

Nottingham Knightly News

September 1, 2020

Dear Nottingham Families,

We are looking forward to seeing many of you tomorrow for our **1:1 device and school supply pick-up**. Sprout school supply kits purchased through the PTA are in and distribution of devices and supplies will be held on **Wednesday, September 2**. Students in grades Pre-K through 5 will pick up belongings in the 'kiss and drop' area of the school. Families are asked to come between 9 am-12pm so the process can be implemented in a timely manner. **Walk-ups cannot be accommodated.** If families have children in multiple grades, they will be given all the supplies at once. At home learning kits provided by APS have been ordered and we will post procedures for a separate distribution when these arrive.

Drive Through Procedures:

- Parent(s) will enter the school parking lot in their vehicle through a single clearly marked entrance (Ohio Street) on the date of distribution.
- Parent **post your last names in your car during materials pick-up so that they are visible to staff. If you are picking up for another family, please make sure their last name is visible too. When you pull up, pop your trunk and we'll place the items inside your trunk or in your back seat.**
- Any items that families return to school will be taken from cars and placed in bins to detox for the designated amount of time and then sanitized and returned
- Parents and students should **wear masks** and **remain in their vehicle** during the exchange.
- Parent will exit onto Little Falls Road.

Alternative Pick-Up

Students and their families who are unable to come during the September 2 distribution can come on **September 3 between 9 am-10 am** or contact Megan (megan.lynch@apsva.us) to schedule an alternative time during the week of September 8th.

Our **office will be open** each week as follows:

- **Tuesday:** 8:30AM-12:00PM
- **Wednesday:** 8:30AM-12:00PM
- **Thursday:** 8:30AM-12:00PM and 1:30PM-4:00PM

- **Friday:** 8:30AM-2:30PM

Today you received a personalized email from Mr. Crouse on how best to set-up your child's iPad for virtual learning. This email will contain your child's student ID number, as well as their APS network password, and specific directions on how to login to MS Teams, Canvas, and Google Drive before the start of school. We are asking all parents, not just those with new iPads coming this week, to follow these steps. Be on the lookout for the email and if you already know your child's ID number and their password, you can visit this page to [get started](#).

Please remember that teachers have been working to develop lesson plans for the first several days of school that include instruction on how to use Canvas, Seesaw, Google Classroom and MS Teams. **We do not expect students to sustain online attention for the full day and will gradually work in more online learning.** For the first several days of school you may see longer breaks and less live lessons as we develop student skills and stamina. More information about what you can expect in the first several days will be provided later this week.

Families with 4th and 5th Graders: Instruments will be distributed when the APS At Home Learning Kits are distributed later in September. If you are interested in having your fourth or fifth grade student take instrumental music, contact Randy.Glasner@apsva.us or visit his google classroom to see about various opportunities.

As we prepare for the first day back to school, we want to let you know that all families with active **ParentVUE accounts** can now complete the [Annual Online Verification Process \(AOVP\)](#). Please take time to complete the steps as outlined below, so that we have up-to-date and accurate information on every student in the school division.

Dr. Duran sent a message to all families yesterday to share with you some guidance for distance learning. These **new elementary and secondary guides** that provide tips to help you **navigate distance learning** and to support your student(s) as we begin the new school year. The guides provide information about instruction, social-emotional learning, student expectations, attendance, technical support, and more. The guides are available here in multiple languages:

- Elementary: <https://www.apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/elementary-school/>
- Middle: <https://www.apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/middle-school/>
- High: <https://www.apsva.us/school-year-2020-21/high-school/>

Exciting news...your Nottingham Knight will be able to **check out library books through the digital reservation process**. They'll learn about this through their homeroom teacher and during their library lessons. **Starting on Thursday, September 17** library books reserved by students will be available for pick up outside our main entrance (Door 1) from **2:30-3:30pm each Thursday**. Collection bins will be present for you to return your books. Families should approach the building using the ramp, there

will be cones set up to indicate appropriate standing distances (6 feet apart). Family members must wear a mask while on school property. We look forward to seeing you!

Teachers will take attendance at the start of each day. As a reminder, we begin each day at 9:00 AM and conclude at 2:20PM. Additionally, you are encouraged to call us on our **Attendance Line (703-228-5292)** when an absence is unexpected and prearranged notification was not possible. 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 contact families when a student has two absences or when absences, tardiness and early departures begin to accumulate.

As always, reach out if you need anything. If, by chance, you've done that and have not heard back from me, please reach out again. Any non-response is unintentional and I'm happy to respond as needed. Please just give me a reminder that I owe you a call.

Thanks,

Eileen

Reminder: You can **help get your Knight ready to learn** by doing some easy routine building with your child(ren).

- Establish routines early.
- Practice iPad ins and outs.
- Use headphones.
- Be sure network supports needed devices.
- Eat only when you are on a snack break or during lunch/recess.
- Keep your microphone on mute.
- Set up a learning space free from distractions.
- Visit the [APS Acceptable Use Policy for Students](#).

Reminder: Our Instructional Technology Coordinator, Mr. Crouse, has put together a parent friendly page "**Ed Tech Help Center**" that you can [visit here](#). It's a work in progress so be sure to visit it often! Thanks, Ron!

Reminder: Also, be sure to visit the [PTA website](#) to join or renew your membership and get the latest PTA updates.