

Nantucket Elementary School

June Newsletter

Dear Families,

June 2015

I cannot believe how quickly this year has flown by! It seems to go faster and faster every year. I hope it has been a great year for all of you. It has been a wonderful one for me as well. I will be around in the summer. I am sure I will see some of you then.

The building project, which was overwhelmingly supported, is moving right along. We have had planning meetings and HDC approvals. You will begin to see changes by September 2015. Know that this is why the playground is smaller. Several people have expressed concern and dismay. We can only do a piece at a time because of the huge expense. In addition, the layout of our play space outside will be changing a bit. Until the details for the new buildings, parking lots, and the cross campus drive are completely finalized, we cannot add pieces just yet! Thank you for understanding. I have explained to some students that this is an opportunity for them to use their imaginations and play creative games in the field!

We will be sending home the placement letters and any registration paperwork on August 7th. Reminder that our school policy does state that there will be no changes to assigned classrooms until after 6 weeks into the school year. I have been very public about the student/class assignment process, and I trust you all will recognize and honor this. A great deal of thought has gone into who your child will have for a teacher next year.

Pay close to our dates listed in this document. There is a great deal going on in the next few weeks. On Monday June 1st through Wednesday June 3rd, the Fifth Grade will be at Nature's Classroom. Mr. Horton will be with them. What a wonderful way to build community as we bid our big fish goodbye and send them off to CPS. On June 12th, our fifth graders will transition up to CPS for the morning and lunch. This is one of the pieces we have in place to support getting our students ready for middle school. On June 19th (rain date June 22nd), we will be having Field Day. Our students will be split up across the day. More information to follow. **June 19th is the last day for Pre-K students.** There will be Citizenship Awards from each class presented on Flag Day, June 15th. This is also the Volunteer Celebration day! **June 23rd is the last day for Kindergarten students.** Remember we had three snow days to make up this year, so we are getting out on the 25th rather than the 22nd. **And June 25th is a half day and the last day for all of our Grade 1-5 students!!!**

I want to offer my sincere thanks to all of you who have supported our children, our staff, our activities, and our events. This is a partnership, and we could not do it without you. This includes not only our families but our community partners too. I continue to feel very lucky to live and work in this wonderful community. Thank you for sharing your children with me. I have been honored to get to know them. Be sure children continue to practice math facts and READ, READ, READ this summer. **Join us for the final coffee of the year – Friday 6/5/15 at 8:00 am for our wonderful summer reading presentations!** I hope everyone has a restful, safe, happy summer. Enjoy!!

Finally, at the end of this school year, we will be bidding a very fond farewell to Linnea Weaver - speech pathologist, Ann Dalzell - Kindergarten teacher, and Sherry Loucks – main office educational support. It was my distinct pleasure to work with these women for the last four years. They have provided wonderful support our students, our staff, our families, and our community for several years. They will be very hard to replace. I know I am not alone in wishing them a wonderful, exciting, and restful retirement. Be sure to congratulate them when you see them. Thank you so very much ladies and best wishes!

Fondly,

Mrs. Kubisch

Important Upcoming Dates:

June 1-3:

Grade 5 goes to Nature's Classroom

June 4:

CPS Principal Dr. Cohen Visits the 5th Grade

Pre-K Field Day

June 5:

Principal Coffee 8:00 AM

June 6

NHS Graduation

June 11

Pre K Party @Jetties Beach

8:15-10:00 AM

Joint School Council Meeting
3:00PM

June 14:

Father's Day

June 15:

Flag Day Ceremony 8:15 AM

June 16:

5th Grade Egg Drop

June 19:

NES Field Day

June 21:

First Day of Summer

June 23:

Kindergarten Celebration

June 25:

Last Day Of School

News from the Eleanor C. Jones Library!

It has been a busy year in the Library with daily classes, research projects, author Jacqueline Woodson's visit, week-long book fair and daily book exchange. There were over 12,000 books circulated so far this year! We are fast approaching the end of the school year and that means getting all books returned to the library for safe keeping over the summer. Please remind your child to return their library book. Books must be returned (or lost books paid for) before June 19th in order to participate in Field Day, tentatively scheduled for June 22nd.

A BIG thank you goes out to my extraordinary volunteer this year – Janelle D'Aprix. Thank you also to Marion Wilson and Jackie Jennison for volunteering whenever they can. Their presence and efficiency allows me to focus on helping students locate and select books that are "just right" for them.

