



Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School

195 Route 137, E.Harwich, MA 02645

phone: 774-408-7994

Notes to Home: December 1, 2025

Greetings CCLCS Families,

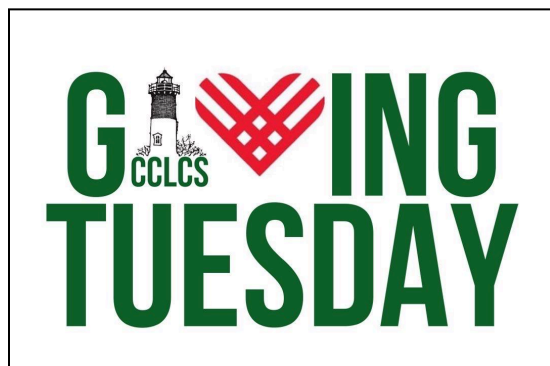
*Over Thanksgiving, I had a chance to catch up with a cousin who is a professor of political science at UMass Amherst. After stuffing ourselves with turkey and sweet potatoes, our dessert conversation turned to how we can help our students thrive in this rapidly changing world. He had recently attended a conference that surfaced a few really interesting themes on the subject that struck me as not only applicable to college students, but also to middle schoolers. 1) **Emotions drive learning more than we realize.** Students learn best when they feel calm, connected, and capable. 2) **A clear vision of today's learner shapes everything else.** Cultivating curiosity, adaptability, ethical decision-making, and creative problem-solving are way more important in 2025 than traditional course content. 3) **We are preparing students for a world that doesn't stand still.** As a result, we need to offer opportunities for students to experiment, iterate, design, build, and, at times, fail safely. I'm returning to campus today excited to build upon these themes as we kick off the second term.*

Warm regards,

Ben

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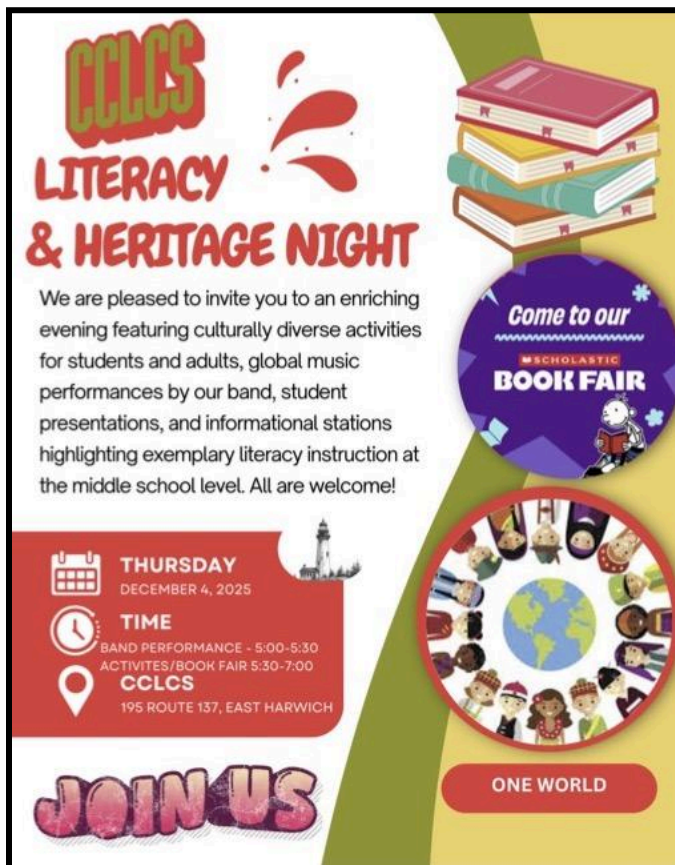
As the calendar year draws to a close, we're reaching out to ask for your support of this year's CCLCS Educational Foundation Annual Fund Campaign. To honor all those who have contributed to the school's 30 history, this year's campaign aims to raise \$30,000. Without the generosity of current and former CCLCS parents, alumni, and friends of the school, we would not be able to fully support:



- Academic excellence through engaging, hands-on curriculum in science, math, humanities, and the arts
- Field trips and enrichment activities, including theater and athletics that broaden students' horizons
- Professional development for our incredible teachers and staff

Please consider making a contribution today to help ensure that CCLCS remains a place where middle schoolers learn and play for years to come. Your gift—no matter the size—makes a real and lasting difference. **Donations Can Be Made Here:** <https://tinyurl.com/4au5a46s>

Today is the first day of **Term Two**! This is a fresh start for all students and we encourage you to have a conversation at home about routines and habits you can implement at home that will help make this term a success!



### Join us for CCLCS Literacy & Heritage Night!! THIS THURSDAY, DECEMBER

**4th.** Musical Performance: 5-5:30pm  
Book Fair, Literacy & Heritage Activities: 5:30-7pm

We look forward to seeing you there! This is a wonderful way to celebrate community, support our student musicians, and chip away at some holiday shopping at the book fair!

