

# TIGER TALES



## THE TISBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**March 2026**

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Visit our website:  
[www.tisbury.mvyps.org](http://www.tisbury.mvyps.org)  
*Information is updated routinely.*



### Principal's Letter

Tisbury School community:

It has been many years since our school campus was blanketed by this much snow, for so long. The storm that led to school being canceled for two days in late January provided students with different ways to enjoy recess. A look back shows that, historically, the Vineyard has experienced more school cancellations due to snow in March than any other month. This may surprise some, but I offer the reminder that we cannot celebrate spring too early. As of this writing (in late February), the last day of school for students will be Wednesday June 24. Let's hope that remains in place.

Perhaps it was due to the Olympics, but several students recently were discussing different nations' flags at lunch recently. I was impressed with how much they knew about the topic. We talked about displaying flags in the school, representing the countries that members of our school community and their families trace their roots from. As we begin this project, students offered the following countries whose flags they definitely want included: Brazil, Jamaica, Bulgaria, Romania, Czech Republic, Sweden, Portugal, Canada, and Japan. We will certainly add to this list, so please share with me others that should be included.

In late March, our school begins Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) testing. Grades 3-8 will test in English/Language Arts and Math this spring. Grades 5 and 8 will also test in Science/Technology/Engineering, and grade 8 alone tests in Civics. Testing concludes in late May. Our school has performed well on MCAS tests in past years, which is due to students being well-prepared by their teachers. While MCAS results are but one measure of a school's performance, often they are referenced widely due to the abundance of information available from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. If your children are scheduled to take MCAS tests this spring, you can help them prepare by encouraging them to take the tests seriously, and give their best effort. As I tell students, if they do those two things, they should be proud of themselves.

Parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled for students in grades K-4 on April 28, 30 and May 4, and for students in grades 5-8 on April 30 and May 4. Parent-teacher conferences offer an important opportunity to discuss students' learning and growth, as well as discuss goals for the following school year. Parents, please look for information regarding signing up for these conferences.

As always, thank you for your support of our school.

Sincerely,  
John

## Spanish News

Hola, hola familias,

Last month we learned so much together in Spanish class! Here is a snapshot of what each grade has been working on:

**Kindergarten** explored winter and animals through songs, movement, and playdough activities. They are building vocabulary in a fun and hands-on way.

**First Grade** listened to engaging stories, learned a new greeting song, and practiced vocabulary about winter clothes and animals.

**Third Grade** continued developing their Spanish through stories and songs. They have become experts at finding Spanish vocabulary using word searches. The 3S class even set a record — completing three challenging word searches in five minutes each! They were incredibly proud of their accomplishment (and they were not easy!).



**Fourth Grade** learned about the Aztec and Maya cultures and explored traditions related to Carnival. We also practiced speaking skills through interactive activities.

**Fifth and Sixth Grades** studied cultural traditions such as Carnival in different Spanish-speaking countries. They continued practicing how to describe people, express likes and dislikes, and wrote letters to friends in Spanish.

Seventh Grade, learned the differences between schools in hispanic countries and USA. They continued building a strong foundation in verbs and grammar through engaging activities, including charades. They created excellent posters about reflexive verbs and the verb gustar. They are very talented!

**Eighth Grade** finished the STAMP test this month. They worked extremely hard, and I am very proud of their effort and dedication.

As always, it is an honor to be part of your child's education. Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with me!

Con cariño,  
Ms. Crespo



## 7th and 8th Grade Science



### 7th grade:

The seventh graders have been investigating the interactions within the human body. So far, they have finished digestive and respiratory systems. They are in the middle of the circulatory system. There was a sheep pluck dissection, allowing us to look at the lungs, trachea and heart. Just in time for Valentine's Day, they also dissected a sheep heart. It is surprising to see how hard this muscle is, as well as the four chambers they identify on the hearts.

### 8th grade:

In studying Gravity and Kinetic Energy, the eighth graders have been working with Newton's Laws of Motion to identify and

explain energy transfer. They have looked at factors affecting gravity (other planets) and used marble ramps to explore potential and kinetic energy. Right now the kids are looking at how mass and speed affect collisions, especially in real world scenarios such as car crashes.

Sue Adamo  
7/8 Science



## Health Education

Most grades concluded their safety units recently.

**Kindergarteners** read a book called, *Don't Hug Doug*, which is about a young boy who does not like hugs. Doug does love high-fives! Students practiced asking people before giving a hug, a high-five or a fist bump, both verbally and non-verbally. We were joined by our safety friends to discuss how they take care of someone who needs help but doesn't like people in their personal space. Kindergarteners also saw our safety friends for uniform and vehicle identification. Students worked in small groups with our safety friends on math, literacy and sequencing activities.

**3rd and 4th graders** completed mock emergency calls with our safety friends, learning about when it is appropriate to make an emergency call and what to say, if an emergency call ever needs to be made.



We are thankful to our familiar faces of Fire Chief Rolston, Deputy Chief Rivers, Officer Medeiros, Major Bishop, Sgt. Sherman and Paramedic Davey and to the new safety friend faces of EMT Wood, EMT Mayhew, EMT Bilzerian and Chief Retmier from Tri-Town EMS for supporting and participating in our safety units.

**5th graders** are wrapping up their nutrition unit by preparing for an in-class debate on if energy drinks should have a legal age of purchase and consumption. Students are researching, writing and preparing their arguments that will be presented to judges that are part of our Tisbury School community.