The Suggested Summer Reading list will be available online as a link from our library as well as school website. This list contains a variety of current fiction and nonfiction books, separated by grade level.

Leslie Malcolm, Children's and Youth Services Librarian from the Atheneum will be visiting NES during the first week of June to explain the Summer Reading Program available to all island children. Your child will have the opportunity to sign up for the program during Mrs. Malcolm's visit.

Enjoy the summer and remember to Read, Read, Read!!!

Pre K:

It has been a great 2014-2015 school year with all sorts of exploring and learning!

Preschool has entered into their FUN days! We have celebrated Vehicle day and are working on our gross motor skills for Field Day!



Grade 2

Second graders wrap up their year learning about their ancestors. All second graders researched a country in which their family's ancestors had immigrated from and learned exactly where that country was located on a world map. They researched country books looking for information pertaining to foods, customs, sports, and landmarks. During this research, students practiced their understanding of the variety of text features found in a nonfiction book.

Grade 3

Massachusetts biography research, writing, and presentations were a huge a success! We have been learning about the events that led up to the American Revolution. We've been learning about soil and will know all about plants and photosynthesis by the end of the school year.

The third graders have spent a lot of time learning about fractions. We will finish out the year by working on addition, subtraction, place value, and geometry.

The third grade team hopes that everyone has a wonderful summer! It is important that all future fourth graders know their multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction facts! Keep practicing these and reading!

Grade 4

The fourth grade class just came back from a terrific overnight field trip to the Boston Museum of Science. We got a chance to travel through Jupiter at the Planetarium, and took a trip to the coral reefs at the IMAX theater. Students enjoyed a lightning show, a science magic show, and a live animals presentation. It was a great trip for all!

As the year comes to a close, we are finishing up our unit about Rocks and Minerals and getting ready to test our knowledge of the fifty states and capitals! We are also writing creative stories and scripts using similes and metaphors. In math, we are learning about shapes in geometry. We are also practicing our measurement skills in both customary and metric units. This summer, remember to keep practicing your math facts, spend time reading, and have fun!

Musical Notes:



The scene outside Mr. Sheppard's music room just a few months ago. Happy Summer!

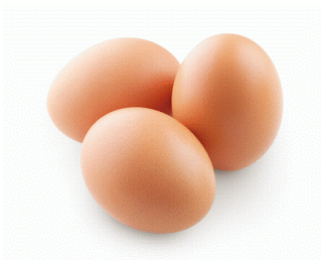


The NES 5th Grade Spring Concert!!!!

Grade 5

The class of 2022 is looking less and less like 5th graders and more and more like rising 6th graders as their NES graduation day approaches. During our recent P.E. unit in swimming at NHS (which has been a great success), many students were observed looking quite comfortable in the halls of CPS. We won't let your students get too far ahead of themselves, however, as there is much to do between now and June 25th.

This final month begins with our three days at Nature's classroom, June 1-3, which many past students mark as a transformative experience in their young academic careers. Soon after our return from camp, we'll receive an official visit from the CPS principal, Dr. Cohen, who will begin to explain to students what to expect, and what will be expected of them, at CPS. We'll then turn right around and on June 12th will repay the visit to Dr. Cohen, for a 5th to 6th grade "Jump-Up Day" which will give your students a very literal taste of the CPS cafeteria, as well as a better idea of how to navigate the 6th grade hallways.



Your student is likely, also, looking forward to one of our most anticipated events of the year, as the 5th grade Egg Drop is scheduled for June 16th. Grab a dozen eggs one weekend soon and have fun testing hypotheses!

As the journey accelerates and the pathway narrows, this month will be a string of terrific events designed to celebrate the learning we've done all year, and to look forward to the learning your student will continue to do beyond NES. We look forward to the 25th when your student will finally enjoy the traditional "Clap-Out" that signifies the end of one, and the beginning of the next.

From the Reading Corner

As the summer months approach, we want to remind everyone about the importance of having your children reading, writing, practicing math facts, and playing math games while away from school. Research shows us that children who don't read and keep their minds active over the summer months actually regress up to two to three months.

