

## September 17, 2019

### Important Dates

15 September-15 October	Hispanic Heritage Month	
	24 September, Tuesday	Room Parent Orientation, 7:00PM
25 September, Wednesday	SCA Spirit Day	
	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, <b>1:26 PM</b>	
24 October, Thursday	Early Release, <b>1:26PM</b>	
	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.

## ***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 run our first successful lockdown drill on Friday, September 13. We will have another lockdown drill before the end of September.

Kindergartners also enjoyed hearing **Officer Adams** read "Office Buckle" this morning.

**"Zero the Hero"** stopped by yesterday to help our kindergartners celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> day of school. Thanks, Zero!

## ***From the Principal***

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>

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/DtT31uEcyjWqBdX89>

**Reminder...Safety** is of the upmost concern and children and families should obey and follow all posted signs, crosswalks, staff and crossing guards. If you are driving your child to school, please follow directions from Ms. Pugh, Mr. Giusto and the patrols

for kiss and ride. Please make sure you are **parking legally** around the neighborhood if you plan to walk your child into or out of the building. Parking illegally around the school presents safety hazards and confusion. Thanks for your cooperation on this.

**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...Allergy alert...**Please be mindful when packing snacks that several classrooms are allergy safe. Students with significant food allergies can be seriously impacted if they consume, touch or breathe certain allergens. We appreciate everyone being cautious and careful when packing snacks for the classroom. Also, please remind your child(ren) **not to share food** with anyone else at school.

**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 by 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.... Bike and Walk to School Day** is **Wednesday, October 2, 2019**. Immediately following Bike and Walk will be our **ASPAN Walk to End Homelessness**. Starting at **9:00AM**, students and teachers will be walking around the block to support ending homelessness in Arlington. Parents are invited to line the grass along our route and cheer on our students as we walk. K and 1st will be starting from the Kindergarten playground, 2nd and Pre-K be coming out the front of the

building, 3rd and 4th will be exiting through door 3 and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will come out door 10. Families can sponsor our walk. Fill out this [form](#) and bring it to school or complete the form online to donate (be sure to note it's for Nottingham). If we beat our goal from our last walk, we will have a **school wide dance party** before dismissal on October 11th!

**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](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.

In addition to the weekly newsletter, please check the PTA website, [www.nespta.org](http://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](#), Megan [@MrsMeganLynch](#), the school [@NTMKnightsAPS](#), and the PTA [@NottinghamPTA](#) on Twitter to see what is happening at Nottingham.

Please go to [www.nespta.org](http://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

## ***From our Specials Teachers***

### ***Art***

Ms. Sarah Zoller

Mrs. Taylor Perez

[sarah.zoller@apsva.us](mailto:sarah.zoller@apsva.us)

[taylor.perez@apsva.us](mailto:taylor.perez@apsva.us)

[@ZollerAPSArt](#)

[Ms. Zoller's Art Syllabus](#)

[Ms. Perez Art Syllabus 19.20](#)

Parent/Guardians can follow this link:

<https://nottingham.apsva.us/classrooms/art/welcometomsoconnorspage/> to Mrs. Perez's Art Page (don't be confused with it saying "msoconnor" we are still transitioning this to my info. on the NTM website.

## **Music**

All 4th and 5th grade chorus students are encouraged to perform for family and friends throughout the 2019 - 2020 school year! Here at Nottingham we are very excited and fortunate to be given the opportunity have chorus during the school day and hope that it is a year full of music making for your child! We hope this information will allow you to share our performance dates with your family and friends so that they can come and hear our musical knights! If events are added or changed we will make it a priority to inform you as soon as details are finalized. We appreciate all of your support of the arts!

Ms. Kara Levchenko

Mrs. Ashlyn Achille

[kara.levchenko@apsva.us](mailto:kara.levchenko@apsva.us)

[ashlyn.warner@apsva.us](mailto:ashlyn.warner@apsva.us)

## **Important Chorus Dates**

**Mon. - Wed. 10/28, 10/29, 10/30 - Elem Honors Chorus Auditions 4:00-7:30 PM, Kenmore**

\*Please contact student's chorus teacher for a detailed honored chorus schedule

**Thurs. 10/31 - Halloween Parade Performance** (*following the parade*)

**Tues. 01/07 Elementary Honors Chorus Rehearsals Begin Tues. Evenings**

**Thurs. 01/29 - Nottingham Instrumental and Chorus Winter Concert 7:00 PM**

**Tues. 03/17- Honors Chorus Concert 7:00 PM, Kenmore MS**

Tues. 03/24 Elementary Honors Chorus Snow Make-Up Date 7:00 PM, location TBD

**Tues. 03/31 STEAM Performance, Nottingham 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

**Fri. 04/03 Dance Day**

**Thur. 06/11 (tentative) - Nottingham Spring Musical Showcase 7:00 PM**

*If your student is unable to attend a performance, please contact your student's chorus teacher via email or written note.*

**Physical Education (PE)**

Ms. Bobbie Pugh

Mr. Mike Giusto

bobbie.pugh@aspva.us

Michael.giusto@apsva.us

<https://nottingham.apsva.us/classrooms/physical-education/>

If your child has an illness or injury and must refrain from participation in PE, please notify the classroom teacher, the PE teachers and the main office. This way we can ensure all students are safe and we are following medical plans in PE. Thanks for your cooperation.