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Dear Lighthouse Families,

This week I have the pleasure of attending two graduations, my son's from law school and my niece's from a liberal arts college. As both a parent and an educator, I am deeply sentimental about these important rites of passage. While the events themselves are a moment in time, they signal a significant milestone and transition in a person's life. They are deeply proud occasions for both children and their families.

While listening to Judge Sooknanan, the commencement speaker at my son's graduation, I found myself reflecting on his educational journey since entering school at the tender age of three. (How had the years passed so quickly?) Judge Sooknanan, an accomplished scholar and jurist, spoke about the hard work and long hours asked of a young attorney, but even more importantly, about finding balance, being kind, and leading a contented, full life.

This resonated so deeply with me, as it reflected what my husband and I have always wanted for our own children, as well as the ideals imbedded in Nantucket Lighthouse School's mission to ***cultivate intellectual, social, and moral wisdom and to prepare each child to lead a joyful and impactful life.*** An education focused solely on a child's intellectual development and outward accomplishment often fails to acknowledge the importance of some of the less tangible measures of growth and success: the cultivation of compassion, happiness, diligence, creativity, empathy, risk taking, an aptitude to learn from failure, and confidence to persevere in the face of adversity.

Success does not simply come from the diploma or the degree, rather it has myriad sources, including the personal satisfaction of a job well done and the knowledge in our hearts that our work and our lives positively impacted others.

As we expand into eighth grade next year, I look forward to honoring Nantucket Lighthouse School's next set of graduates in the spring of 2027.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Emily

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### Happy, Thoughtful Kids Grown Here

The days are growing longer, and the flurry of events on the school calendar is a sure sign that summer is approaching. From Project Night to Carnival, this season

at Nantucket Lighthouse School is marked with anticipation and celebration.

As joyful as this time of year can be, children are sensitive to increased stimulation, shifting rhythms, and the approach of summer. Even positive excitement can tax a child's nervous system, leaving them in need of extra rest, reassurance, and emotional steadiness from the adults around them.

One of the most supportive things families can do during particularly busy seasons is protect the fundamentals: consistent bedtimes, predictable routines, and unhurried moments. Children tend to feel most secure when the cadence of daily life remains reasonably steady, even when the calendar itself is full.

A simple phrase that can be especially grounding this time of year is: connection before correction. When children feel seen and understood, they are far better able to regulate themselves, adapt to change, and navigate any challenges successfully.

These final weeks of school hold some of the most meaningful moments of the year for our school community. I look forward to sharing in these special events with you!

Warmly,

Julia

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### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

**NO SCHOOL**  
**Memorial Day**  
**Monday, May 25th**

**Project Night and Family Picnic**  
**Monday, June 1st**  
**5:00-7:00pm**

**NLS Carnival**  
**Thursday June 4th**  
**1:30-2:30pm**

**HALF DAY**  
**Last Day of School**  
**Friday, June 5th**



*Welcoming Pollyanna Wilkinson  
to Nantucket Garden Festival*



*2026 Keynote Lecture & Luncheon*

JULY 8, 2026 | 12:00-2:00 p.m.

STRAIGHT WHARF RESTAURANT

We are delighted to announce that award-winning landscape designer, author, and founder of Studio Pollyanna, Pollyanna Wilkinson, will join us as the 2026 Nantucket Garden Festival Keynote Speaker. Known for her elegant, contemporary gardens and thoughtful approach to design, Pollyanna brings extraordinary creativity and inspiration to this year's Festival. We look forward to welcoming her to Nantucket this July for what promises to be a wonderful luncheon celebration. Limited tickets remain and are available now.

[Key Note Luncheon Tickets](#)



Nantucket  
Lighthouse  
School

# Extended Day

Monday–Friday

Meet in the Cottage

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](#)

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**AN ACTIVE, PLAY-BASED SUMMER PROGRAM  
SERVING CHILDREN AGES 3.5 TO 12**

## **CAMP FOR NANTUCKET LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL STUDENTS**



*These two special weeks of camp are only available to currently-enrolled Nantucket Lighthouse School students!*

Our mission is to ensure that every child is engaged and nurtured across a wide variety of collaborative and creative experiences.

### **NANTUCKET LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL STUDENT ONLY CAMP WEEKS:**

June 15–18 (Monday–Thursday)

\$520

August 24–28 (Monday–Friday)

\$650

*Limited space is available.*

[Register for June 15–18](#)

[Register for August 24–28](#)

[Learn More About Camp Lighthouse](#)







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## Community Events

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# WRITING GROUP: Letters Against Isolation

**MEETING ON  
THE FIRST  
FLOOR**

**FREE  
ADMISSION!**



**Mondays  
Monthly  
6PM - 7:30PM**

**Have you ever wanted to help build community, disrupt isolation and share joy & hope through the written word? Join us & year round islander, Margaret Hewitt, as we participate in a letter writing party as part of Letters Against Isolation, an organization seeking to fight senior loneliness, one letter at a time. Materials for letter writing will be provided along with light beverages.**



SEE OUR CALENDAR AT  
[www.nantucketatheneum.org](http://www.nantucketatheneum.org)  
OR SCAN THE QR CODE  
FOR MORE EVENT DETAILS!



## **NCTV FILMMAKING WORKSHOP (FREE TO THE COMMUNITY)**

**Rating: Unrated**

**Runtime: 2H**

NCTV is hosting a **free workshop** upstairs at the Dreamland Studio Theater. Community members will come together to learn fundamentals, workshop ideas, and network with one another. **GET A HEAD START ON YOUR NSF26 SHORT FILM!** (participants **MUST** reserve a free ticket for entry)

### **Celebrating Local Filmmaking and Community Arts**

Since its founding in 2013, the Nantucket Shorts Festival has been a cherished tradition, fostering support for both amateur and professional filmmakers. Our mission is simple: to celebrate and inspire filmmaking on Nantucket.



# R.E.A.D with a Buddy

**NiSHA** | Nantucket Island  
Safe Harbor for Animals



## R.E.A.D with a Buddy

Location: Mitchell's Book Corner

Date: May 16, 2026

Time: 11:00am

Join NiSHA's Pet Partner Therapy Animal teams for a fun, relaxed, and nonjudgmental way to become more confident and simply enjoy reading. If you haven't experienced the relaxing pleasure of reading with a dog, stop by 54 Main Street and give it a try. First come, first read! All ages welcome!

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

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