

# Nottingham Knightly News

**January 12, 2021**

Dear Nottingham Families,

I hope you continue to be well. Thank you for your continued support and patience. Our teachers are working hard to ensure a positive and engaging second semester.

Our **Nottingham School Information Session for Kindergarten and New Families will be held on Monday, February 22 at 9:00AM** (virtually). Please encourage our new families to attend. We welcome anyone who would like to hear more about our typical instructional program to attend. We will not address return to school questions at this time.

I wanted to draw your attention to the [Superintendent's Message](#) this afternoon.

Be sure to visit our Nottingham PTA website for updates, [newsletters](#) and other information. Our next **PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 2 at 7:00PM**. More information on the zoom link to follow.

Come join the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team at Williamsburg and/or Swanson for **Rising 6th Grade Course Information Night**. During the meeting you will learn more about the transition to middle school, the courses offered for 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, and Academic Planning.

**Williamsburg: January 13, 7:00 PM.** To join the meeting, please click [Information Night](#).

**Swanson: January 21, at 6:30 PM.** To join the meeting, please click [Information Night](#).

## Some upcoming dates:

- January 13, Wednesday Williamsburg Information Night, 7:00PM
- January 18, Monday MLK Jr. Day – No School for Students
- January 20, Wednesday Inauguration Day – No School for Students
- January 21, Thursday Swanson Information Night, 6:30PM
- February 2, Tuesday PTA Meeting – Presenter, Mark Jones
- February 12, Friday Virtual Dance Party
- February 15, Monday President's Day – No School for Students
- February 22, Monday Nottingham School Information Session

- February 25, Thursday      Early Release – Parent-Teacher Conferences
- February 26, Friday        Parent-Teacher Conferences

Please take a moment to visit the PTA website and read the PTA [newsletter](#). Thanks,

Eileen

# Reminders

**Kindergarten Information Night** will be held virtually on **Monday, January 25 at 7:00PM**. If you, or a neighbor, have a rising kindergartner, be sure to join us.

**Winter Weather Procedures.** In the event of a change in our operating status due to weather, APS will alert all staff and families by 6 p.m. the evening before, with any morning updates communicated by 5 a.m. **Distance Learning will continue for all students during inclement weather events providing there is no interruption in power or network connectivity. In the event schools and facilities need to close due to an inclement weather event, Level 1 students attending school in-person would temporarily revert to Distance Learning.** Distance Learning will follow the normal schedule during inclement weather, with asynchronous instruction on Mondays and synchronous instruction on Tuesday through Friday. It is possible that a major storm causing a power or network outage may require us to cancel distance learning and call an official “snow day.” APS will follow our inclement weather protocols on deciding if other school-based activities, such as meal services, in-person learning support or athletic practices can continue, and will keep you updated through School Talk messages, social media, text alerts, local media, and our website. [Click here to view our winter weather procedures](#) in full.

## **From our counselor, Mark Jones: Parent Support**

Our school counselor is offering **parent support team meetings in January**. Parents can sign up with this [LINK](#) and meet other parents on Teams that are interested in supporting each other to solve some common parent challenges. You can find a fuller description in the link, and if you still have questions, please contact Mr. Jones by email: [mark.jones2@apsva.us](mailto:mark.jones2@apsva.us).

In addition, Arlington's Child and Family Services is offering a new virtual parent support. [Click Here to Register](#)

Each week a different topic will be discussed, including:

- Internet Safety
- Time Management for Teens
- COVID Related Grief and Loss
- How to Navigate the School IEP Process
- Positive Praise and Behavior Management

**Mental Health resources** for students/families to know when schools are closed for Winter break:

<https://careercenter.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2020/11/Holiday-Resources-for-Families.pdf> (English)

<https://careercenter.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2020/11/Holiday-Resources-for-Families-Spanish-Version.pdf> (Spanish)

The application process for **option schools and programs for middle and high school students opened this week**. Families interested in applying for a secondary option school or program can apply through the **online application portal**. Families can submit their application anytime during the application window. If families need assistance with completing applications, they should contact the APS Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or **schooloptions@apsva.us**. Additional information and important dates, as well as links to watch the Middle and High School Information Night recordings, are **available online**.

**Teachers will take attendance each day**. As a reminder, we begin each day at 9:00 AM and conclude at 2:20 PM. Additionally, you are encouraged to email our **Attendance Line (attendance.ntm@groups.apsva.us)** 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, connection issues while in virtual learning, 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.