



Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School

195 Route 137, E.Harwich, MA 02645

phone: 774-408-7994

Notes to Home: February 9, 2026

Greetings CCLCS Families,

I did a little research this morning to uncover the origins of February vacation week in Massachusetts, finding this on WGBH's website: "A Boston Globe article from December 19, 1916 noted that the school committee had ordered that 'February vacation week [be] cut in half,' to make up for lost time due to an infantile paralysis epidemic...This means that the practice predates the first world war, and any suggestion that it began because of wartime oil crises or shortages is likely untrue." The article goes on to describe the social and economic implications of February vacation: "Throughout the 1930s, there are multiple advertisements in the Boston Globe that targeted parents of students during school vacation week in February. One, headlined 'BERMUDA, FLORIDA TOURS FOR SCHOOL VACATION,' boasts 'personally escorted tours to Bermuda and Miami, Fla, specifically planned for the school vacations in February.' Another, with the headline 'CRUISES, TOURS FOR SCHOOL VACATION,' encourages parents to take advantage of the break by, 'indulging [their children's] desire to travel, thereby gaining renewed energy for the school days ahead.'"

Whatever the history and design of February vacation, I hope that all CCLCS students enjoy a restful and restorative week away from school next week. When we return on February 23, we'll begin a very important academic stretch leading up to the spring MCAS. As you consider your family's winter/spring plans, please consider prioritizing regularly scheduled school vacations as the only time away from school.

Warm regards,

Ben



Mark Your Calendar for **MCAS!** Please make note of the following dates and avoid booking appointments that would take your child away from school on these dates!

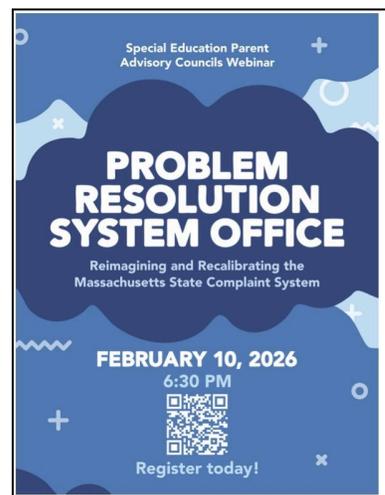
6th Grade: ELA March 30-31, Math May 11-12

7th Grade: ELA April 1-2, Math May 13-14

8th Grade: ELA April 6-7, SciTech April 27-28, Math May 18-19, Civics May 27-28

Upcoming Vacation Attendance If your student will be absent in the days leading up to or following the February or April vacations, please notify us as soon as possible. Providing advance notice helps our staff plan accordingly - attendance@cclcs.info

The **CCLCS SEPAC** invites you to join a DESE webinar, "Reimagining and Recalibrating the Massachusetts State Complaint System," on Tuesday, February 10th at 6:30 PM. Please see the attached flyer at the bottom of our newsletter for registration information.



If at any point throughout the year there have been **any changes to your personal information** (phone number, email, home address, etc) please be sure to update CCLCS! Please call the front desk or email info@cclcs.info

Admissions! We are approaching our admissions deadline

(Feb. 23rd), and word of mouth is the best way to attract new families! Spread the word

that we will have a virtual open house Tuesday, Feb 10th at 7pm. Zoom link on our website! We

are taking applications from 5th, 6th or 7th graders who would like to attend CCLCS next year. Application deadline: February 23, 2026. We CANNOT take any applications after the deadline for any reason! Current 5th graders will be applying for spots in our incoming 6th grade class, and current 6th and 7th graders will be applying for a spot on next year's waitlist.

As a reminder, siblings of currently enrolled students are automatically accepted per Massachusetts State Law but **MUST FILL OUT AN APPLICATION** to be considered. More

information can be found <https://www.cclighthouseschool.org/admissions>

CAPE COD LIGHTHOUSE CHARTER SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS TOURS
 THURSDAY, FEB. 5TH 3:30PM
 TUESDAY, FEB. 10TH 3:30PM

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE
 TUESDAY, FEB. 10TH 7:00PM
 ZOOM LINK FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE

- ✓ 6th - 8th grade
- ✓ Challenging, Project Rich Learning
- ✓ Teaching to the Whole Child
- ✓ Community Connections

APPLICATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 23. LOTTERY FEBRUARY 26.
 All applicants will receive email confirmation that application was received.
www.cclighthouseschool.org/admissions 774.408.7994 admissions@cclcs.info

THE AUCTION IS COMING! We are looking forward to celebrating 30 years of CCLCS at Wequassett Resort at our annual auction on Saturday, March 28th!! Please take a look at the Auction Page of our website (<https://tinyurl.com/y4dxahxf>) for more information - including the donation letter, information about how to become a business sponsor, and more about this year's auction baskets. Tickets will be available for purchase soon!

