

TIGER TALES



THE TISBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



June 2026

P.O. Box 878
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568
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Visit our website:
www.tisbury.mvyps.org
Information is updated routinely.

Students Officially Certified in CPR

Congratulations to these students who took the CPR course at school and are now certified. Students pictured Allana Rainha, Victoria Dowling, Samuel Martins, Jack Petrosinelli, Woody Martone, Cristian Creanga. (not in picture Isaiah Gluckman)

Have a Safe and Healthy Summer!! See you all in the fall!



Principal's Letter

Tisbury School Community:

While I have been at this school for many years (9 as a student, 1975-1984) and since 2004 (as a staff member), regularly I still experience moments that reinforce what special places the Tisbury School and island community are. Last month, at an event welcoming parents of incoming Kindergarten students, sitting in the crowd were several of my former students, going back to when I was a teacher at the West Tisbury School. I suppose that's bound to happen after 30 years working in schools on the Vineyard, but it still is meaningful. Recently, I attended the wake for a friend's mother. Among those there to acknowledge this loss and pay their respects were former students, colleagues past and present, and longtime friends of my father. Many of these people had direct connections to the Tisbury School, and that added sentiment. Also in May, I attended my youngest daughter's college graduation. She began Kindergarten at the Tisbury School in 2009, and it does not feel like that long ago. I naturally reflected on her education, grateful that she began at the Tisbury School, and knowing that it's a place that will always be special to her.

Speakers at my daughter's graduation offered expected advice, wisdom, and stories. One of the more compelling speakers shared the saying "Man plans, and God laughs." For someone like me, an admitted type A planner, those words offer helpful perspective. Most educators are planners. Given the schedules and routines that schools require, this is understandable. But educators also, because their work is to support children, need to demonstrate flexibility and creativity. Those who work in schools model these traits for students, balancing routine and consistency with adaptability. Adjusting, when necessary, is an essential life skill. After all, we can plan for everything, but we know that sometimes "life gets in the way", as a colleague shared with me once.

As we anticipate summer vacation, please reflect upon your children's growth this past school year. I have the privilege and pleasure of watching students' progress from September to June, and it is heartening. Our island community remains highly supportive of its schools, and certainly the Tisbury School benefits from strong support. I feel that, and - more importantly - our students do, too. While things may not always go according to plan, in schools we have opportunities to grow, strengthen, and learn. Those lessons endure, and I see evidence of it often. Being part of our school community makes me smile, makes me proud, and makes me appreciate our connections to the past.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and our work with children.

Sincerely,
John

1st Grade News

A huge shoutout to Abraham, Samantha, Benjamin, Isabella, Veronica, Miguel, Isaac, Jason, Zappa, and Cecil for passing their subtraction facts to 10! Way to go! We are very proud of you all.

Mrs. Krauthamer and Mrs. Webster



7th and 8th Grade Science



Sue Adamo
7/8 Science

7th grade:

The seventh graders have been studying the hydrosphere and geosphere as part of our last unit in Earth Science. We have studied vertical and horizontal ocean currents, watersheds, layers of the Earth, plate tectonics and more. Looking forward to trips to both Felix Neck and Penikese Island to end the year.

8th grade:

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to our 8th graders soon. We did complete some fun labs with cells, moon phases, eclipses and elephant toothpaste (chemical reactions and catalysts) to review for the science MCAS test. The 8th graders have been so much fun to teach. They will be missed.



Summer Sports Program



If you're looking for something for your kids to do this summer, think of Coach's Sports Program! Competitive sports in a non-competitive atmosphere.

First day is Monday, June 29th.

If you would like more details please email me at coachnicholsmv@yahoo.com

This is not a school sponsored activity.



Tisbury School Library



THANK YOU!

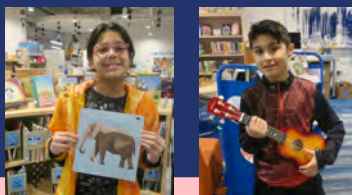
We're so grateful to the staff, volunteers, and students who kept our library running smoothly. Many thanks to the Vineyard Haven Library for loaning us more than 300 books for students and staff, and to Tim and Chris Burke for managing the daily pickups and deliveries!



Many 4th and 5th graders were incredibly helpful!

