Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School
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Notes to Home: January 21, 2026

Greetings CCLCS Families,

On Monday, our nation paused to reflect on the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Three years to the day after The Supreme Court's decision in Brown v. Board of Education*, which struck down the "separate but equal" doctrine that had allowed segregation in public schools, King delivered his famous "Give us the Ballot" speech at the Lincoln Memorial. Perhaps not as well known as his later "I Have a Dream" speech, Dr. King's remarks on May 17, 1957 were a strong denunciation of those who had tried to undermine integration in the nation's public schools, as well as a clarion call for voting rights as the best means to achieve justice and equality for all. Dr. King's philosophy of education, noted in this speech and throughout his career, celebrates education as not just the accumulation of facts, but as shaping character and using what we learn to make the world a better place. In 1957, Dr. King was addressing a world that was far from perfect, but his vision was one that valued hope over dismay, love over oppression, and education over ignorance. It's a message that seems particularly apt for middle school students, or any, like me, who remain far from perfect.*

Warm regards,
Ben

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Auction Help Needed!!!!

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 in early February!

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We are also in need of LARGE AUCTION TICKET items (vacation homes, sports tickets, lessons of all kinds, donated labor and supplies, etc) and business sponsors!! This is our biggest social event & fundraiser of the year, and your support is appreciated!! Questions can be directed to hkast@cclcs.info

Term Two Seminars! Will start on Friday, January 23rd. Students will learn of their seminar placement on Thursday!

Charter School Advocacy! In the coming weeks and months, lawmakers will develop proposals for the Commonwealth's Fiscal Year 2027 budget, determining how to allocate state tax revenue to meet the many needs of Massachusetts residents. Next month, we'll raise our voices to ask our lawmakers to prioritize fair funding for all students. **Massachusetts Charter Public Schools Fair Funding Week 2026 will take place from Monday, February 2nd to Friday, February 6th.**

Did you know that kids attending charter public schools receive less funding for their school buildings than kids attending traditional public schools? As lawmakers get ready to build our state's budget for the next year, we have an opportunity to change that – ensuring all of our kids and our schools are funded fairly!

Fair Funding Week 2026 kicks off on Monday, February 2nd at 6 p.m. with an inspirational virtual rally. The event will feature powerful stories from charter public school families, alumni, and educators from across the state. Register today to join us! https://tinyurl.com/3u9k56vz

Spread the Word!! Know of a middle-school student who would be a good fit for CCLCS? Word of mouth is the best way we attract new families! We are currently taking applications from interested 5th, 6th or 7th graders who would like to attend CCLCS next year. Deadline: February 23, 2026. 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

THANK YOU to Mr. Merrill and our incredible group of teachers & chaperones for a GREAT Ski Day at Pat's Peak yesterday!! We are looking forward to more events with our school community in the future!

There were over 70 students and parents having a great day on the mountain despite the frosty temps. The Pats Peak crew were amazing getting us tickets and providing lessons to 12 students in both skiing and snowboarding. I'm sure the students will be sharing their stories of ripping trails and frostbit fingers!!!

Huzzah!!! to Mr. Merrill, Mrs. Haven, Ms. Zukhra, Ms. Maxwell & Ms. Avari. Special thanks to Mrs. Conlin and all the other parents who drove!

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Clubs & Seminars!

Model UN Club! Model UN is canceled this week. See you next Wednesday at 3:15PM!

ART SPARK: ART SPARK will meet on Wednesday, Jan 21, in the Art Studio from 3-4:45pm. Thank you to the families who have volunteered to bring juice and snacks for this week! Please Note: This is the last class in Session 1 of 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.
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Rainbow Alliance: The Rainbow Alliance will meet Tuesday at lunch.

Lego Club: Will meet Tuesday at lunch!

Roots and Shoots: As we begin the new year, current Roots & Shoots members extend an invitation to any and all students who'd like to join us in our adventures and work. Roots & Shoots meets Thursday afternoons, directly after school until 4 (with occasional scheduled later dismissal times). CCLCS R&S will continue working on projects begun this year, including the completion of the Dr. Jane Goodall memorial mural in the hallway; crafting with people at a local senior center then selling the crafts to raise funds for local animal shelters; and developing a sustainability plan for the school community. Come join us!

Music!

STRINGS! This week's schedule will be as follows: WED. 1/21 at 7:45 is for Olive. On FRI. 1/23 we will have Ensemble for all at 7:45. First period sectional that day will be for Kelsey in Mrs. Wilkinson's room and second period sectional will be for Piper and Alice in the Spanish classroom. 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.

