

# TIGER TALES



## THE TISBURY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



May 2026

P.O. Box 878  
Vineyard Haven, MA 02568  
508-696-6500

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

### *March to the Sea*

Our annual Memorial Day parade is just around the corner on Friday, May 22, 2026. Students will leave the school at **12:15 PM** and march to Owen Park via Spring Street and Main Street. The ceremony will take approximately forty-five minutes. Students will be dismissed from Owen Park at approximately **1:00 PM**. Busses will be parked on Main Street.



**Please instruct your children as to their directions following this early dismissal. Let them know how they will be getting home. If there are restrictions on who can pick up your children from school, we strongly urge you to attend the ceremony and be present to take them home. Also, please inform your children's teacher if your plans are different from their normal dismissal routine.**

As always, students in Grades K-8 should have a flower (or flowers) to carry in the parade and to throw in the harbor, commemorating those who have given their lives for their country. Our band will be playing and flags will be waving and we hope that you will come downtown to see the parade. Students in grade 8 will be helpers on the pier and with elementary classes.



### Principal's Letter

Tisbury School community:

On June 10, the Tisbury School Class of 2026 will graduate from 8th grade. This class is one that has made a profoundly positive mark on our school, and will be regarded favorably for years to come. While we will recognize and celebrate them in June at the graduation ceremony, I can share how fortunate our school has been to have these young men and women. They have provided leadership, and set a wonderful example for other students in the school. 8th graders have excelled in academics, athletics, service, music, theater, art, technology, and other areas. They have taken advantage of the valuable opportunities at the Tisbury School, and are well-prepared for continued success in high school. This class will be missed, and remembered fondly. They are: Havilah Alves, Henzo da Silva, Isabelly DeAraujo, Hugo de Oliveira, Heitor DeOliveira, Victoria Dowling, Leilani King, Matheus Lauriano, Jarrell Lehman, Heitor Lopes, Zoey Lundberg, Samuel Martins, Kylie Moreira, Kaua Oliveira, John Oliver, Allana Rainha, Isaac Rendon, Julia Rodrigues, Joao Santos, Leticia Silva, and Hollis Tilton. Together, they forwarded our school's pillars – Respect, Community, Responsibility, and Compassion.

While we graduate an exceptional class of 8th graders this spring, our school also says goodbye to Alison Smith. Mrs. Smith has worked at our school for the past 36 years, most of them as a 2nd grade classroom teacher. Over that time, she has taught hundreds of students, supporting their growth and learning. She recalls that at her wedding many years ago, one of her students was in attendance. This year, that very student has a child in Mrs. Smith's 2nd grade class, which serves as a beautiful ending note to her career. She will be missed, and we wish her a happy, healthy, enjoyable retirement.

Thank you for your continued support of our school. We have much to feel grateful for.

Sincerely,  
John

### Just Moved?

Please be aware that it is necessary to notify our school if your family moves to a new address, so that we can accurately update our records. In particular, if your family has moved out of Tisbury since the 2025-26 school year started, it is important that you share this information with us. The deadline to apply for School Choice admission is June 15 for students who do not live in Tisbury and have not already been accepted through School Choice.

If you need to update your physical and/or mailing address, simply call the Tisbury School office at 508-696-6500.

## Cafeteria News

As we get ready to finish out the school year, we want to let you know about the things that have happened in the cafeteria. The state of Massachusetts has made school breakfast and lunch free for all Pre-K through 12th grade students and has also provided funding for free fresh fruit and vegetable snack options available daily. These programs will continue into the 26-27 school year.

The students also benefit from donations from our island community. The school received over 1500 pounds of fruits and vegetables from Island Grown (some of these items were actually planted and harvested by the students), 730 pounds of beef and pork from Slough Farm and 200 pounds of fish from MV Fishermen's Preservation Trust, all of which were used in a variety of different recipes throughout the year.

In addition to the meals on our monthly menu, we are now offering rice and beans daily, as a vegetarian option and a fresh vegetable salad bar is available with every lunch. The menu offers a variety of different meals. Which is your favorite? Let us know

Melinda Maveety  
Tisbury School Cafeteria



## Tisbury Garden News

The sun is shining and Spring has sprung!

It's so nice to be working outside in the garden with students again.

This month: Kindergarten will be planting flowers for the butterflies, hummingbirds and bees.

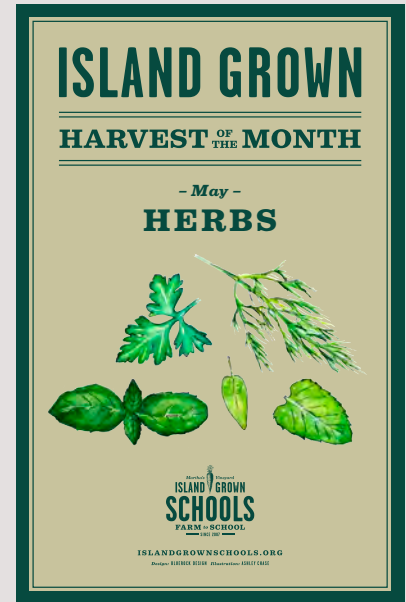
The 3rd grade is taking part in an island wide pea growing contest and 4th grade will be hatching ducks.

