



# **Nottingham Knightly News**

**November 13, 2018**

## **Important Dates**

|                         |                                     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 17 November, Saturday   | Jennifer Bush-Lawson Friendship 5K  |
| 17 November, Saturday   | Fall Social and Auction             |
| 19 November, Monday     | Picture Retakes                     |
| 21-23, November         | Thanksgiving Break <b>NO SCHOOL</b> |
| 30 November, Friday     | Flu Shots at Nottingham, 11:50AM    |
| 24 December – 4 January | Winter Break <b>NO SCHOOL</b>       |

**2018-2019 Early Release Dates:** 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](http://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,

I want to wish all of you a happy, restful Thanksgiving! The Knightly News will take a break next week and will return on Tuesday, November 27. I hope to see many of you tonight at our PTA meeting where we will have a presentation on ADHD. I am really looking forward to seeing everyone on Saturday at our Bluegrass and Boots auction.

Please check out the PTA website to view the [PTA Newsletter](#) for this week.

Thanks,  
Eileen

## ***Kudos and Appreciation***

Thank you to our auction committee chairs **Danielle Herndon** and **Lauren Conklin** for all the hard work and organization that has gone into the auction. It's sure to be a great time.

## ***Announcements and Reminders***

**Student iPads and iOS 12:** At present, APS has placed a block on the ability for student devices to upgrade to Apple's latest iOS operating system, version iOS 12. Central IT intends to lift this block in the very near future (maybe as early as this week). We were awaiting official compliance certification with the testing software and configuration apps that govern the devices. In the meantime, we ask that you help to ensure that students **do not upgrade** their APS iPad to iOS 12. Once the install block is lifted, the school's Instructional Technology Coordinator will work with classroom teachers to perform the update.

**Acceptable Use Policy Tidbits:** Mr. Crouse, our school's Instructional Technology Coordinator, in conjunction with Mrs. Gustafson, school librarian, teach a series of digital citizenship lessons and cover the [APS Acceptable Use Policy](#) with students. These classes are ongoing throughout the academic year. Below are some of the more essential components of the AUP that you can **help us to reinforce** with your child(ren). These are presented in language that elementary students likely understand.

- Follow the rules the school has in place to keep you safe. This is called the [Acceptable Use Policy](#) .
- Do not share your iPad or your passwords with others.
- You may not use your iPad during lunch, recess, or at Extended Day.
- You may not change the settings on your iPad. You may not add a passcode to your device or sign in to iCloud.
- You can only use apps from the *APS App Catalog*. Do not download things you should not. Installing apps not approved by APS is a violation of the Acceptable Use Agreement.
- Your iPad is for learning. Your family gets to decide if your iPad can be used at home, and how your iPad is used at home, including if and how it connects to a network.
- You will take care of your device and only use it appropriately for school-related work.
- Your family does not have to pay to fix your iPad if it stops working or if it is broken in a real accident. If something happens to your iPad, bring it to school. Don't take it to a repair shop.
- Your family might have to pay to fix or replace your iPad if you don't follow these rules and protect your iPad ("neglect") or if you do something on purpose to make the iPad stop working ("intentional act").

- Working together as a family is important to help you stay safe, and learn how to work online well. Your family can make a Family Media Plan, to help keep you healthy and happy. There is help to do this on the [APS Family Media Plan web page](#). Be sure to talk to your family any time you have a question about technology or what happens online.

As the fall turns toward winter, I wanted to remind everyone about school closures. Decisions **to close school or delay school opening** are made after consulting local agencies. When there is no change in operations, the APS Web and Hotline message will say that the status for APS is unchanged. Decisions are usually announced and posted no later than 5 a.m.

Notices about changes in APS operations can be found at:

- Online at [www.apsva.us](http://www.apsva.us) (it will be posted here first)
- APS School Talk (email, phone and text messages)
- APS Hotline: 703-228-4277 (for messages in English & Spanish)
- APS TV (AETV) - Channel 70/FIOS Channel 41
- Social Media: [www.facebook.com/ArlingtonPublicSchools](http://www.facebook.com/ArlingtonPublicSchools);
- [www.twitter.com/APSVirginia](http://www.twitter.com/APSVirginia)
- APS Mobile App Notification
- All Local TV and Radio Stations

**Reminder...**Safety is key! Parents, please **park in parking spaces** when picking up your child(ren). Double parking with flashers has led to some near misses, especially along North Nottingham Street (outside grade 3 and 4 hallway).

**Reminder...**Please remember to send in your **letters of support** for Danielle Mascioli, Teacher of the Year and Christine Schofield, Support Employee of the Year to Megan Lynch. Letters can be addressed to

**Erin Wales-Smith**  
**Acting Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources**  
**2110 Washington Blvd.**  
**Arlington VA 22204**

**Reminder...Monday, November 19** is Picture Retake Day. If you'd like a retake, please let Laurie Sinton know ([laurie.sinton2@apsva.us](mailto:laurie.sinton2@apsva.us)) so we can coordinate the schedule.

**Reminder...**Arlington elementary physical education teachers will be delivering lessons on the **safe use of and risks of abuse of prescription drugs** as **required by a state law** adopted this summer. This content in grades K-5, will also include instruction on alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. In August, all elementary physical education teachers received professional development to deliver this instruction. These lessons will be taught once per week during physical education class either in the gym, classroom or a combination of both. There are approximately 3 lessons per grade level that align with the Virginia health

standards of learning. Bobbie Pugh and Mike Giusto will begin this instruction this November.

**Reminder...Engage with APS!** There are multiple opportunities for **community engagement** in October and November. Please click [here](#) for more information.

**Reminder...** APS has entered into an MOA agreement with **Healthy Schools, a CareDox Company that provides flu shots for school age students**. Nottingham will be delivering flu shots to students on **November 30 at 11:50AM** in the teacher's lounge.

**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. 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](mailto: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...Notes and Feedback from Conferences:** Several families asked questions about **homework and agendas**. To clarify:

Any student who prefers/needs and **agenda may have one**. Please let your classroom teacher know and we will place an order.

We have a **reduced homework practice** that includes only relevant, supporting activities that reinforce skills learned in class or provide support for mastery of content. For example, homework may include:

- Up to 30 minutes of reading
- Completion of study guides/test preparation activities
- Math reinforcement assignments (worksheet, Dreambox, Reflex, etc)
- A content related project (science, social studies, reading, STEAM, etc)

Communication is key to a positive partnership. We are, as a staff, consistently working toward ways to keep improving communication with families. Please reach out sooner than later if you have questions or concerns. Stay tuned for more information as we refine our communication.

