

# Nottingham Knightly News

**February 9, 2021**

Dear Nottingham Families,

Thank you for your donations to the SOUPerbowl! We have overflowing boxes of food to donate. Your generosity is much appreciated.

Looking for summer enrichment for your child? **William & Mary's Summer Enrichment Program** is an academically challenging program with an emphasis on inquiry-based learning for students. The program is not meant to replace the regular school curriculum; rather, it recognizes the importance of allowing able children to explore additional specialized areas of science, mathematics, humanities, and the arts. [Click for More Information](#). Summer 2021 SEP registration is now open for high ability students in grades 2-12. William & Mary's Center for Gifted Education is excited to offer 2 weeks of virtual opportunities with courses available in the morning and afternoon each week. We have virtual courses available in the areas of **robotics, civics, STEM, coding, writing, social science, and many more**. Please see our [Summer 2021](#) brochure for more information.

**Library Pick-Up this week:** Due to the likelihood of inclement weather Thursday afternoon, we will provide a **"Help Yourself" service in in the main lobby** Wednesday, February 10 from 12:00PM-4:00PM and Thursday, February 11 from 8:00AM-12:00PM. Evening hours on Thursday will be available if school is open as normal. ALL requested books will be held an additional week and available at next week's library book pick-up.

As you have probably seen, Superintendent Durán has made an [official announcement](#) with return to school dates. Please read the following information carefully to learn how this may impact your child(ren).

## **Students in grades PK-1:**

- PK and grade 1 will attend on Tuesdays/Wednesdays (beginning March 2)
- New teacher assignments will be provided [by February 16, 2021](#).
- Teachers will contact you directly to introduce themselves and welcome you to the new class.

**Students in grades 2-5:** Your child's homeroom teacher will not change. As of today, all teachers are planning to return in person. All classes in grades 2-5 at Nottingham will use the concurrent model.

- Grade 2 will report on Thursdays/Fridays (beginning March 2)
- Grade 3 will report on Tuesdays/Wednesdays (beginning March 9)
- Grade 4 will report on Thursdays/Fridays (beginning March 9)
- Grade 5 will report **either on** Tuesdays/Wednesdays **or** Thursdays/Fridays (beginning March 9)

### **For families who plan to remain virtual:**

**Materials:** Please continue using the virtual learning kits and other materials that you have been using at home. Please remember to charge your child's iPad each night and send it to school each day.

**While students at school are transitioning:** Our teaching teams will work collaboratively this week to address the need to ensure that our virtual learners are given the time and attention needed to stay focused on instruction throughout the transition period. Thank you for your patience as we navigate these changes. Your homeroom teacher will communicate expectations the week prior to returning.

### **For Families who plan to return in-person:**

**Arrival:** Parents are expected to complete the health screener for each child each day. Upon arrival to school, student health screening and temperature checks will occur at entry points. Please use the entry point that most fits how your child will arrive at school each day. Below are the entry points that students may use:

- Door 1 – Bus Riders Only
- Door 3 – Walkers Only
- Door 10 – Walkers Only
- Door 11- Car Riders Only
- Trailer entrance (closest to playground) – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Only

**Dismissal:** All students will leave through the door they enter in the morning. Students must leave campus at dismissal time. The playgrounds and fields are not available for after-school play.

**Breakfast:** Free breakfast is available for all students as needed. Grab and Go breakfasts will be available at your child's assigned entrance door. Procedures will be provided soon.

**Lunch:** Free lunch is available for all students as needed. Avoid sending any known allergens with your child. Procedures for lunch will be provided soon.

**Snacks:** Please provide your own. Avoid sending any known allergens with your child.

**Water:** Please provide a filled water bottle daily. We can refill them in the classroom or at water filling stations, but students may not drink from the water fountains.

**Recess:** Our plan is to have recess outside, whenever possible. Please be sure your child has weather appropriate clothing each day. Additional information about recess will be provided soon.

**Masks:** Students and staff are [required to wear masks throughout the day](#), except when actively eating. Students who willfully do not wear a mask may be asked to return to virtual learning.

**Materials:** Please keep the virtual learning kits and other materials that you have been using at home. Teachers will communicate which materials are needed at school. It's a good idea to send a sweater or sweatshirt to keep in the classroom, just in case students get cold. Please remember to charge your child's iPad each night and send it to school each day.

**Extended Day:** At this time, there is no opportunity for extended day. We will keep you updated.

**Families are now able to register kindergarten students** for the 2021-22 school year by using the [Online Registration Process](#). Families unable to complete the registration process online are able to register by using the [Student Registration Document Drop Off Process](#). Families can determine their neighborhood 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 Thursday, April 15, 2021, 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, 2021:** The application for pre-K and elementary option schools and programs closes.
- **April 22, 2021:** Lotteries for all elementary option schools and programs will be held by the APS Welcome Center.
- **April 23, 2021:** Lotteries for all pre-K programs will be held by the APS Welcome Center.
- **April 30, 2021:** Families will be notified of their acceptance or placement on the waitlist.

- **May 14, 2021:** 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).

**The Preschool Application process is OPEN! From February 1 until April 15, be sure to apply to APS Montessori, VPI (Virginia Preschool Initiative) or CPP (Community Peer Pre-K) Programs!** **VPI (Virginia Preschool Initiative)** is a free full day Pre-K program located at several Arlington County elementary schools. Students in the VPI program participate in engaging, language rich and developmentally appropriate learning experiences which build their foundational academic and social-emotional skills and assists in preparing students for Kindergarten. **Primary Montessori** is a full-day multi-age preschool program located in many Arlington County elementary schools. Students in the Primary Montessori classroom range in age from 3-5 and participate in a learning environment that emphasizes respect for others, peace and creativity. Students work independently and cooperatively in a prepared environment which enables students to work at their own pace. **The Community Peer Program** is an inclusive Pre-K program located in a few Arlington County elementary schools. This program offers students with and without disabilities a high quality, engaging and interactive preschool experience. The CPP program is designed to provide students with and without disabilities the opportunity to learn together and grow in all developmental areas. **Where to apply:** For application assistance please contact the Welcome Center or contact your local neighborhood school. You can call our Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or 703-228-8665. Here is the link to apply online: <https://apsva.schoolmint.net/signin> and for questions email us at [earlychildhood@apsva.us](mailto:earlychildhood@apsva.us).

### Some upcoming dates:

- 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
- March 2, Tuesday      PK-2 Students Return
- March 9, Tuesday      3-5 Students Return

Thanks,

Eileen

# Reminders

**Directories are here!** Please stop by and grab your Nottingham PTA Directory from the **bin in the front of the school.**

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.

**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.

**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.