We are also in need of **AUCTION TICKET** items (vacation homes, sports tickets, lessons of all kinds, donated labor and supplies, etc.) and **business sponsors!!**

Business sponsors help us cover the event costs so that every penny raised is used by the Educational Foundation to support our students and teachers. It's also a great way to get your business' name out there and is a tax deductible donation.

THANK YOU for your support of the auction.

This is our biggest social event & fundraiser of the year, and your support is appreciated!!

Questions can be directed to hkast@cclcs.info



Clubs & Seminars!

Model UN Club! Model UN will meet this week on Wednesday at 3:15PM - 4PM. See you there!

ART SPARK: Art Spark will return in the Spring with all new class offerings for session 2!

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.

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

Lego Club: Lego club this week, Tuesdays at lunch!

Roots and Shoots: Roots & Shoots meets Thursday afternoon until 4.

Music!

STRINGS! Last week before vacation so let's make it a good one! The schedule this week will be: WED. Feb.11th, Olive at 7:45. On FRI., Feb. 13th, we will have Ensemble for all at 7:45. First period sectional will be for Rory and Kiana and second period sectional will be for Alexa. Please take your instruments home at some point and do some practicing. Too many of the instruments are living at school. See you all very soon! Mrs. Schultze

CCLCS CHORUS: Thursday before school from 7:45-8:30

MUSICAL THEATER SHOW CHOIR: Friday after school from 3:00-4:00

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC ENSEMBLE: Will meet Friday 6th period. Guitarists please bring Guitars and Cables.

Band: Before School Band will meet on Tuesday!

Sports!

This spring, Girls Softball is looking for a coach. We had a great season last year that we're hoping to build on. Practices start March 16th. We practice and play Monday - Friday. Practices are at the Brewster Town Hall Field. Please reach out to Mr. Crash if you're interested.

Sports This week (2/9 - 2/13)

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Tue - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Wed - Super Six Tournament 3:30 at Falmouth Academy (vs winner of TCA/SJP), Thu - Super Six Tournament (TBD), SEASON OVER!

BOYS BASKETBALL SEASON OVER!

GIRLS BASKETBALL Mon - Super Six Tournament @ Falmouth Academy 3:30, Tue - Super Six Tournament (TBD), Wed - (If Necessary) Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Thu - Super Six Tournament (TBD), SEASON OVER!

WINTER TRACK Mon - No Practice, Tue - Meet at Riverview 3:30 (551 Rte 6A, Sandwich), Wed - No Practice, Thurs - Practice 3:15 - 4:30

AFTER BREAK

WINTER TRACK Mon - No Practice, Tue - Meet at Riverview 3:30 (551 Rte 6A, Sandwich)

6th Grade

Week at a Glance: <https://tinyurl.com/286awwcb>

6th Grade Skating Day: The 6th grade will be heading to Charles Moore Arena in Orleans Friday morning for a skating field trip before February break. Please dress appropriately! No cost to families, rental skate included if needed but students are welcome to bring their own skates if they have them.

7th Grade

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

Math: 7th grade math is wrapping up inequalities with the chapter test on Wednesday. We will be working on some more of the restaurant project and hopefully start on the menu so we can open it up soon.

Spanish: In honor of the Winter Olympics, this week we will be watching a documentary entitled "The Olympics in Mexico," directed by former Mexican Olympian, Alberto Isaac Ahuyama. It chronicles the 1968 Olympics in Mexico, the first Olympics ever held in a Latin American country, during a time in history when civil rights and racial equality were central issues worldwide.

We are also continuing work on our Family Tree Project, where students are applying family vocabulary and verb conjugation skills to describe relationships in Spanish. This project, due the week after February break, encourages creativity while reinforcing key language skills. For those of you who were present at our back-to-school night at the beginning of the year, you may remember me mentioning this project. It is paramount to me that students feel safe in my classroom. To that end, a project centered on family relationships may prove difficult or painful for certain students. If, for any reason, this is the case for your student, rest assured that I have communicated to them that they DO NOT have to create the project based on their own biological relationships. If Billy Joel is your uncle, Bob Ross is your dad, and Jane Goodall is your step-mom, have at it! My interest is in them displaying a strong understanding of the language skills.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns!

