

# ***Nottingham Knightly News***

***February 11, 2020***

***From the Principal***

Check out the [PTA Newsletter](#).

We hope you enjoy Valentine's Day. We look forward to lots of friendship and kindness on Friday.

Please encourage your neighbors to attend our **School Information Session** this **Thursday, February 13 at 12:45PM** to learn more about our kindergarten program and how support students and families who are new to Nottingham.

**Wednesday, February 12, 2020** is **Crossing Guard Appreciation Day**.

Please join us as we thank Mr. Jeff, Ms. Anna and Mr. Lee for helping us get to and from school safely.

You may have seen the **midyear message** from Superintendent Cintia Johnson and School Board Chair Tannia Talento, but in case you missed it, have a closer look

<https://www.apsva.us/post/a-mid-year-message-from-the-school-board-and-superintendent/>

At the Feb. 6 meeting, the Arlington School Board approved the **2020-21 school year calendar** with a pre-Labor Day start on Aug. 31, 2020.

<https://www.apsva.us/post/school-board-approves-2020-21-school-year-calendar-with-pre-labor-day-start/>

Each year during STEAM night, the library hosts a community build project. This year's project is a plastic bottle cap mural. We need your help!

**Nottingham library staff is collecting plastic bottle caps of all colors and sizes.** Please bring your WASHED CAPS (plastic only) to the library for drop-off. Then, join us on Tuesday, March 31st, to create our mural!

Thanks,

Eileen

## ***Upcoming Events and Opportunities***

### ***Important Dates***

13 February, Thursday	School Information Session (new families) 12:45 PM
17 February, Monday	President's Day – No School
18 February, Tuesday	100 <sup>th</sup> Day of School (unless it snows)
24-28 February	Knights Take Note Week
26 February, Wednesday	School Spirit Day
5 March, Thursday	Early Release – Parent Teacher Conferences
6 March, Friday	Parent Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
11 March, Wednesday	Early Release
13 March, Friday	Math Day (more info to come)
31 March, Tuesday	STEAM Night, 6:30PM
18 May- 17 June	SOL Window

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

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

Remember, second quarter **standards-based report cards** will be available online on **Wednesday, February 19**. Kindergarten families will receive the first standards-based report cards on this date as well.

### ***Reminders***

**February is Black History Month**, and Arlington Public Schools is celebrating with events and activities in our schools throughout the month. Join us for the main event, ***We Are Arlington***, on February 13, at Kenmore Middle School. From music and arts, to education and family, APS will honor the trailblazers and legacies that have made and continue to make Arlington great. This year, APS will also honor Black Student Leaders chosen by high school administrators for their exceptional leadership and outstanding contributions in and out of the classroom. Please [click here](#) to RSVP. [Watch a message from Cintia Johnson here](#). Come in and check out our interactive bulletin board to learn more about the amazing contributions from key African American leaders.

Families are currently able to register kindergarten students for the 2020-21 school year at their neighborhood elementary school. Families can determine their neighborhood elementary school by using the [Boundary \(Attendance Area\) Locator](#) and are encouraged to register before the end of the current school year to help schools prepare and plan for incoming kindergarten students. Families interested in attending an option school or program are currently able to apply online until Wednesday, April 15, 2020, at 4 p.m. The process for applying to pre-K and elementary option schools and programs is available on the [school options webpage](#). As a reminder, all families will need to apply for the option schools or programs they are interested in every year to be included in the lottery because waitlists reset annually after the lottery occurs. Families interested in applying to a pre-K or elementary option school or program should complete an application through the [online application portal](#). The following is the pre-K and elementary option schools and programs application process timeline: **April 15:** The application for pre-K and elementary option schools and programs closes. **April 23:** Lotteries for all elementary option schools and programs will be held at the APS Welcome Center. **April 24:** Lotteries for all pre-K programs will be held at the APS Welcome Center. **May 1:** Families will be notified of their acceptance or placement on the waitlist. **May 15:**

Families must confirm or decline attendance to an option school or program. For additional information or questions about the registration process or pre-K and elementary option schools and programs, please contact the APS Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or **[schooloptions@apsva.us](mailto:schooloptions@apsva.us)**.