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Office of Public School Monitoring (PSM) will conduct an **Integrated Monitoring Review of Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School**

during the week of December 15, 2025. Each school district, charter school, vocational school, and virtual school undergoes an Integrated Monitoring Review every three years. To read more please see the following:

English: <https://tinyurl.com/5b4eybaw>

Portuguese: <https://tinyurl.com/jf5h55ft>

Nepali: <https://tinyurl.com/47hu67k6>

**Winter is Approaching:** Please take a minute to review our communication plan in the event of inclement weather that might necessitate a closure or delay.

### As Winter Approaches!

*CCLCS draws students from towns across Cape Cod. The decision to close or delay school due to inclement weather will be made as early as possible by consulting the forecasted models for Harwich and our surrounding towns.*

**Communication around school closures or delays will include:**

- \*An email & text message
- \*An automated phone call
- \*A post on our social media channels



*If school is in session, but you are unable to get your child here due to inclement weather, please call the main office or email [attendance@cclcs.info](mailto:attendance@cclcs.info)*

Please let us know if **your student will miss any days** before or after the upcoming vacations. [Attendance@cclcs.info](mailto:Attendance@cclcs.info)

**Read A Thon's last week:** Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School extends a heartfelt THANK YOU to our school community! We're incredibly proud of our readers and grateful for your support, which continues to make this the most successful fundraiser to date. As a community, we have raised over 9000 dollars and have read just shy of 73000 minutes! WOW.

The Read-A-Thon ends on Friday so make sure to remind students to spend their RAT Bucks in the prize store. Any RAT Bucks not spent within 10 days after our Read-A-Thon ends will no longer be available. The prize store cannot be reopened once it is closed. All prizes will be shipped to the school.

<https://tinyurl.com/3xtyxdpd>

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Clubs & Seminars!

Lego Club: Will meet Tuesday at lunch!

Roots and Shoots: Roots & Shoots' next meeting will be Dec. 4. This meeting falls on the same day as Literacy and Heritage Night. Traditionally, Roots & Shoots students stay after school to help set up the fair. We are having an ice cream fundraiser and will do a little shopping after school for supplies (ice cream), have some time to work on homework, and then have pizza for dinner. The annual Literacy and Heritage Night runs from 5 to 7 p.m. It's a long day, but we generally have a lot of fun! Hoping all our members can join us for this fun tradition.

Model UN Club! Model UN - Model UN will meet this Wednesday, Dec. 3rd from 3:15PM - 4PM. See you there!

ART SPARK: ART SPARK meets this Wednesday, 12/3, from 3-4:45 PM in the Art Studio. Thank you to the families who have volunteered to provide snacks and juice this week! Also- the Colorful Collage group is looking for donations of magazines, catalogues, and/or wallpaper books they can cut up to use in their next project. Thank you!

Homework Club: Homework Club is open to all grades and meets on Mondays after school from 3:00-4:00. The purpose is to provide a quiet, structured space for kids to complete assignments. No sign up is necessary. Please pick up promptly at 4:00 PM.

Roots and Shoots: Roots and Shoots will meet Thursday afternoon for its regular meeting until 4:00 PM. Students will continue working on the mural. Students are also developing a program to improve the school's reduce, reuse, recycle program. Approaching the holiday season, students will be collaborating with seniors to make crafts that can be sold to raise money for animal shelters. Students will also help host the book fair in December. In short, there's lots going on! Come join us!!

Rainbow Alliance: The Rainbow Alliance will meet Tuesday at lunch.

Music!

There WILL be before school **Band** on Tuesday, December 2nd and sectional classes for all.

CCLCS CHORUS: Thursday before school from 7:45-8:30. All students are welcome to join.

MUSICAL THEATER SHOW CHOIR: Fridays after school from 3:00-4:00. All students are welcome to join.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC ENSEMBLE: Guitarists, Percussionists and Keyboardist meet with Mr. G on Friday during 6th period. We will meet at the piano.

STRINGS! Hope you all had a lovely few days off. Looking forward to this week which will be as follows: WED. 12/3 at 7:45 is for Olive and Ariana in the Spanish classroom. FRI. 12/5 at 7:45 is Ensemble for ALL. Please bring your instruments AND music! First period sectional that day will be for Kiana and Rory, and second period sectional will be for Alexa. See you all very soon! Mrs. Schultze

"SCROOGE" The Musical Theater Show Choir Class invites you to a very special Dramatic Reading of "Scrooge" at 3:30pm on Friday, December 12! Come join us for this performance!

Sports!

Boys and girls basketball families check your email about signing up for the sportsYou app!

