

Nottingham Knightly News

December 17, 2019

From the Principal

Check out the [PTA Newsletter](#).

Warmest wishes from all of us to all of you for safe, happy and healthy holiday break. We are grateful for our families, students and the community in which we are so fortunate to work. I cannot express my gratitude, appreciation and love enough. Thank you for everything you do, every day, to partner with us. Happy Holidays, everyone.

We have been working closely with the SCA and our staff to plan for our **Whole School Winter Celebration**. On **December 20, we welcome you** to volunteer, come visit or just drop by as you can. Students may **wear pajamas** and bring a **stuffed animal**. Students may also **pack extra snacks** in a bag (please be mindful of the snack needs in each classroom). The day will go as follows:

8:30am-9:00am	Whole School (voluntary)	Student performances	Main hallway in front of library
9:10am - 10:00am	Whole School	Holiday Songs and Dances	Multipurpose Room
10:10am - 10:55am	3rd, 4th, and 5th	Holiday Basketball Shootout	Gym
10:10am - 10:55am	K and 1st	Winter Olympic Activities	Music Rooms/Library/hallways/multipurpose room
11:00am - 11:45am	2nd and 3rd	Winter Olympic Activities	Music Rooms/Library/hallways/gym

11:25am-1:40pm	Most grades (except where indicate above)	Lunch, recess and grade level activities	Classrooms
1:40pm - 1:55pm	Quiet Time	Eileen will pre-record a story	Classrooms
1:55pm - 2:40pm	K, 1st, and 2nd	Holiday Basketball Shootout	Gym
1:55pm - 2:40pm	4th and 5th	Winter Olympic Activities	Music Rooms/Library/hallways/multi-purpose room
2:40pm - 3:30pm	Whole School	Classroom Parties	Classrooms

PLEASE REMEMBER... There's no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing. We go out for recess unless it's really raining or if there's a weather advisory. **We do not have staffing to accommodate students who are underprepared to go outside.** Please ensure your child is dressed for all kinds of weather. The APS Winter Weather Procedures can be found here <https://www.apsva.us/post/get-ready-for-winter-weather-2/>

Thanks,

Eileen

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Important Dates

18 December, Wednesday	5 th Grade Winter Chorus Concert, 7:00PM
20 December, Friday	Whole School Winter Celebration

23 December – 3 January	Winter Break
7 January, Tuesday	PTA Meeting, 7:00PM
14 January, Tuesday	Geography Bee, 2:15 PM
15 January, Wednesday	Early Release, 1:26PM
20 January, Monday	MLK Jr. Day, No School
24 January, Friday	Sock Hop
30 January, Thursday	Instrumental Music Concert, 7:00PM

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

2019-20 Parent Teacher Conference Dates: March 5-6

Reminders

The **Martin Luther King Jr. Literary and Visual Arts Contest** is happening now. For more information about how your child can participate, please visit <https://www.apsva.us/mlk-contest/>

Learning Lab is here! On **Tuesdays from 3:45-4:45** in the library, students who need some extra support or homework help can drop by and work with of our teachers. If you would like to enroll your child in this drop-in support program, please use the link below to register. bit.ly/learninglabregister

APS recently [unveiled two planning proposals](#) that explore moving some elementary schools in 2021-22 to address challenges before the **Fall 2020 Elementary School Boundary Process** begins. The proposals may be revised after staff reviews and community input. Final proposal(s) will be presented to the School Board on Jan. 6, 2020, with a School Board Public Hearing on Jan. 30, 2020 and School Board action scheduled for February 9, 2020. **Community engagement** for these proposals is underway now, and a new Online Information Session has been made available for community members. This session features a brief panel discussion and presentation by APS leaders to address initial questions we have received from the community to date. A Spanish version of this

information session will be released soon. **Coming Soon:** A Community Questionnaire that will gather input, ideas and suggestions from stakeholders.

For more information, visit

www.apsva.us/engage/planning-for-2020-elementary-school-boundary-process/.

It's SNOW secret, we're a great school.... **random acts of kindness:** pile them up like snow! If you would like to help an Arlington Public Schools family in need, please **consider grabbing a 'Kindness Snowflake'** from the bulletin board in our entry hallway. The snowflakes are marked with items that could help make the holiday season a little more joyful for a family in need. You can **bring in your contribution to the front office by December 18th** and we will distribute them accordingly. If your family has any needs for the holiday season, please contact Maggie Ryan, our school social worker. Thank you for your generosity!

If you are looking for another option to be charitable this season, our Nottingham community is participating in **"Seats and Feets" drive** (see attached flyer) to support families in the Arlington community who need a little extra help from Santa this year.

The **Hour of Code** is coming to Nottingham! This month, Nottingham will be joining millions of students in more than 180 countries around the world in celebrating the Hour of Code. The Hour of Code takes place each year during Computer Science Education Week and strives to introduce all students to computer science through coding activities. At Nottingham, a **variety of plugged and unplugged activities will take place in the library during the whole month of December** for all students in grades Pre-K through 5. Want to learn more? Visit <http://hourofcode.com>.

Arlington SEPTA Annual Superintendent Chat *Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Boulevard, Room #452/454, Arlington, VA 22204* All are invited to join Arlington SEPTA for its annual **Superintendent Chat** with Interim Superintendent Cintia Johnson. The event is scheduled for **Thursday, December 12, 2019: 6:30pm**. SEPTA will live stream this event. If you are unable to attend, you may view the meeting on SEPTA's YouTube channel "Arlington Special Education PTA". A recording of the meeting will be archived on the SEPTA web site. If you would like to request accommodations or translation services, please contact info@arlingtonsepta.

The Arlington Public Schools **Parent Resource Center** offers a variety of supports to families – primarily those with children with disabilities and unique learning needs – including parent learning opportunities and classes, individual meetings, and a lending library. Each month, **we will host an informal but informative "drop-in" for families** wishing to learn more about the PRC, the special education process, and resources. This is an opportunity to meet the PRC team, enjoy light refreshments, ask

questions, and connect with others! We can't wait to meet you! Please let us know you're coming by [registering online](#) or contacting us at prc@apsva.us or 703.228.7239.

[View flier](#)

Nottingham's **counseling department** will be starting a new round of counseling groups in January. If you would like to have your child/student in a group, please complete the google form below. Groups are for K through 5 students, with meetings during lunch once a week for 3rd - 5th graders, and other times of the day for K-2nd students. Additional information and potential counseling topics are included in the form. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Jones at mark.jones2@apsva.us. <https://forms.gle/TjEdEf5DUEumfiM3A>

Read To Succeed is a free program that allows students in grades K-6 to earn tickets to **Six Flags America** just by reading six hours for fun. Get ahead by reading over the winter break! **All Entries are due by April 14, 2020.**

Here is how your child can earn a free ticket to Six Flags:

1) Register this fall using this link: Visit: sixflags.com/books

Use Nottingham Elementary's code: **CVQG1**

2) Your child may read any books they choose.

3) Keep track of your child's reading using the form below.

4) Record your child's reading at our website.

5) Receive a free Six Flags America ticket from Nottingham Elementary in May.