



Nottingham Knightly News

October 16, 2018

Important Dates

15-19 October	Book Fair, Library
16 October, Wednesday	Family Night at the Book Fair
19 October, Friday	Principal's Coffee, Special Education, 9:15AM
25 October, Thursday	Parent /Teacher Conferences, Early Release
26 October, Friday	Parent Teacher Conferences, NO SCHOOL
31 October, Wednesday	Halloween Parade, 2:15 PM
2 November, Tuesday	Grade Prep Day, No School for Students
12 November, Monday	Veteran's Day (observed) NO SCHOOL
17 November, Saturday	Jennifer Bush-Lawson Friendship 5K
17 November, Saturday	Fall Social and Auction
21-23, November	Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL

2018-2019 Early Release Dates: October 25, December 12, January 16, February 13, March 7, March 13, June 5, June 12. Students will be dismissed at 1:26PM.

In addition to the weekly newsletter, please check the PTA website, www.nespta.org (as well as our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feed) and Nottingham's school website <https://nottingham.apsva.us/> to stay current with what is going on at school.

From the Principal

Hi Everyone,

We are so excited to have the Book Fair this week! I hope everyone has the chance to get a new book to read! I am currently reading two books; *A Man Called Ove* and *Raising Boys with ADHD: Secrets for Parenting Healthy, Happy Sons*. I'm happy to chat about either if you have the chance.

We had our Safety Assembly last week. Ask your child to share what CARES means and how we use it at Nottingham to keep everyone safe. Attached are the slides we shared with students so you can reinforce at home... and maybe share with our upcoming Knights!

HINT:

Cooperation
Assertiveness
Responsibility
Empathy
Self-Control

I hope to see many of you at the Principal's Coffee this Friday morning. I originally said we'd be in the library, but due to the book fair, we will be in Ms. Simonetti's music room instead.

Eileen

Kudos and Appreciation

Thank you to **Morgan Chinoy** and **Elizabeth Ingram** for leading the charge with the book fair. We recognize the time commitment and appreciate your support!

Wednesday was a busy day filled with lots of community building events! First, thank you to **Bobbie Pugh, Mike Guisto** and all our staff who cheered our students on during **Bike and Walk to School Day** Thank you **Laura Moore** for leading the charge for our all-school **ASPAN Walk-A-Thon**. We raised over \$1400! What a great morning and a super turnout!! Finally, a huge thank you to **Dr. Megan Lynch** and **Mr. Mark Jones** for putting together a fun, informative and positive **Safety Assembly!**

Announcements

This Wednesday, we welcome our friends from the **Aachen Exchange Program**. We will greet them with a quick breakfast and students will show our new friends all the things that make Nottingham a great place to learn! We encourage everyone to give a warm welcome to our German friends. **Willkommen!**

On **Thursday, October 18 at 10:18AM**, Nottingham will participate in the statewide **Great Shakeout Earthquake Drill**. APS participates each year. Students will be asked to duck and cover under desks to practice what to do in the unlikely event of an earthquake.

Unity Day is coming up on **Wednesday, October 24**. This is a day to highlight that we all stand together against bullying. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange to symbolize that we are united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. Bullying is someone being *mean, on purpose, repeatedly and it is one sided*. We want to encourage students to be bystander heroes by being a buddy to their classmates, saying no to bullying behavior and reporting bullying to an adult when it happens. For more information, check the National Bullying Prevention Center website. <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/unity-day.asp>

Reminder... APS has entered into an MOA agreement with **Healthy Schools, a CareDox Company that provides flu shots for school age students**. It is designed to increase vaccination rates for children, protect families from illnesses, and keep more students in school during the flu season. This service is provided at

no cost to public school districts and made available to ALL children (ages 4-18 years) in the district regardless of their insurance status. More information will come as we get it.

Fall Social & Auction is Saturday, November 17 -- Tickets On Sale Now! Join the Nottingham Elementary School PTA for an evening of barbeque, bluegrass, and country cocktails at the Fall Social & Auction on **November 17, 2018** at the Columbus Club of Arlington. Blazing hot auction items, games of chance and skill, a liquor bottle pull, blue ribbon bake sale, and live music by local bluegrass band Hollertown will round out the fun at this not-to-miss hoedown! Visit nespta.org to buy tickets!

- **Help Round Up Some Unusual Suspects! We are looking for a wagon load of liquor to make our Bottle Pull a real humdinger!** Will your donation make someone hoot with glee or holler with aghish? That's right -- we're looking for brand new bottles of all kinds of liquor. Deliver it to the front porch of 6219 26th Rd N and get ready for the Bottle Pull at the Fall Social & Auction. You might just catch a unicorn! Questions? Contact fallsocialandauktion@nespta.org
- **Sign up for the Blue Ribbon Bake Sale: Do you have a blue ribbon recipe for pie, cake or cookies? Bakers, start your mixers! [Sign up here](#)** to bring your best sweet treat to Bluegrass and Boots. We'll sell them in a good ole fashioned bake sale, and a panel of staff judges will select the best. The winner receives a blue ribbon and sweet prize!