Sports This week (12/1 - 12/5)

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - No Practice, Tue - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Wed - No Practice, Thurs - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Fri - Practice 3:30 - 5:00

GIRLS BASKETBALL Mon - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Tue - No Practice, Wed - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Thurs - No Practice, Fri - No Practice

WINTER TRACK Mon - No Practice, Tue - Practice 3:15 - 4:30, Wed - No Practice, Thurs - Practice 3:15 - 4:30

Sports Next week (12/8 - 12/12)

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - No Practice, Tue - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Wed - HALF DAY, Thurs - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Fri - No Practice

GIRLS BASKETBALL Mon - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Tue - No Practice, Wed - HALF DAY, Thurs - No Practice, Fri - Practice 3:30 - 5:00

WINTER TRACK Mon - No Practice, Tue - Practice 3:15 - 4:30, Wed - HALF DAY,, Thurs - Practice 3:15 - 4:30

6th Grade

Week at a Glance: <https://tinyurl.com/yeyvj84u>

ELA: A friendly reminder to 6th grade students that if you are absent to please do your best to keep up with the reading of "Where the Mountain Meets the Moon." There is a PDF version posted to our Google Classroom, as well as links to the audio version of each chapter.

Mark Your Calendars! The 6th grade team is excited to share that the whole grade will be attending Wequassett Resort on December 12 for a 3 course meal. This will be our 4th field trip to a different town on Cape Cod this year and this time it will be in our home town of Harwich. In coordination with Wequassett, we will be teaching manners and etiquette prior to attending the only 5 star resort on Cape Cod. There will be guest speakers during the lunch and the students will get a full tour of the resort after their lunch. We ask that students put on some of their nicest clothes for the event but we don't want you to feel obligated to buy anything new for the event. Please no hats, pajamas, sweat shirts or shorts for lunch. The Wequassett team has offered to do this free for our school and we couldn't be more excited to start a new holiday tradition. Please contact Mr. Bates if you have any questions.

7th Grade

7th Grade Assessment Calendar: <https://tinyurl.com/47ytyerr>

8th Grade

Week at a Glance: <https://tinyurl.com/ymykmueu>

Hearts & Paws Comfort Dogs will visit all first period classes in 8th grade tomorrow!

Science: Water, water, everywhere! G8 science is studying water for the next couple weeks, so students should be conducting their frozen water experiments at home (due Tuesday, Dec. 2!). We will be learning about our precious aquifer here on Cape Cod, which includes a trip to the Chatham water treatment facility. The trips will be for the first two periods of the day as listed

below, so please be sure students are on time to school on their trip days! Tues, Dec. 2 - Group Z, Wed, Dec. 3 - Group X, Thurs, Dec. 4 - Group Y, and Mon, Dec. 8 - Group W.

Please email Mrs. Haven at ahaven@cclcs.info if you are involved in a water department or organization related to our water resources here on Cape Cod. We would love to have you share your work with our students!

Upcoming Events

- Thursday, December 4th: Literacy and Heritage Night
- Wednesday, December 10th: Half Day, 11:45 dismissal
- Friday, December 12th: 6th Grade to Wequasset (during school day)
- Friday, December 12th: "Scrooge" Dramatic Reading, 3:30PM
- Friday, December 19th: 8th Grade to Charles Moore Arena (during school day)
- Friday, December 19th: Half Day, 11:45 dismissal
- Monday, December 22nd - Friday, January 2nd: Winter Break, no school
- Monday, January 5th: School Resumes
- Thursday, January 8th: Admissions Open House for Prospective Families (6pm)
- Monday, January 19th: No School (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day)
- Tuesday, January 20th: No School (staff professional development)
- Friday, March 27th: CCLCS Annual Auction at Wequasset Resort

Community Notes



Featuring 8th Grader Maeve Sullivan as Clara on Saturday, December 6th

STAND UP FOR OUR SCHOOL

Protect Our School & Valuable Public School Options

Tell elected officials not to hurt charter public schools!



What's going on?

Elected officials have filed bills that, if adopted, would dramatically reduce funding for charter public schools, like ours. These bills would mean fewer kids could attend charter public schools in Massachusetts. Funding would be cut so much that some schools would even be forced to close.

Will these bills become law? Can we stop them?

We can absolutely stop these bills! Bills must go through many steps before becoming a law, and many are stopped along the way. The first step is a vote that is happening soon. So, we need your help writing to elected officials and calling their offices to let them know that our school, and all charter public schools, offer important and valuable options for families that should not be cut.



**You know your child best,
and you deserve the right
to decide which public
school is the right school for
them.**

How would these bills hurt our school?

If these bills became law, CCLCS could lose **over 25% of our funding**, and nearly **100 kids** would no longer be able to attend our school.
But we can make sure that doesn't happen!



How can I help?



Visit ma4charters.org/Fall25Action today.

Email and call your state representative and state senator. Ask them to stop these bills.

Your voice will help make a difference!