**6th graders** are studying neuroscience and learning about the parts of the brain, chemicals in the brain and how these chemicals influence our behaviors and choices, and about mental health conditions.



**7th and 8th graders** have both concluded their substance units, learning about short-term and long-term effects of substance on the human body, while practicing refusal strategies they learned in the 6th grade.

Jane Taylor  
K8 Health Education

## 7th & 8th Grade News

In an inspiring show of compassion, our 7th and 8th grade students have come together to raise funds for their science teacher, Sue Adamo, whose two granddaughters have been diagnosed with a rare form of Limb Girdle Muscular Dystrophy, type 2C. The students' have chosen to turn their empathy into action by making 'Walk On' (rally cry/mission statement) bracelets and selling them to our supportive staff, raising a total of \$837.00! The children have unified, demonstrating leadership, generosity, and heart to give back to someone who has impacted their lives. We are incredibly proud of our students for modeling what it means to live in a caring community like Tisbury. The students invite you to join them in supporting this important cause by visiting the following link: <https://www.thedionfund.org/baileyfamily>



## 4th Grade News

We just finished reading My Diary from Here to There, written by Amada Irma Perez. Amada was five when her family left Mexico for the United States. The students were asked to think about how this story relates to many of them as they or their family members have made this journey to come to the United States. In fact, most of us have family members that made the decision to come to the United States for a better life.

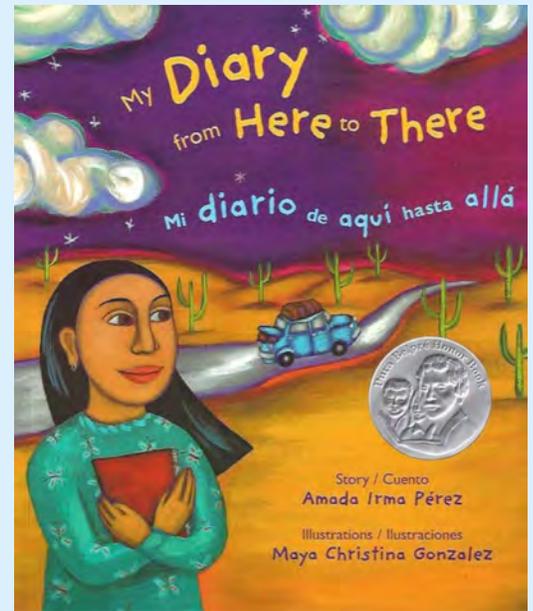
### My Feelings About Immigration:

I feel sad because I think people should have the right to live in a different country. Sometimes, people do not have a choice because they have to leave if there is a war in the country.

I feel sad and upset because there are days, if you are an immigrant, where we can't go out too far because we worry someone might try to deport us.

I feel that the word immigration means to move from your homeland to a new place. When you immigrate people shouldn't treat you differently because you are from a different country.

I feel sad, scared, and disappointed. I am an immigrant, and it is not nice what is happening and not fair. Our voices should be heard. We should be respected. I don't like what they are doing to immigrants. It is harsh and many people don't agree. We immigrants deserve peace and respect.



## 1st Grade News

First graders are becoming quite the mathematicians. They have been working hard to memorize their addition math facts. Congratulations to Samantha, Gael, Mika, Emanuely, and Aydan for memorizing their addition facts to 10. Now they will begin subtraction. Keep up the great work!

Mrs. Webster & Mrs. Krauthamer



## Nurse's Notes

### Reminders:

**8th Grade Students:** Make sure that you are up to date on your physical for high school. A physical in the last 13 months before the start of Freshman year is required by all incoming 9th graders.

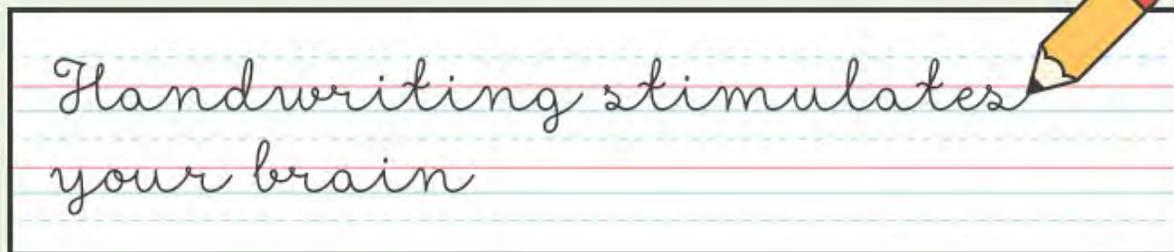
**6th Grade Students:** Check with your doctor about your 7th grade immunization requirements for Tdap and Meningococcal vaccinations. Make sure your child is up to date before the start of 7th grade.



## Wellness News

### Tip from the Tisbury Wellness Committee:

Next time write a note to say thank you rather than an email....



Lots of evidence shows handwriting stimulates the brain and offers benefits typing doesn't:



### More language skills

Relative to typing, writing by hand sees increased activity in the **Broca's area** and **inferior parietal lobule** – areas involved with language comprehension. The **primary visual area** is located at the back of the brain.

# ART

*Top left:  
3rd grade  
bears*



*Top right:  
4th grade  
Berthe  
Morisot  
inspired  
paintings*



*Bottom:  
8th grade  
collaborative  
mural*