Reminders

Reminder...We will host a Principal's Coffee for parents of children with special education needs on **Friday, October 19 at 9:15AM**. This will include my plan for addressing special education at Nottingham, the formation of a **Special Education Collaborative Committee** and will be followed by an informal Q&A about special education in general. Parents who wish to ask questions specific to their child are asked to call or email me directly.

Reminder...From the **counseling department...** Our full-time school counselor, **Mark Jones**, will begin offering periodic parent coffees to discuss specific topics relating to social and emotional learning. The first will be held in the school's office conference room on **Wednesday, October 17 from 8:10-8:45 AM** the topic will be Helping Children Solve Peer Conflicts. Mr. Jones will talk for the first 10-15 minutes to offer practical tips. Parents can then ask questions and share experiences as a group, and share thoughts on how best to support their child. Attendance is limited to 13 parents. Please sign up using the following link <https://goo.gl/forms/EzQTcLdGBvw8PJFV2>. If you are interested in attending a similar event for the afternoon, please email Mr. Jones so he can gauge interest for a 5:00 p.m. tea-time discussion group. mark.jones2@apsva.us

Reminder...KNIGHTS IN MOTION IS BACK! For those unfamiliar with this student favorite, Knights in Motion is a running program for 1st-5th graders that takes place every Friday during recess. Knights run laps, earning tokens and punches on mileage cards attached to personalized running necklaces.

Because of the huge level of student participation, we need parents to volunteer to help punch mileage cards, distribute tokens and cheer on their Knights as they achieve fun, fitness goals with their friends. There is a huge need for **1st, 2nd and 3rd grade parent volunteers** as these grades have an enormous level of participation. It is great fun; your kids would love to have you there!

Visit the [Sign Up Genius link](#) to join your Knight in this great fitness adventure. Also, please remember to send your child(ren) to school in running shoes with a water bottle on Fridays. Thanks! Questions? Contact Amy Balkema at knightsinmotion@nespta.org

Location: Nottingham Baseball Field (Ohio and 29th Street)

Recess Times

1st Grade:	11:30-12:00	(Volunteers 11:20-12:05)
4th Grade:	12:00-12:30	(Volunteers 11:50-12:35)
5th Grade:	12:30 -1:00	(Volunteers 12:20-1:05)
3rd Grade:	1:00 - 1:30	(Volunteers 12:50-1:35)
2nd Grade:	1:30 - 2:00	(Volunteers 1:20-2:05)

Reminder...Please Sign-Up - NTM Knights Parent Community Text Message Group

New this year, we are starting a **Remind** text message group for dissemination of critical, time-sensitive information for our parent and guardian community. We envision sending text messages that relate to delayed or disabled buses, weather delays or emergency school closings, notice of lock-down and safety drills, and any other urgent notifications that relate to school operations and the safety of our students.

To join this alert group, please send a text message to the number **81010** with the message **@ntmparents**, or you can also sign-up through the web at: <http://www.remind.com/join/ntmparents>

Reminder...Sign Up to Volunteer at the Book Fair...The Nottingham Book Fair will take place from October 15-19 and volunteers are needed throughout the week. Check out the [Book Fair Sign Up Genius](#) and select the time slots that work with your schedule. Please send questions to bookfair@nespta.org.

Reminder... Odyssey of the Mind Sign Up Ends October 19

It is not too late! Please sign up for this fun, inspiring and free event! October 19 - Sign-Up Deadline

[ODYSSEY OF THE MIND](#) is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college. Teams of 5-7

students apply their creativity and work together to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. They then bring their “solutions” (devices and performances) to competition at the regional, state, and world level. Team members must generate all ideas and carry out those ideas themselves without parental help.

Kids of all ages are invited! This year students get to choose from problems that take them into the world of museums, robotics, and Leonardo da Vinci, among others. It is not a huge time commitment, and it is completely free this year!

To sign up for one of Nottingham’s Odyssey teams, please click [here](#). You can find the 2019 problem synopses [here](#).

****Before you register your student and/or volunteer to be a coach/judge make sure you are available on Saturday, March 9, 2019 to participate in the Regional Meet!***

QUESTIONS? Contact Rena Cutlip-Mason and Jim Wisniewski, Nottingham’s Odyssey of the Mind Co-Chairs, at odyssey@nespta.org.