NEW

We were excited to launch the Library of Things this year, made possible in part by Cape Cod 5. Students enjoyed borrowing musical instruments, games, and other hands-on items.



COLLABORATIONS



Collaborations with MV Museum, MV Diversity Coalition, and Island Grown Schools

HAPPENINGS



Students were able to read, build, create, play chess, walk poems, and do other hands-on activities throughout the year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- All library books are due. Please check homes and cars for ANY Tisbury School Library books. If you have any questions about what is due, please email: kharcourt@mvyps.org.
- Summer Reading: check out the [Tisbury School Library](https://tisburyschoollibrary.weebly.com/) website for ideas about summer reading. Go to <https://tisburyschoollibrary.weebly.com/> and click on Summer Reading for reading lists, favorite authors, and other resources.



Have a great summer filled with fantastic book adventures!

Whitney Burke & Kathryn Harcourt
Tisbury School Library



Spanish News

Hola, hola,

It has been a true pleasure working with your wonderful children this year. Kindergarten through second grade students learned Spanish through the power of music, stories, games, and movement. Many students shared their creativity and talents during our interactive story times, making each class joyful and engaging.

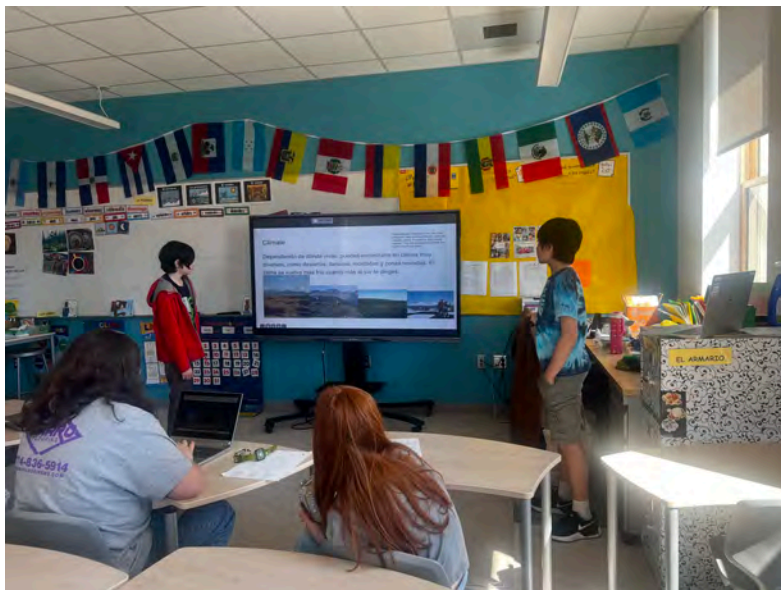
Third and fourth graders continued building strong foundations in Spanish grammar and vocabulary by using interactive stories, conversations, and the program Rockalingua. Students showed great progress in reading, listening, and speaking skills this year.

Our theater class was very successful and brought so much excitement and confidence to the students. I look forward to adding even more creative activities and performances next year.

Middle school students practiced speaking Spanish through role-plays, conversations, and project presentations. They were highly engaged while researching Hispanic countries' cultures, and important traditions. Their curiosity and effort made the class discussions meaningful and fun. It has been a busy year filled with learning, laughter, creativity, and many wonderful

experiences. Enjoy this special time with your families, and as always, thank you for sharing your amazing children with me. ¡Feliz verano!

Lorena Crespo
K-8 Spanish



Phyllis Vecchia's Women in History Program

Phyllis Vecchia Creative Drama taught her Women in History through theatre program to the sixth and eighth grade this past year.

The eighth grade enjoyed the lively play of women from the Salem Witch Trails. They also studied the life of Greta Thunberg, the young climate activist from Sweden.

The sixth grade studied the women from the Salem Witch Trials and Clara Lemlich, (labor organizer from the turn of the 20th century). Their last woman was Mae Jemison, the first African American astronaut. The students enjoyed dressing up in the hats and wearing the astronaut helmets.

Each class begins with an introduction, giving out of parts, hats and performance of the play.



ESL News

We would like to recognize **22** of our hard working English learners who have demonstrated English proficiency on the yearly ACCESS test for 2026. We are so proud to acknowledge the following students and their “can do” spirit in English! Congratulations to ALL ! Bravo!