The 5th grade classes will be planting a traditional indigenous bed of the three sisters - corn, beans and squash.

Keep your eyes open for information about the 2nd Grade Seedling Sale. It will take place on the 26th, 27th and 28th.

The May harvest of the month is herbs. The 7th grade social studies students will learn about the history and mythology connections of herbs from ancient Greece...oregano, lemon balm, thyme, mint and rosemary, sage and more. They were all used as food and medicine in ancient Greece!

Students can visit the media center to do an activity of exploring and smelling herbs and trying to connect them to the correct names and maybe win a prize. Good luck!



## 7th and 8th Grade Science



### 7th Grade Science

Last month, our 7th graders had the opportunity to build and race solar cars. Representatives from Vineyard Wind came into the classroom to teach the kids a little bit about renewable energy. After the lesson, the kids were given the components of and instructions to make a solar car from balsa wood. We had some interesting designs this year! The weather was on our side on race day. The basketball court was the site of many races. At the end of the session, Maju and Ari were the winners (fastest car). Rohanna took the title of best design. Fun was had by all! We will end the year studying the interaction of the hydrosphere and geosphere.



### 8th Grade Science

The 8th grade has been working on Earth Science concepts including tectonic plate movement, earthquakes, glaciers and the rock cycle. We are continuing our prep for

the science MCAS on May 19th. As our time together winds down, we will do some fun science labs, as requested by the kids!



Sue Adamo  
7/8 Science

## 1st Grade News

A big shout out to Mika, Silas, Luca, Eloise, Aydan, Helena, Anastasia, and Emilia for mastering their subtraction facts to 10! These students have now successfully completed all addition and subtraction facts to 10 - a huge accomplishment in first grade. They have shown incredible dedication, perseverance, and a strong work ethic, practicing consistently and not giving up even when it felt challenging. Way to go!

We also want to give a special shoutout to Cecil for recently mastering his addition facts to 10!

Mrs. Webster & Mrs. Krauthamer



## 6th Grade News

The 6th grade is enjoying learning about Characteristics of Living Organisms in our new Science Unit and Geometry including area of shapes, introduction to the nets of three-dimensional figures, and volume in our Math Unit. In Social Studies, we are wrapping up learning about geography of South Asia and are moving into major nations of the region. In ELA we're reading a SciFi piece tied to our argumentative essay unit.

## 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](mailto:coachnicholsmv@yahoo.com)

*This is not a school sponsored activity.*

## 4th Grade News

4G has had a busy month during their Social Studies class. Students chose one of the national parks in the West or iSouthwest of the United States. After learning as much as they could from their park's National Park website, they put together a slideshow with important information about their park. Working on their slideshow was the precursor to leaning into our exploration of Westward Expansion. Students are using a Kids' Discover online to read a variety of texts related to Westward Expansion. Both opportunities have given them a stronger understanding of how vast and special our country is from East to West and North to South!



Sequoia and Kings National Parks covers more than 1,353 square miles

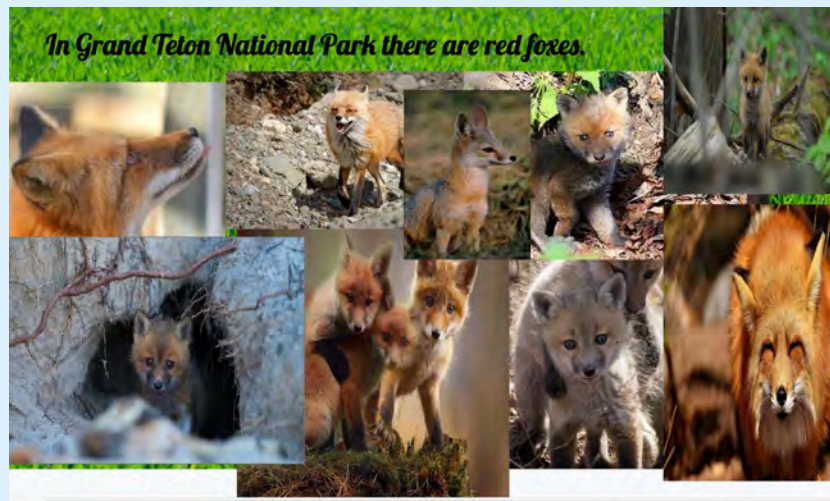


*Weather made the trip difficult (top left)*

*Large wagon train being lead by Native American tribe members (middle left)*



*Conestoga Wagon crossing a river out west (above middle right)*



## Health Education

**Kindergarteners** are working through their safety unit and recently helped Officer Medeiros and Ms. Taylor investigate who broke Bones the Skeleton in the health classroom. Students worked in teams as evidence officers and photographers and used their critical thinking skills to determine that Sparkles the Cat snuck into the health classroom and broke Bones.