Reminder...2018 Reflections Art Contest Deadline is October 24...The National PTA Reflections program is PTA’s cornerstone arts program. The program offers students the opportunity to earn local, state and even national recognition for original artwork they create in response to a specific theme. This year's theme is "Heroes Around Me." Students must create their own original work inspired by the theme. Art will be accepted in the following six categories:

- *Dance Choreography
- *Music Composition
- *Film Production
- *Photography
- *Literature
- *Visual Arts

The submission bin will be in the PTA office and entry forms are available in the front office. **The Deadline for turning in entries is Wednesday, October 24.** Many Knights participated in the Reflections program last year and created wonderful art. More information about the program, including rules for each category can be found at <http://www.vapta.org/arts-in-education/reflections.html>.

Contact Ashley McNair at reflections@nespta.org with any questions.

Reminder...A Note on Attendance...We encourage everyone to be at school on time each day. As a reminder, we **begin each day at 9:00 AM and conclude at 3:41 PM**. The following are generally considered excused absences: illness, quarantine of student, doctor or dentist appointments, death in the family, observance of a religious holiday, court appointments, inclement weather emergencies, and severe family emergencies. We need to note other absences as unexcused. Finally, we will send a letter home when absences or tardies and early departures begin to accumulate.

If your child does need to miss school, please email the homeroom teacher and the main office attendance email (attendance.ntm@groups.apsva.us). Teachers will work with students to make up any missed assignments. If there is a **last-minute change for pick-up, please call** the main office at 703-228-5290 as emailing the teacher may not get the message to your child in time.

Reminder...Did you know that **October is Bully Prevention Month**? Throughout the month, our counselors, **Mark Jones and Kellynne Bisbee** will work with teachers to instruct students on several aspects of bullying. Nottingham students are taught to recognize bullying behavior and provide strategies for dealing with it, including assertively saying "no" and reporting to an adult. If you have questions about our program or our steps to prevent bullying, please contact Mark or Kellynne for more information.

From the PTA President

Thank you to all who participated in the Walk and Bike to School Day! It was a beautiful morning and I loved seeing all the energetic and smiling faces of Knights who laced up their walking shoes or donned their bicycle helmets for a terrific event!

A warm welcome to our visitors from Aachen! As a former participant in this program, I can attest to the excitement, hard work and beauty of this cultural exchange.

As we all are getting used to the flow and new routines of this school year, I would like to remind you to either verify or create your PTA account at www.nespta.org. While the weekly Knightly News is a collaboration between Nottingham and the PTA, there are many announcements and updates that the PTA sends out directly and we do not want you to miss any of them.

As always, I welcome your comments, questions and feedback at president@nespta.org.

Thank you,

Stacy Rosenthal
PTA President 2018-19

Community News

- **Want to Learn How to Send Your Kids to College Without Going Broke?**
For many families, the high cost of higher education is a daunting proposition. Some families have children attending college next year and others have years to plan; but the fears of tackling these monumental and rising costs are the same. The College Funding Coach® is here to help families figure out HOW to pay for it! Please join us at Yorktown HS in Patriot Hall on **Wednesday, October 24, 2018**, 7-9pm for the Little-Known Secrets of Paying for College workshop. This is information you can't afford to miss! To RSVP please [Click here](#) or visit our website, www.thecollegefundingcoach.org and look for upcoming classes in your area.

- **Guiding Children to Authentic Success**

What is authentic success and what does it mean for your child and for you as a parent? Are we overemphasizing accomplishment and performance and underemphasizing resiliency and empathy?

This presentation by Dr. Heather Tedesco, a McLean-based applied psychologist, will focus on the long-term approach to parenting and will give ideas on how to incorporate your core values as you guide your children through life. Join us

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 from 7-8:30 p.m.

Friends, neighbors and family are welcome! Light snacks and beverages will be offered.

For more information and details about parking, please visit:

<https://stmarysarlington.org/PARENTING2018/>

- **Discover how your family can become a Girl Scout family!**

Learn about troop opportunities and newly forming troops at Nottingham for girls in grades K-5th.

Attend the Nottingham Troop Formation Night: **Monday, October 22, 2018** at 7:00 pm in the Nottingham Elementary School Library. For more information or questions contact: nottingham.gs.troops@gmail.com

- **The 4th Annual Boys and Girls Basketball Clinic at Yorktown**

The clinic is for 2nd-8th grade boys and girls, ages 7-14, and is being held on **Saturday, October 20, 2018**. This is an APS school-approved fundraiser, all the money goes back into the YHS Boys and Girls Basketball Program to help pay for equipment, apparel, food, and team building activities. Both the boys and girls basketball players will be volunteering their time in order to continue to build the basketball program at YHS. [Register online](#) and pay the day of the event.

- Boys Clinic 9am-12pm
- Girls Clinic 12pm-3pm
- Cost: \$40 per player or \$35 sibling/team discount
- T-shirt included
- 45 minute coaching session with YHS Varsity Basketball Coaches, Joe Reed and Devaughn Drayton.

Please send newsletter submissions to newsletter@nespta.org by 7pm on Sundays.

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