12:  
Parent Craft Night  
5:30-7:30

Wednesday, November 19:  
Parent Craft Night  
5:30-7:30

Tuesday, November 25:  
Grandparent and Special Friend Day

SAVE THE DATE FOR WINTER CELEBRATION  
Tuesday, December 16th

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### **Yuletide Fair Volunteer Shifts**

It takes a village to bring the Yuletide Fair to life and we'd love for you to be part of it! Sign up for a volunteer shift (or more!) to help at the fair. Whether you're setting up, wrapping baked goods, or helping at checkout, every role makes a difference.

Wednesday, Dec. 3rd @ 8:45 AM

Truck drivers are needed to help transport décor and market items from NLS to the White Elephant Ballroom.

Friday, Dec. 5th

Wrappers are needed to package baked goods at the White Elephant Ballroom.

Saturday, Dec. 6th

Fair volunteers are needed to help staff and support the Yuletide Fair.

Saturday, Dec. 6th @ 4:30 PM

Truck drivers are needed once again to transport décor and market items back from the White Elephant Ballroom to NLS.

[Yuletide Volunteer Sign Up](#)

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### **Yuletide Baked Goods**

Each year, NLS families help make the Yuletide Fair's beloved Bake Shop a delicious success. Whether it's an heirloom family recipe or a festive favorite, we invite families to bake (or purchase) a special treat to contribute. Looking for inspiration? Keep an eye on our weekly newsletters! Each week will feature a selection of recipe ideas to spark your creativity.

[Bake Shop Loaf Recipes](#)

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Nantucket  
Lighthouse  
School

# *Grandparent and Special Friend Day*

**Tuesday, November 25th**

Each child is invited to bring one  
adult special friend or grandparent.

**9:00–9:40 AM**

Amanda's Class  
Heather's Class  
Jessica's Class  
Maggie's Class

**9:50–10:30 AM**

Cayla's Class  
Kerry's Class  
Stephanie's Class

**10:40–11:20 AM**

Caitlin's Class  
Eli' Class  
Emma's Class

Please RSVP by Monday, November 17th  
to the classroom teacher.







Nantucket  
Lighthouse  
School

## Extended Day

Monday–Friday

2:30–5:10pm

The Extended Day program includes hands-on activities, artistic projects, homework help, and imaginative play indoors and out.

[Learn More and Sign Up](#)

Extended Day will be in Stephanie's classroom starting Monday, November 10.













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## Community Events



# Winter Clothing Giveaway

We're coming together to support our community and spread warmth where it's needed most.

WHEN: Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>  
from 9:00 to 3:00

WHERE: Saltmarsh Senior Center  
at 81 Washington Street

WHAT: Coats, jackets, scarves,  
sweatshirts, sweaters in sizes for  
adults, teens and kids



This event is sponsored by the Nantucket Center for Elder Affairs, Inc., a 501 (c)(3) corporation serving seniors 60 and older



# WATER BUGS

**CLASSES BEGIN NOVEMBER 18**  
**AGES 6 MONTHS-3.5 YEARS**  
**\$10 PER CLASS**



Nantucket  
Community  
School



[WWW.NANTUCKETCOMMUNITYSCHOOL.ORG](http://WWW.NANTUCKETCOMMUNITYSCHOOL.ORG)



# Free After -School Group Music Lessons



For more information contact

**Zacil Sassy Nash, NCMC NIYO Communication Director**

Email: [sassy@nantucketmusiccenter.org](mailto:sassy@nantucketmusiccenter.org)

Call or text: 501-425-2273

## The Program is FREE for students!

The program takes  
place in the NPS High School

**Limited spots  
SIGN-UP NOW**

## Learn to play

- String
- Brass
- Woodwinds
- Percussion



## Six Week Sessions - sign up for one or all

- Session 2 Oct 27 - Dec 12
- Session 3 Jan 5 to Feb 13
- Session 4 Mar 9 to Apr 17
- Session 5 Apr 27 to Jun 5