**1st grade** finished their fire safety unit. We've learned about fire gear, tools on a fire truck, tools that are safe for us to use, vs. tools that are safe for a firefighter to use and how to exit a space if there is an emergency. We are thankful to Chief Rolston and Deputy Chief Rivers for co-teaching this unit and building positive relationships with our 1st graders. During our visit to the fire station yesterday, we got to see Paramedic Davey, Deputy Chief Rivers and Firefighter Ledden in their gear. Students got to spray the fire hose, explore the tools on a fire truck and explore the apparatus bay, where fire trucks and ambulances are. We are thankful to Chief Rolston, Deputy Chief Rivers, Paramedic Davey, Lieutenant Cleary, Firefighter Hopkins, Firefighter Ledden and Officer Medeiros for being part of this unit.



**2nd grade** has finished their L.E.A.D. unit with Major Bishop. Students participated in role plays, learned more about being a good friend, safety with medication and strategies to use when they make a mistake.

**5th graders** have been learning about the human digestive system. Ask them how long a small intestine is. They are very excited to share their knowledge!

Jane Taylor  
K-8 Health Education



## Spanish News

Hola, hola, during the last month, students have been practicing more and more Spanish through speaking, listening, reading, and writing activities. In this month the focus was on spring (primavera), including themes such as Easter (Pascua), seasonal vocabulary, and real-life conversations in Spanish.

**In Kindergarten**, students are singing songs, playing games, and participating in stories.

**First and Second Grade** students learned about spring (primavera) and Easter (Pascua) and practiced counting from 1 to 30 in Spanish.

**Third grade** is engaging in stories and learning verbs through likes and dislikes to express preferences.

**Fourth graders G** enjoyed a creative theater experience with Ms. Phyllis Vecchia based on a book set in Costa Rica. 4F will have the same experience after vacation.

**Fifth graders** continue practicing with Rockalingua, focusing on common verbs and expressing likes and dislikes.



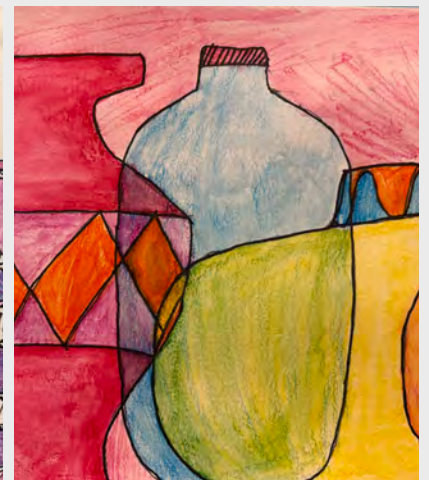
**Sixth graders** are learning about countries in South America, the Caribbean, and Spain and are preparing for a special project.

**Seventh and eighth graders** are practicing grammar through conversations and games. In honor of Poetry Month, they also wrote poems in Spanish. I am very proud of their work.

In middle school, students also explored Easter traditions in Spanish-speaking countries. Thank you for your continued support. Enjoy your time with your children!

Ms. Crespo  
K-8 Spanish

## ART



## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

 <b>TALK</b> Talk with your children about their mental health. Make topics around mental health, stress, anxiety, fear and feelings common in your home and in your child's life. #weALLhaventmentalhealth	 <b>TRUST</b> Trust your gut; you know your child best! If you believe your child is struggling or needs help, trust that feeling. #NoHealthWithoutMentalHealth	 <b>ROLE MODEL</b> Show your children it is ok to talk about and care for their mental health by taking care of yourself. #ChildrensMentalHealthMatters
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### MENTAL HEALTH FOR CHILDREN *What Parents Can Do*

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH, FFCMH.ORG • THE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT, YMHPROJECT.ORG

 <b>ASK FOR HELP</b> Get a referral to a mental health specialist, if needed. Provide your child with every opportunity to receive treatment and support – just as you would for a broken arm or a fever.	 <b>CONNECT</b> You are not alone; 1 in 5 children experiences a mental health condition. Connect with other families who can offer support, help and resources.	 <b>TEAM UP</b> Build a team with the professionals and child-serving systems involved in your child's life. An open and honest dialogue with teachers, coaches, doctors and others will give them the information they need to support your child.
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## May Is Women's Health Month

“My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.”

-Maya Angelou

## Wellness Committee

### Wellness Committee Tip (5-2-1-0 Approach)

- Get at least 5 servings of fruits and vegetables each day
- Limit screen time to less than 2 hours per day
- Get one hour of physical activity per day
- Zero sugary drinks a day

Come and join the Tisbury Wellness Committee next year! We meet 4 times per year and work on wellness goals for our school each year. We are a team of parents, teachers, students, administration, guidance counselors, and community partners. We want to hear from you! Email Catherine Coogan at [ccoogan@mvyvs.org](mailto:ccoogan@mvyvs.org)



## NURSE'S NOTES

### School Nurse Reminders:

All 8th graders who will be freshman in the fall, please make sure to have had a physical within 13 months of the start of the school year. This is required for all freshmen.  
 All 6th graders who will be in 7th grade in the fall, please make sure that you have seen your doctor for your Tdap booster and your Meningococcal vaccine. These are to be completed prior to starting 7th grade. Send documentation to the nurse!  
 All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade interscholastic sports require a physical within the last 13 months of the start of each sport. Please make sure your child is up to date.