We encourage everyone to join us at the Principal Coffee on **Friday, June 5th** at 8am for an interactive, informational presentation about the importance of summer reading. During this presentation, we will discuss strategies and activities to keep your children learning and engaged in literacy over the summer months. Leslie Malcolm from the Nantucket Atheneum will be visiting to discuss the summer reading program at the library.

Coming soon to the NES website:

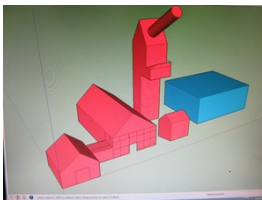
Summer Reading Book Recommendations for Summer 2015!

Happy Reading!

The Reading Team



During June, students from **first to third** grade will be creating documents using Microsoft Word. We will write about ice cream, favorite foods, family heritage, and more. Beginning in first grade, students learn basic keyboard techniques, such as how to type capital letters using the shift key and how to create a space between words. As the grades progress, they create documents with bold centered headings, italics, images, and captions.



Fourth and fifth grade students will build on their basic architectural structures, as they continue to use a computer aided design program (CAD) called SketchUp. CAD skills are in high demand across varied fields of work in today's global workplace.

School Counselor News...

Here we are at the end of another school year! There are many activities and celebrations throughout the building. In this month we try to be available as much as possible to staff and students as we transition into summer.

While wrapping up our classroom-based instruction and small groups we will focus on what we have learned together this year. We want to impart an encouraging message and celebrate their growth and success!

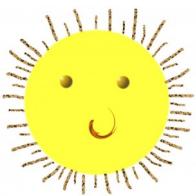
It has been a pleasure getting to know the many students at our grade levels and we look forward to continuing our work with you and your children next year! We also appreciate all of your support both at home and here at school as volunteers! We look forward to showing our appreciation to all volunteers at an upcoming Volunteer Reception (date and time to be announced).

Please feel free to contact the School Counselor at your child's grade level if you have any school-related questions or concerns. We are happy to help! Ms. Clark (PreK-Grade 2) can be reached at ext. 2109, and Ms. Hood (Grades 3-5) can be reached at ext. 2110.

We hope this summer brings opportunities for your family to spend time relaxing and enjoying each other!

Notes From the Nurse:

New MDPH regulations - Students who will be in the fourth grade next year will need a new physical examination. Please, call your physician and arrange to have this done over the summer. Also, remember that 2 doses of MMR and 2 doses of varicella are now mandated for all children enrolled in kindergarten through grade 4. These are requirements issued by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health to help protect the health of all children enrolled in school.



Sun Safety - The sun's rays are much stronger during the summer months and everyone needs protection from the harmful ultraviolet light. Apply sunscreen liberally 30 minutes before going outside. Sunscreens should be at least SPF 15 and protect against both UVA and UVB sun rays. Other ways to protect your skin are wearing sunglasses and a hat and staying in the shade during midday when the rays of the sun are the most harmful.

For more information about safety in the sun, please, visit NPS Wellness and click on Summer and Sun Safety of use this link

<http://nantucket.ma.schoolwebpages.com/education/components/docmgr/default.php?sectiondetailid=6360&linkid=nav-menu-container-2-252552>

Wishing you a summer filled with fun and new adventures.



“Have you filled your bucket today????”

2015 Bucket Fillers

Samuel Aziev-Smalovschi, Max Beebe, Deshawni Baker, Sergio Chavez Lemus, Dylan Damian, Olivia Darbey, Ryan Downey, Hawkin Edwardes, Ben Freeman, Paloma Galschnieder, Daniela Garcia, Anabela Sosa Gaurilcikas, Colton Halford, Shelbi Harimon, Alex Hilmer, Sam Iller, Jeremy Jenkinson, Mya Johnson, Abby Jones, Kin-nick King, Kaitlyn Konkel, Allison Lemus Portillo, Erik Lemus, Kaila Lemus, Franklin Lopez, Brenda Macias, Emerson Milne, Lilly Mason, Nolen Mosscrop, Aiden O'Brien, Natalie O'Brien, Maria Partida, Sadie Paterson, Henry Pena, Cesar Pena Gutierrez, Sophie Phelps, Christopher Pineda, Bobby Planzer, Gus Psaradelis, Juan Ramos, Lily Remick, Henry Riden, Christopher Simpson, Gaven Smith, Dallanara Sola, Fernanda Tejada, Nickolas Tresher, Marcus Toney, and Sophia Yelverton!!!!