## World class instructors

- Local from NCMC, NPS & Lighthouse schools
- Visiting from Boston Conservatory & New England Conservatory

## Sessions schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
2:30 pm	Walk over from NIS	Walk over from NIS	Walk over from NIS	Walk over from NIS
3:00 pm	Beginner Violin Beginner Cello	Beginner Violin Beginner Cello	General Music/Theory One class only	Advanced ENSEMBLE TIME
3:45 pm	Break/Transition	Break/Transition	Dismissal	Break/Transition
4:00 pm	Beginner ENSEMBLE TIME	Advanced Violin Advanced Cello Viola		Advanced Violin Advanced Cello
4:45 pm	Break/Transition	Break/Transition		Break/Transition
5:00 pm	Percussion, brass and woodwinds	Percussion, brass and woodwinds		Percussion, brass and woodwinds
5:45 pm	Dismissal	Dismissal		Dismissal

## Sign up right here





# **2025 BASKETBALL CLINICS**

**Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>**



## **DIII BOYS**

11/18 @ 3PM

11/20 @ 3PM

**11/21 @ 4PM**

## **DIII GIRLS**

11/17 @ 3PM

11/19 @ 3PM

11/21 @ 3PM

## **DII BOYS**

11/18 @ 4PM

11/20 @ 4PM

11/22 @ 10AM

## **DII GIRLS**

11/17 @ 4PM

11/19 @ 4PM

**11/21 @ 5PM**

## **DI BOYS**

11/18 @ 5PM

11/20 @ 5PM

11/22 @ 11AM

## **DI GIRLS**

11/17 @ 5PM

11/19 @ 5PM

11/22 @ 12PM

**DIII = 1<sup>ST</sup>-2<sup>ND</sup> GRADE**

**DII = 3<sup>RD</sup>-4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**DI = 5<sup>TH</sup>-6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**Must be a club member to participate.**

**Register online @ [nantucketboysandgirlsclub.org](https://nantucketboysandgirlsclub.org)**

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# RUN FOR ROBIN 5K

SUNDAY NOVEMBER  
23RD AT 10AM

SCONSET CASINO

A COMMUNITY EVENT THAT BRINGS EVERYONE TOGETHER  
TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF ROBIN HARVEY WHILE  
SUPPORTING THE HARVEY FOUNDATION. FOR MORE  
INFORMATION VISIT: [HARVEYFOUNDATIONNANTUCKET.ORG](http://HARVEYFOUNDATIONNANTUCKET.ORG)



IT'S ABOUT COMMUNITY

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# MINDFUL SENSORY PROGRAMS

A welcoming museum experience for children with sensory  
or special needs and their caregivers.



Saturday, November 22  
Saturday, December 13  
Saturday, February 14  
Saturday, March 21  
Saturday, April 1

9–10 am at the  
Whaling Museum  
**FREE**



SCAN ME

View our  
Programs & Events Calendar  
at **NHA.org/programs**

@nantuckethistoricalassociation | NHA.org  
*Faraway from the expected.*

In Partnership with





**NHA**  
NANTUCKET  
HISTORICAL  
ASSOCIATION

**THANKSGIVING**

**DISCOVERY DAYS**

Bring the whole family to  
the **Whaling Museum** during  
Thanksgiving Break for hands-on activities!

**Fri. November 28 & Sat. November 29**  
**10 AM - 12 PM**

Learn about Nantucket summer resident **Tony Sarg** – the inventor of the Thanksgiving Parade balloons – and do a craft inspired by his work. On Friday, Lizza will start us off with a **NanPuppets show** under the whale.

And visit our replica “**Morton the Sea Monster**” balloon in front of the museum for a photo op (weather dependent).

@nantuckethistoricalassociation | NHA.org  
*Faraway from the expected.*

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

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