Band: Before School Band will continue to meet Tuesday mornings, lessons Tuesday during the school day.

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 (crsims@cclcs.info) if you're interested.

Sports This week (1/19 - 1/23)

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - NO SCHOOL, Tue - NO SCHOOL, Wed - Game vs Trinity Christian Academy 3:45 (2736 Falmouth Rd, Osterville), Thurs - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Fri - No Practice

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - NO SCHOOL, Tue - NO SCHOOL, Wed - No Practice, Thurs - Practice 3:30-5:00 , Fri - No Practice

GIRLS BASKETBALL Mon - NO SCHOOL, Tue - NO SCHOOL, Wed - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Thurs - Game/ GOLD vs Cape Cod Acad 4:00, Fri - Practice 3:30 - 5:00

WINTER TRACK Mon - NO SCHOOL, Tue - NO SCHOOL, Wed - No Practice, Thurs - Practice 3:15 - 4:30

Sports Next week (1/26 - 1/30)

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Tue - Game at Rising Tide 5pm (Village Sports Club, 30 Golf Drive, Plymouth), Wed - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Thurs - Game at Cape Cod Academy 4pm (50 Osterville-West Barnstable Drive), Fri - No Practice

BOYS BASKETBALL Mon - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Tue - Game at DY 4pm (288 Station Ave, Yarmouth), Wed - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Thurs - Game at Barnstable Intermediate 4pm (895 Falmouth Rd), Fri - No Practice

GIRLS BASKETBALL Mon - Game at St John Paul II 4:15 (@ St Pius - 321 Wood Rd, S. Yarmouth), Tue - Game at Rising Tide 3:45pm (Village Sports Club, 30 Golf Drive, Plymouth), Wed - No Practice, Thurs - Practice 3:30 - 5:00, Fri - Game at Falmouth Academy 3:30

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

6th Grade

Week at a Glance: https://tinyurl.com/4w3dr5ef

ELA: Please check with your student to ensure that they have completed their graphic organizer for the compare/contrast essay by Tuesday. Students worked on this graphic organizer on Thursday, Friday, and Monday and need to have it completed by Tuesday to be ready to type their essay.

7th Grade

7th Grade Assessment Calendar: https://tinyurl.com/47ytyerr

Spanish: Your students are continuing work on “ser” and “estar” conjugation this week. Students began work on their Recipe Share last week. The final submission is due this coming Friday. Many students have opted to complete a digital presentation, but for those who have chosen a poster board or a trifold, it may require some additional work at home. All instructions are posted on Google Classroom.

Math: This past week Cape Cod 5 bank stopped in to talk to the 7th grade about loans and interest rates. Each student received a business folder to keep their Restaurant project information in. We will continue to work on parts of the restaurant project over the next couple of weeks. We will be wrapping up Chapter 3 (expression and equations) this Friday with the Chapter test.

8th Grade

Week at a Glance: https://tinyurl.com/4haan5du

French: Link to Families' Agenda in WaaG in Student Hub; This week: Review of school subjects, opinions/reasons & class directions + telling time(new); upcoming assessment 1/28 & upcoming project 1/30. HW due Friday: French-speaking Middle School Profile

Science: It's time for students to have chosen their element for the Grade 8 Element Project (https://tinyurl.com/7a2j5k6u) The Google Form was due Friday, 1/23/26 and is the first grade of the element project. Last week, we looked at the project details and examples of student projects from past years. Here are the three main parts of the project and how we broke it down into pieces:

Hand - drawn element diagram for the element fact sheet: 1 session of work to complete
Part 1 - Typed element details / element fact sheet: 1 or 2 sessions of work to complete
Part 2 - Artistic expression: 2 sessions of work to complete
Part 3 - A brief written / typed explanation: 1 shorter session of work to complete

Project Check - Ins: (these are relatively flexible but emphasizes the importance of students doing the project in manageable parts.
Week of 1/12-1/16 Project viewing, time for questions, details given
Friday 1/16 Google form due to declare the element of choice for the project
1/23 Project Checkpoint: At least 2 sessions of work done and submitted on Google Classroom (photos of work are fine)
1/26 Project Checkpoint: At least 3 sessions of work done and submitted on Google Classroom (photos of work are fine)
1/29 at 9am: At least 4 sessions of work done and submitted on Google Classroom (photos of work are fine)