Grade 2: Heitor Caleb Vertelo Guimaraes;

Grade 3 Arthur De Oliveira, Hadassah De Souza, Alice Oliveira, Arthur Vitalino, Gael Zeron Rodrigues

Grade 4: Maria Vitoria Aquino, Heitor Barbosa, Maite DeMoraes, Lara Vitoria Do Amaral, Danielle dos Santos, Gabriel Garcia, Alicia Maschio, Melissa Pena, Myrella Silva Ruiz, Samantha Zuniga Luna

Grade 5: Ana Luiza Basto, Joao Miguel De Oliveira, Riquelme DaSilva

Grade 6: Emanuely Tomaz, Davi Moreira and Airy Perez Maradiaga



Public Library's Summer Reading Program is Back!

After a year of renovations and offering library programs around town, the Vineyard Haven Public Library building is almost ready...

This means that Summer Reading is back, too! Kickoff party is 3-5pm on June 27th at the High School, or sign up for your reading log at the temporary building at 15 Church St. and come get your first prizes at the main library in July!

We've planned lots of exciting programs, including Circus, Storytelling, Puppets, and an Escape Room! Pick up a program calendar, visit www.vhlibrary.org or look on Facebook for upcoming events.

Email the Children's Librarian, Aria Nevin, at anevin@clamsnet.org with any questions about summer reading.





SUMMER READING KICK OFF FESTA DE LEITURA DE VERÃO

June 27th, 2026
3:00-5:00pm
MV Regional High School
27 de Junho de 2026
15h00-17h00
Escola Secundária Regional de MV

- ✓ Face Painting & Hair Tinsel
Pintura facial e enfeites para o cabelo
- ✓ Obstacle Course Pista de obstáculos
- ✓ Yard Games & Crafts
Jogos ao ar livre e trabalhos manuais
- ✓ Bounce Houses Castelos Infláveis

Music by DJ Dern of Vineyard Spin











3rd Grade News



Our lucky third graders have the opportunity to learn about history in the place where it actually happened!

As part of our lessons on the causes and effects of the American Revolution, third graders walked to Owen Park to learn firsthand how our Island was involved in 1778. Students took part in a mock town meeting, moderated by Becky from the MV Museum.

It was a spirited discussion! To give up our liberty pole to the British general or refuse and suffer the consequences?

Fortunately, (or maybe unfortunately?), some local girls took matters into their own hands. If you want to hear the story of how our liberty pole was blown up in protest, then just ask a third grader!



Health Education



Kindergarteners and 1st graders completed their final safety unit of the year with their bike rodeo. They learned hand signals, safety signs and the rules of the road. We are thankful to Officer Medeiros and Major Bishop for supporting this unit!

2nd graders learned about food allergies from Amy and Stephen Benford from the Keep Smilin' for Abbie

foundation. Students learned that there are more food allergies than tree nut allergies and how to read food labels.

6th grade is finishing up their L.E.A.D. unit with Major Bishop. They've been diligent in learning and practicing nine ways to avoid peer pressure in class via role plays.

Jane Taylor
K-8 Health Education



ART

Kindergarteners learned how to form a kitten out of clay by pinching ears and coiling a tail. They also made their first March to the Sea hats for our Memorial Day ceremony.

First Graders are sculpting sperm whales from clay. We Discussed our island's strong connection with the whaling industry, which they had also learned at the museum!

Second Graders are creating plant sale signs to label the seedlings they planted with IGI and will be selling in May.

Third and Fourth graders are working on self portraits. We talk about proportion and close observation with mirrors.

Fifth Graders have started their Victorian house project, many have been waiting for years to build these! We start with a piece of wood donated from Cottles and the Harcourt family. We discuss the Victorian era- which can be summed up as 'beauty over practicality'.

They use wood, cardboard, glue guns, fabric, and their imagination to create a small Victorian house with lots of colorful details.

Six Graders just finished making clay animals, Seventh Graders Clay mugs, and are now both learning perspective drawing.

Eighth Graders are building bridges to coincide with the science unit. We will have a bridge breaking contest in June in Science, to see who's can hold the most weight!

