

Nottingham Knightly News

September 25, 2019

Important Dates

15 September-15 October	Hispanic Heritage Month	
	25 September, Wednesday	
	Parent Session on Standards Based Grading,	
	7:00 PM (Syphax Center)	
1 October, Tuesday	PTA Meeting, 7:00 PM	
2 October, Wednesday	Bike and Walk to School Day	
	ASPAN Walk-a-Thon	
14 October, Monday	Professional Learning Day	
15 October, Tuesday	Picture Day	
	15 October, Tuesday	
	Parent Session on Standards Based Grading,	
	7:00 PM (Syphax Center)	
16 October, Wednesday	Early Release, 1:26 PM	
24 October, Thursday	Early Release, 1:26PM	
	25 October, Friday	Parent Teacher
	Conferences	
	31 October, Thursday	Halloween
	Parade and Classroom	
	Celebrations, 2:15PM	

2019-20 Early Release Dates: October 16, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 11, June 3, June 10. Students will be dismissed at **1:26PM**.

2019-20 Parent Teacher Conference Dates: October 24-25, March 5-6

Do you have a **back-up plan** for early release days, dismissal emergencies or snow days? Families are encouraged to remind students about their plans during these unlikely situations.

Reminder.... Bike and Walk to School Day is **Wednesday, October 2, 2019**. The **ASPAN Walk-A-Thon** will take immediately following the start of the day. Students should report to class after Bike and Walk to School Day. Students will then walk around Nottingham with their classes. Please feel free to stay after you drop your student off from Bike & Walk-To-School Day to cheer your child on. ASPAN's goal is to end homelessness in Arlington County by providing housing and life-sustaining services. Please consider pledging a donation to ASPAN to help them achieve this goal. <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/aspan>

Kudos and Appreciation

We are very excited to be celebrating **Hispanic Heritage Month**. From **September 15 through October 15**, our students will engage in several events and activities throughout the school and learn lots of interesting and fun facts about Hispanic culture. Stay tuned and follow us on twitter to see the great things your students are learning about!

Thanks to **Officer John Adams**, our School Resource Office (SRO) for helping us walk safely to school this week, while a sidewalk is being installed. We appreciate your help. Officer Adams also led our second lockdown drill today and we did a great job!

From the Principal

Check out this week's edition of the PTA Newsletter

<https://nespta.membershiptoolkit.com/newsletter/00805-NL20190912163039-011451000-1203316102>

This year all **first day packet information** **INCLUDING DIRECTORY OPT IN** is to be done by the online verification process (no paper packets are sent home). The Online verification is a way to validate/confirm the information in parent-VUE and in the schools information system is up to date and accurate. After the initial input of the information, parent-VUE can be used to update the information if something changes. (ie emergency contact, work number, cell number)

You must log into Parent-VUE (<https://www.apsva.us/family-access-center/>) account to confirm and update the information. In the top right corner it says

- My Account, Help, ONLINE VERIFICATION, Logout.
- Click on the is the Online verification.

- Then click on [Begin Verification](#) and follow the steps to verify and/or update your information.

We are looking forward to our **PTA meeting** on **Tuesday, October 1** at 7:00PM, where Sarah Putnam will present on **Standards Based Grading**. We welcome our neighboring schools, Discovery, Taylor and Jamestown to hear all about it.

Reminder...Our school counselors, **Mark Jones** and **Kelynn Bisbee** will be offering **counseling groups** of 6-8 weeks in length, periodically throughout the school year for kindergarten through fifth grades. The first groups will start in October and will take place during the school day and at a time coordinated with grade level teachers. If you would like your child to be in a counseling group, please complete the attached google form, which also has more information. The form is accessed only by Mr. Jones and Bisbee. <https://forms.gle/Cx3Dcjwq3uKGZnhk9>

Reminder...Our school counselor, **Mark Jones**, is hosting **career lunches** for fifth graders. He is seeking parent volunteers to come during a fifth grade lunch period (12:35-1:00) and speak about their career path and current responsibilities. If you are interested in presenting at one of these lunches, which will be held periodically throughout the year, please complete the attached google form, which will go directly to Mr. Jones. <https://forms.gle/DtT31uEdyjWqBdX89>

Reminder...New this year Arlington Public Schools will use **Raptor Technologies** to manage persons wishing to volunteer. All volunteers will undergo a sex offender screening and will need to complete the following online application listed below.

- English: <https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MjQyMDplbi1VUw==>
- Spanish: <https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MjQyMDplcy1VUw==>

Once your application is received, you will receive a generated email that informs you that your application has been received and is currently going through the review process. Before the volunteer application is approved, the sexual misconduct training will need to be taken and passed. Liaisons will create an account for the volunteer in Safe Schools and assign the Sexual Misconduct training. Each volunteer will be informed as to the status of their application once completed. If you do not hear back about the status of your application within one week please contact your school's **[Volunteer and Partner liaison](#)**.

Reminder...A note from Ryan Van Valen, Resource Teacher for the Gifted...At Nottingham, we take a holistic approach when identifying students for gifted services. We look at work samples, ability test scores, and teacher observations as a committee. If your child is found eligible or has already been identified for gifted services, we will be using resources aimed at gifted learners with him/her throughout the year, as well as with other learners as needed. Gifted services are provided b

classroom teachers, with planning help from the RTG, Ms. Van Valen. We extend the curriculum, so students have the opportunity to think abstractly, work on tasks with various levels of complexity, and pursue tasks of interest independently. **If interested, join Ms. Van Valen for a Gifted Services Overview Presentation on Friday, September 27 from 8:45-9:45AM** in the library.

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.

In addition to the weekly newsletter, please check the PTA website, www.nespta.org and Nottingham's school website <https://nottingham.apsva.us/> to stay current with what is going on at school. You can also follow Eileen [@EGardnerAPS](https://twitter.com/EGardnerAPS), Megan [@MrsMeganLynch](https://twitter.com/MrsMeganLynch), the school [@NTMKnightsAPS](https://twitter.com/NTMKnightsAPS), and the PTA [@NottinghamPTA](https://twitter.com/NottinghamPTA) on Twitter to see what is happening at Nottingham.

Please go to www.nespta.org and update or create your PTA account with your child's class assignment. While you are there, you can **join the PTA**, pay the bulk supply fee, make a donation and/or let us know where you are interested in helping out.

Eileen