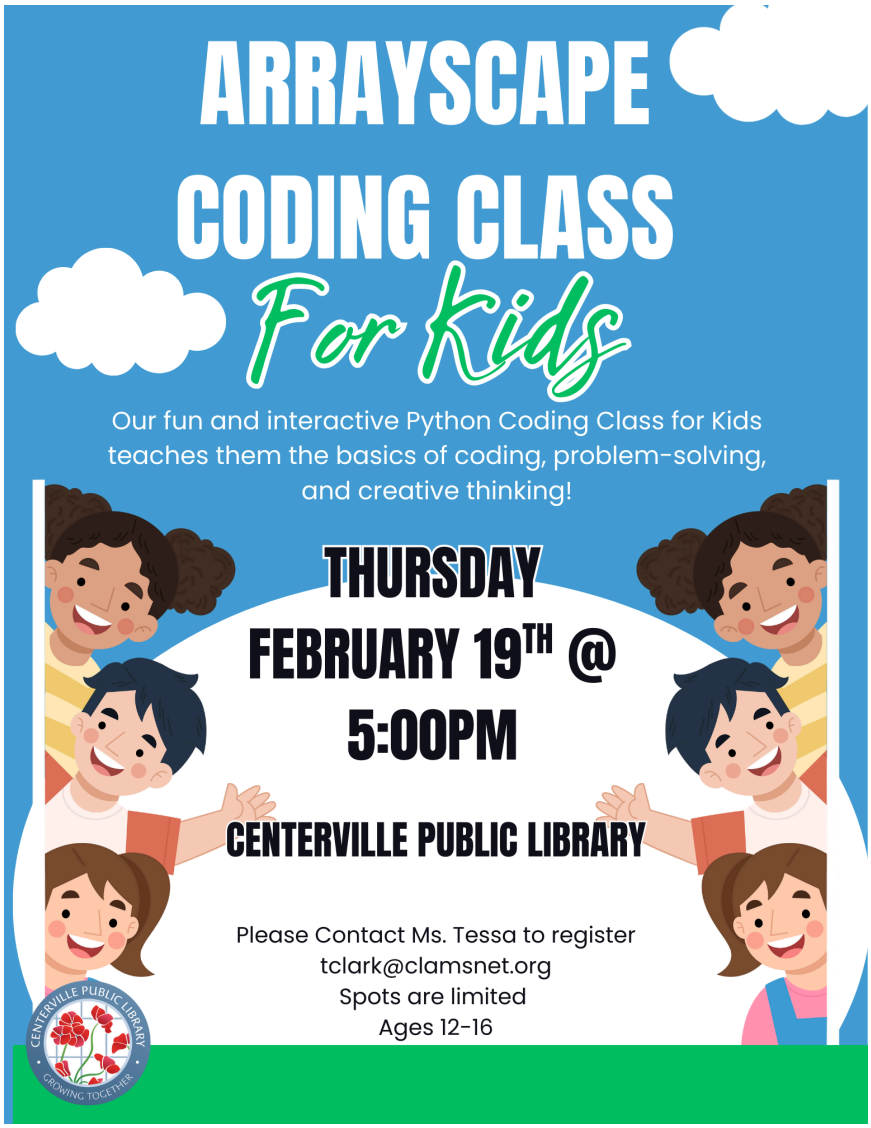
I will add these check-in dates to Jupiter and Google Classroom so they will be there as well.

Thank you for your support of our project-based learning! Please message ahaven@cclcs.info with any questions!

Upcoming Events

- Friday, January 23rd: First Seminar of Term Two
- 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 Wequassett Resort

Community Notes



PLEASANT BAY COMMUNITY BOATING
CALLING ALL BUDDING SCIENTISTS AND NATURE-ENTHUSIASTS:
JOIN THE CURIOSITY CLUB
In collaboration with CCLCS, Pleasant Bay Community Boating will offer a 10-week after-school program that features a range of hands-on activities like building projects, microscope work, outdoor adventures, and nature-themed creative projects!
Mondays until 5 PM
1/12/26 - 3/30/26 (skip 1/19 and 2/16)
CCLCS will provide van transit to PBCB:
2287 MA 28 in Harwich
$200 per student for 10 weeks
Register here:
Questions? Email PBCB Science Coordinator Jeanna Santana (santanaj@pbcb.cc)

Eastham Public Library
THE BIG CHILL
It may be cold outside, but most of us are not feeling very chill. Join us for a chance to decompress from midterms, school, and whatever else is weighing on you.
No registration, just come!
Friday, January 23rd
5:00PM – 7:00 PM
Wear your PJs or whatever is comfy
Enjoy:
• Calming Art
• Comfort Food
• Sound Bathing
• Aroma Therapy...
and Friends!
For High School and Middle School Students