



“Reading should not be presented to children as a chore, a duty. It should be offered as a gift.”

Newbery Award-winning children’s author Kate DiCamillo

Dear Lighthouse Families,

This time of year is marked by a flurry of excitement and end-of-year happenings. As the remaining weeks of school quickly pass, I remind myself to savor each moment and celebrate the children’s growth since the beginning of the year. Reading the teachers’ most recent newsletters, I was struck by their warmth and by all the ways the children have grown since September.

Summer is a time to relax and enjoy a less rigorous pace, and it is also an important time to practice and consolidate all that has been learned during the school year. At your child’s conference, you received information about summer math from teachers in Kinderclass and up. With the last weeks of school approaching, I also wanted to share the summer reading for this year.

Similar to the school year, we recommend that all students read or are read to throughout the summer months. The reason being two-fold: for emerging readers, daily reading practice helps the children maintain skills they have gained during the year, and for proficient readers, regular exposure to high interest books (through read aloud or independent reading) helps to cultivate a deep love for books and learning, and it develops children’s vocabulary, reading comprehension, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Once the school year ends and you begin to settle into your summer routine, please take time to consider where reading fits in. With older children, engage them in the conversation and planning. They can help determine the best time(s) of day for reading, where they are most comfortable and able to sustain their attention, and how reading is easily incorporated into their schedule. ***Please use the Summer Reading Chart as a guide for your student’s work this summer.***

Ideas for encouraging reading over the summer months:

- Summer reading should be joyful and engaging. Comic books, graphic novels, recipe books, collections of cards, instruction or video game manuals, magazines, how-to books, menus or environmental print are all wonderful ways to spark interest and excitement. It’s alright to start here, as these genres can serve as gateways to more complex reading.

- Visit the Atheneum and elicit the help of your local librarians. If they know your child enjoys a particular author, book, subject, genre or series, they will have excellent recommendations for other books they may like.
- If your child enjoys reading in the car, tuck books or magazines into the backs of seats.
- If they like listening to audiobooks, you can download them using the Audible app, or you can borrow audiobooks from the Atheneum or through the Libby app. (Storytellers have wonderful collections that appeal to young listeners.)
- Make high-interest books, comic books, graphic novels, recipe books, collections of cards, instruction or video game manuals, or magazines accessible throughout your home. Place them on bedside tables, in baskets around the house, and in places you know your children tend to spend a lot of time.
- When children begin reading on their own, it is important for them to practice their newly emerging skills. It is equally important for you to continue reading aloud to them, as you are modeling the habits and skills of a proficient reader, and you able to share higher level texts, with more interesting characters and plot lines, as well as more sophisticated vocabulary. Read to them until they fire you.
- If your child is a beginning reader, be sure to explore decodable readers, such as the Bob Books, Dog on a Log, Mac and Tab, Yak Pak, or Starfall series.
- Limit technology, as it can easily take over your child's free time.

If you need additional suggestions, please connect with your child's classroom teacher, as they have a wealth of knowledge!

I look forward to the days ahead and celebrating such a beautiful year together.

Warm regards,

Emily

Summer Reading

Summer Math

Happy, Thoughtful Kids Grown Here

Yesterday, our fourth and fifth graders had the extraordinary opportunity to welcome former NASA astronaut Dan Bursch to Nantucket Lighthouse School. Over the course of four space missions, including nearly 200 consecutive days aboard the International Space Station, Dan helped shape the early years of human exploration in space.

Dan's visit complemented the students' study of astronomy, from lunar phases to the solar system, while reflecting the heart of our holistic, project-based approach to education: bringing learning off the page and into lived experience.

One especially meaningful moment came when Dan spoke about the emotional realities of long missions away from Earth and the importance of having a grounding hobby. His hobby, basket weaving, resonated with Caitlin's class, who have been creating baskets of their own. Watching the children make the connection between their classroom work and the life of an astronaut felt profound.

The awe and excitement in the room were palpable. Dan's visit was a beautiful reminder that the wonder nurtured during childhood can become the foundation for a lifetime of curiosity and impact.

Warmly,

Julia

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
12:00pm pick-up

Project Night & Family Picnic

Monday, June 1st
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
1 Rugged Road



Food trucks will be on campus
from 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Eat Fire Pizza Food Truck
Lemon Press Food Truck
Hang Loose Helado

Please park in the school parking lot or
on the school side of the street.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR
NANTUCKET LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL'S

CARNIVAL

TUESDAY, JUNE 4

1:30-2:30 PM

RUGGED ROAD CAMPUS

FREE FUN AND GAMES FOR ALL!

PLEASE PARK IN THE SCHOOL PARKING LOT OR ON THE
SCHOOL SIDE OF THE STREET.



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](#)



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](#)







Community Events

POP UP! Stargazing at Loines Observatory

Fri May 22nd 9:00pm - 10:00pm

[Evening Programs](#)

Loines Observatory, 59 Milk St Ext, Nantucket, MA 02554, USA [map](#)



Join our professional astronomers for Stargazing Open Nights at Loines Observatory. Get a chance to view an impressive tour of Nantucket's night sky. The MMA will host varying time sessions of Open Night Stargazing from June through November. Please see our calendar for days and times.

MMA staff will guide you in viewing astronomical objects through our historic 8-inch Alvan Clark refractor and our modern 24-inch research telescope. Get a chance to view the Moon, planets, star clusters, nebulae, and even other galaxies! Learn about the cutting-edge research being conducted by Maria Mitchell Observatory astronomers and interns and get all your astronomy questions answered!

This program is designed for all ages. All registered children must be accompanied by a registered adult to participate in this program. This program meets at the MMA Loines Observatory at 59 Milk Street, Nantucket MA.

Pre-registration is recommended as programs do fill up but walk-ins are welcome subject to availability. Program begins promptly at the event start time, please arrive 10 minutes

NANTUCKET MUSIC CENTER PRESENTS

BEGINNER'S UKULELE DROP-IN

FREE

NO INSTRUMENT? NO PROBLEM!
UKULELES AVAILABLE.

SUNDAYS
5:30 - 6:15

ALL AGES

NCMC Parlor
56 Centre St
nantucketmusic.org

SCAN TO REGISTER





Grab & Go Bag: Painted Bean Mosaic

Location: Nantucket Atheneum

Date: May 23, 2026

Time: 9:30am-4pm

This week we will be designing mosaic designs with beans and painting them to add some color! While supplies lasts.

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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!