**This is a call for entries to Arlington Student FilmFest 2020.** If you have students making short films in your school, help them submit to ASFF 2020. Submission is free. Students must be enrolled in an Arlington Public School to enter. Submission deadline is April 1, 2020 at 11:59pm. Here is a link to the Google Site with FAQs and the SUBMIT FILMS BUTTON:

**<https://sites.google.com/view/arlingtonstudentfilmfest/home>** Keep Making Films!

**Middle School Transfers:** If there is availability for neighborhood transfers, families will be able to apply for a neighborhood transfer to another neighborhood secondary school between Feb. 24, 2020 – March 16, 2020.

For additional information or questions about secondary option schools or programs, please contact the APS Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or **[schooloptions@apsva.us](mailto:schooloptions@apsva.us)**.

**VERY IMPORTANT!** You should have received an email about this year's **Your Voice Matters Survey**, taken every two years by parents, staff and students. We would love to hear from ALL of you. The survey will be administered **Jan. 13 through Feb. 28** to APS families, students in grades 4-12, staff and teachers to gain insight on topics such as school and community climate, well-being, and engagement. Please take a few moments to check your email and complete this very valuable survey. For more information an]bout the survey, please visit

**[https://www.apsva.us/engage/your-voice-matters-survey-2020/?utm\\_swu=5867](https://www.apsva.us/engage/your-voice-matters-survey-2020/?utm_swu=5867)**

**As you begin to make plans for this summer, please note the changes that have been made to the APS Summer School Program for 2020.**

This year, in order to make the best use of available staff and resources, and to serve the students of greatest need, APS will no longer be able to offer elementary summer enrichment programs, including: Global Village Summit, Fun with Coding, Math Academy and Summer Laureate. Outdoor Lab sessions will continue for elementary and middle school students. APS is working closely with the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to identify similar offerings and will communicate comparable camp providers through a

follow-up School Talk message in early February, prior to the DPR summer camp registration. Arlington County offers fee reductions for eligible students, making these options comparable in price to APS offerings. DPR summer camp registration begins on February 12 at 7 a.m. Lots of fun and enriching experiences for your student, with reduced fees as needed. Don't wait to sign up for a camp until you hear if your student is referred to APS summer school. Spots fill quickly. Students who are referred to APS Summer School and must cancel a camp in conflict with APS Summer School can notify DPR by Monday, March 16 to get a full refund. All other cancelations follow DPR Cancellation Policy. The APS Summer Strengthening Program, which runs July 6-31, will continue to be offered for elementary students who meet specific eligibility requirements established by the Department of Teaching and Learning. Enrollment is by teacher and principal recommendation only for students who are at least one grade-level below in reading and/or math. Eligible students will be notified during Parent-Teacher conferences on March 5-6. A letter will also be mailed to families indicating student eligibility. Lastly, the make-up and strengthening fee for all programs, PreK-12, will be \$150. Students who currently receive free or reduced-price meals will continue to pay \$56 for summer classes, and students who receive Extended School Year services, may attend free of charge. The 2020 Secondary Enrichment fees and New Work for Credit fees will remain the same as in 2019. These changes were presented by APS staff and approved by the School Board at the December 19 meeting. The full presentation is available online on BoardDocs. I hope that this notice helps you plan accordingly. I also encourage you to participate in the [APS Summer Activities Fair on Friday, February 7](#). This is a great way to learn about the many academic and arts programs, sports camps and other offerings available for the summer. Additional resources are provided below. Please contact the Summer School Office by phone at 703-228-7645 or by email at [summerschool@apsva.us](mailto:summerschool@apsva.us), if you need additional assistance.

**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](https://bit.ly/learninglabregister)

**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](https://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.