8th Grade

Week at a Glance: <https://tinyurl.com/3mr6pmdn>

ELA: During our novel study, the ELA homework is reading most nights. Please remind your student to read (or listen) to the assigned chapters. We appreciate your support!



Nauset Regional High School
Course Registration Information Session
Maximizing Potential
Thursday, February 12th 6:00pm
For all parents & caregivers of current 8th graders and prospective school choice students

Please join us at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center for the Principal's welcome, Director of Counseling's presentation, and a Q & A session following.

We are looking forward to sharing what makes Nauset so unique.

Share with friends and family who might be interested in joining you here at NRHS

Nauset Regional High School: On Wednesday, February 12th, Principal Pat Clarke will be coming to CCLCS to discuss Nauset High School with any interested 8th graders. That evening at 6pm there is an open house and Q&A at Nauset High.

Upcoming Events

- February 16th- February 20th: February Vacation
- Monday, February 23rd: Admissions Deadline (Siblings MUST apply!!!)
- Thursday, February 26th: Lottery for 2026-2027 School Year
- Wednesday, March 4th: Half Day
- Saturday, March 28th: CCLCS Annual Auction at Wequasset Resort

Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School

GARDEN ARCHITECTS

Students Designing Outdoor Spaces with Pollinators, Paths, and Peaceful Settings

Begins March 9th—meets after school from 3:00 to 4:15 p.m.



Students will work together to design and create natural outdoor spaces using **native pollinator plants**, peaceful pathways, and mindful garden settings. Participants will also help design and care for a **butterfly garden**.

This project is supported by a grant from **Cape Cod Five** and will be advised by **Dr. Smith**, who has led school garden projects for many years.

Email msmith@cclcs.info to sign up. Please include: Student Name, Parent/Guardian Name, Parent Email & Parent Phone Number

Community Notes

MIT' Spark 2026 will be March 14-15, open to grades 7-10! <https://tinyurl.com/e2w2h7e8>

Spark has become MIT's largest annual teaching and learning extravaganza for middle-schoolers! For one weekend this March, students like you will flood MIT's campus to take classes, taught by MIT students, on anything and everything. Come be a part of this iconic MIT event!

YARMOUTH TOWN LIBRARIES YOUTH SERVICES
FEBRUARY CALENDAR

School Vacation Week Activities

Pokémon Training **Readers Ages 8-12**
South Yarmouth Library
February 17 & 18, 2:00 - 4:45 p.m.
Join Matt from the Cape Cod Toy Chest for Pokémon training! Learn how to master the battling card game of Pokémon. Go over the three types of Pokémon cards, discuss how to read a basic Pokémon card, and learn how to use the cards during game battle. **Prerequisite:** You must know how to read and do simple math to play the game.
Registration Required, Register here:
tinyurl.com/LibraryPokemon2026

My Own Creation Club **Ages 6+**
South Yarmouth Library
Thursday, February 19, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
School vacation is the best time to bust out the bricks and get to building! Spend the day at the library creating your own masterpiece during our all-day open play. Duplo blocks available for builders under 6.

Pokémon Party **Ages 3-18**
South Yarmouth Library
Friday, February 20, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Pokémon Trainers, get ready! The adventure continues with Pokémon games, cards, trivia, snacks, and crafts! Whether you're a brand-new Trainer or a seasoned Pokédex pro, this celebration of all things Pokémon with Lizzy of Tales Entwined is open to fans ages 3-18.

Totally Stickers! DIY Sticker Books & Trading **Ages 8+**
South Yarmouth Library
Saturday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.*
Make your own DIY sticker book and relive the joy of sticker collecting. Bring stickers to trade, swap favorites, and leave with a one-of-a-kind book to take home.
*The program is scheduled to begin promptly at 2:00 p.m.

ARRAYSCAPE

CODING CLASS

For Kids

Our fun and interactive Python Coding Class for Kids teaches them the basics of coding, problem-solving, and creative thinking!

THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 19TH @
5:00PM
CENTERVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please Contact Ms. Tessa to register
tclark@clamsnet.org
Spots are limited
Ages 12-16

