

Nottingham Knightly News

October 8, 2019

Kudos and Appreciation

This week is the **Book Fair!** Come check out the great selection and add to your library so you can snuggle up and read over the winter. Special thanks to **Lizz Kauffman, Morgan Chinoy, Annabelle Allard** and **Angela Na** for coordinating this event. Thanks also to all our **parent volunteers** for staffing the hours and helping staff and students make great book selections! Happy reading!

From the Principal

Check out the [PTA Newsletter](#).

Have you noticed our **"Be the I in Kind"** poster in the main lobby? Stop by and snap a picture and spread the news. Being kind is a great way to prevent bullying during **Bully Prevention Month**, and all year long!

Have you completed your **online verification form**? According to our records, several families have yet to complete this important verification. Please make sure you've opted in to the directory, identified emergency contacts and verified all other information.

Parent-teacher conferences are coming! Be sure to sign up at nottingham.apsva.us/conferencesignup. Sign-ups open **Wednesday, Oct 9 at 12:00PM** and close on **Wednesday, Oct 16 at 12:00PM**.

In further support of October being **Bully Prevention month**, we will celebrate **Unity Day on Wednesday October 23**. A day to show how we are all united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. Students and staff are encouraged to **wear orange** (e.g. a shirt, or something as small as an orange ribbon). We will also have fun with **Mix It Up At Lunch** that day. Students from the same grade level will be mixed across classes during lunch. Our staff will be joining the students to help facilitate having students learn new things about one another and hopefully forge new friendships.

Eileen

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Important Dates

14 October, Monday

Professional Learning Day

No School for Students

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**

23 October, Wednesday

Unity Day/ Mix It Up Lunch

24 October, Thursday

Early Release, **1:26PM**

Parent Teacher Conferences

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

Family Bingo Night - November 1: Looking for some Friday night fun? Join us for **Bingo Night** on Friday, November 1 from **6:30 - 8:00PM** in the multi-purpose room. Bring small games, books, puzzles, toys, etc. to donate as prizes. Mark your calendars for future bingo nights on **Dec. 6** and **Feb. 21**.

**ADHD Parenting Series: Wednesdays, October 9th – November 6, 2019:
6:30pm – 9:00pm**

Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Boulevard, Rooms 452/454, Arlington, VA 22204 [Map](#) [Directions](#)

Join us for a 5 week session on parenting students with ADHD. Topics covered will include:

Session 1: ADHD – What parents need to know

Session 2: ADHD – Diagnosis and Treatment

Session 3: ADHD at Home

Session 4: ADHD at School

Session 5: ADHD and Adolescence

This session will be facilitated by the **Parent Resource Center** Coordinators Kelly Mountain and Kathleen Donovan, as well as Susan Scott, Parent. Kelly has a background in school psychology, Kathleen has a background in special education, and Susan is a parent who has facilitated ADHD parenting sessions for many years. Interested participants are asked to commit to all five sessions. For additional information, please contact the PRC at prc@apsva.us or 703.228.7239. **Registration is required**, and space is limited for this session. [Register now.](#)

Reminders

Reminder...Pedestrian Safety Update: Traffic Engineering and Operations Bureau Chief, Hui Wang, has given us an update in terms of what is being done to address pedestrian safety in the neighborhood. Chief Wang indicated that DOT, does have **two studies underway** in this area – a speed study and a 4-way stop study. **ACPD has been conducting enforcement** along this stretch for the past few years. This past year, ACPD handed out 70+% more speeding tickets than they did the previous year.

Parents, students and staff are strongly encouraged to **follow all traffic and pedestrian signals, signs and directions** posted and crossing guards when walking to and from school. Students should consider using a buddy system for increased safety. Parents are asked to **refrain from parking in no parking zones, along crosswalks or in fire lanes**. Together, we can ensure safe arrival of all our students on the way to and from school each day.

Reminder...We've seen an increase in **pups on our property**. Some students have dander allergies, others are very afraid of dogs, and some owners are not cleaning up after their pets (this could be community members in the evenings). Please consider leaving your pups at home during arrival and dismissal. Thanks.

Reminder...Have a Pokemon fan in your home? Please ask your child(ren) to leave their **Pokemon cards at home**. They are starting to cause some issues and we don't want any to turn up missing, traded accidentally or lost. Thanks!

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 (12:45-1:10) 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 on Attendance...We encourage everyone to be at school on time each day. 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.