

# Nottingham Knightly News

April 13, 2021

Dear Nottingham Families,

I hope you are doing well. Last week was **Assistant Principal Appreciation Week** and we celebrated **Megan Lynch**. Megan was treated to flowers and lunch! We are so grateful for her positivity, hard-work and dedication to the Nottingham Community.

**April is School Library Month**. **Ms. Gustafson** and **Ms. Koehler** do an outstanding job keeping our Knights reading! But... they do so much more! Our Knights@9 and maker's space are also run by the library. Thank you for all you do!

## CALLING NEW KNIGHTS:

**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 [schoolorptions@apsva.us](mailto:schoolorptions@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).

A few folks have asked about applying for **Extended Day** for next year. We continue to await information on how the program will be structured going forward. Please visit <https://www.apsva.us/extended-day/> to see the most current information about the program. This information could change, however.

We continue to celebrate **Disability Awareness Month!** This Friday's Knights@9 will highlight characteristics of learning disabilities and autism and how to support friends with disabilities. Here's an [interesting article](#) about how to talk to kids about disabilities that you may find helpful.

We have welcomed back several students to in-person learning based on the **updated CDC distancing guidelines**. We are pleased to announce that all our kindergarten cohorts can be combined. Starting **Thursday, April 15** all **Bears (Ms. Barnett and Ms. Fortin)** will be together, and all **Mountain Goats (Ms. Moore and Ms. Sheehan)** will be together.

APS will begin providing **free testing for students and staff who are symptomatic**, or who have been exposed to COVID-19. Walk-up testing sites will be located at three schools, in addition to the case-by-case in-person testing already available in the hybrid model. APS is providing the free testing in partnership with [ResourcePath](#). Parental/guardian consent will be required in advance of student testing, and additional information will be shared with staff and families via School Talk later this week.

Finally, please take a look at this week's [message from Dr. Duran\[GE1\]](#) . Highlights include:

- Family Surveys
- Extended Day 2021-22
- Summer School information

### Upcoming dates:

- |                  |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|
| ● April 14-30    | CogAT Testing, grades 2-5  |
| ● May 2, Sunday  | Mayfest (virtual)          |
| ● May 4- May 14  | PALS Testing, grades K-2   |
| ● May 11-May 21  | DIBELS Testing, grades 3-5 |
| ● May 4, Tuesday | PTA Meeting, 7:00PM        |
| ● May 17-June 11 | SOL Testing Window         |
| ● May 31, Monday | Memorial Day, No School    |

Thanks,

Eileen

## Reminders

Our **end of year testing season** will begin in May. Please see the testing windows below and try to avoid scheduling appointments or trips during these times. More information to come.

Next week, we will begin our **CogAT Testing**. Please see the [attached letter](#) with additional information.

- Grade 3, April 14<sup>th</sup>
- Grade 4, April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Grade 2, April 16<sup>th</sup>

**Virtual learners** may come to school to participate in this assessment. Please arrive at 9:15AM to the cafeteria entrance (Door 8) near the back playground or through Door 10 (the entrance along Ohio Street down the back drive). Virtual students will not come in contact with other students while on site and we will be adhering to the APS hybrid model guidelines (wear a mask, wash hands upon entry, stay in designated seat, etc). Parents may pick up their student from Door 8 or Door 10 around 10:15 AM, at the completion of

the test. Virtual learners who are not able to come to school to be tested will not login with their teachers during this time, as teachers will be administering the test to students in their classrooms. Microsoft Teams class should resume around 10:30AM.

Our staffing is always based on enrollment. If you, or your neighbors, have **plans to newly enroll (or re-enroll) at Nottingham for the 2021-22 school year, please encourage them to do that now!** See below for [registration information](#). This will mean we have the staffing that matches the needs of our students. If you are a current Nottingham family, please complete this [Intent to Return](#) form.

This spring, Nottingham will join every other elementary school in the school district to become a **No Place for Hate school**. The goal of No Place for Hate is to inspire a national movement led by students and educators who are committed to using the power of positive peer influence to **build inclusive and safe schools in which all students can thrive**. No Place for Hate organizing framework **aligns very closely to Responsive Classroom, Nottingham's philosophy of C.A.R.E.S** (Cooperation, Assertiveness, Responsibility, Empathy, and Self-Control) and our work as an inclusive model school. We look forward to our partnership with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and helping our students learn and grow.

## **Waste-Free Lunch Comes to Nottingham**

**FACT: The average student produces 67 lbs of waste each year during lunchtime.**

Nottingham Knights will be trailblazers within APS as we move to go waste free at lunch now that we are back to school. Help Nottingham achieve **waste free lunches at school or at home!** Please help your kids try to avoid using such items as packaged snacks, juice boxes, straws, plastic utensils, paper napkins and ziploc bags. Not sure how to do it? Visit <http://nottingham.apsva.us/wastefreelunch> for ideas. Thanks for your support as we couldn't do it without you! Questions? Contact [greenteam@nespta.org](mailto:greenteam@nespta.org)

Our school social worker, Maggie Ryan, has shared some resources for families. Please take a look.

[Lasagna Love Flyers.pdf](#)

[Arlington CTA 2021 Flyer FINAL.pdf](#)

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.