



Nottingham Knightly News

October 16, 2018

Important Dates

24 October, Wednesday	Unity Day, Wear ORANGE
25 October, Thursday	Parent /Teacher Conferences, Early Release
26 October, Friday	Parent Teacher Conferences, NO SCHOOL
31 October, Wednesday	Halloween Parade, 2:15 PM
2 November, Tuesday	Grade Prep Day, No School for Students
12 November, Monday	Veteran's Day (observed) NO SCHOOL
17 November, Saturday	Jennifer Bush-Lawson Friendship 5K
17 November, Saturday	Fall Social and Auction
21-23, November	Thanksgiving Break NO SCHOOL

2018-2019 Early Release Dates: **October 25**, December 12, January 16, February 13, March 7, March 13, June 5, June 12. Students will be dismissed at 1:26PM.

In addition to the weekly newsletter, please check the PTA website, www.nespta.org (as well as our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feed) and Nottingham's school website <https://nottingham.apsva.us/> to stay current with what is going on at school.

From the Principal

Hi Everyone,

We had our October fire drill today. You may have noticed some movement in the building. We've relocated several staff members to maximize and ensure appropriate, consistent instructional space. Please let me know if you have any questions about any of the moves.

Fall has arrived! Remember that we will go out for recess as much as possible. Please plan for colder weather wear and **LABEL** everything so that if it goes missing, we can try to get it back to the rightful owners.

Eileen

Kudos and Appreciation

I am so excited to announce that **Danielle Mascioli** is this year's **Nottingham Teacher of the Year**. Danielle is an exceptional special education teacher who meets the needs of many students. She is positive and proactive, willing to collaborate and try new things and I couldn't be prouder to have her on staff. Please join me in congratulating Danielle.

You may have seen **Christine Schofield** around our school. She has been named our **Nottingham Support Employee of the Year**. Christine is kind, caring and patient. She works primarily with our special education department, but knows and cares for all our students. She is very dedicated and supportive of the overall program. Please tell her congratulations when you see her!

Thank you to **Nicole Gustafson** and **Regina Koehler** for graciously giving up the library to over 50 volunteers who helped support the book fair. **Parents**, thank you for your continued support.

Announcements

Unity Day is coming up on **Wednesday, October 24**. This is a day to highlight that we all stand together against bullying. Students and staff are encouraged to wear orange to symbolize that we are united for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. Bullying is someone being *mean, on purpose, repeatedly and it is one sided*. We want to encourage students to be bystander heroes by being a buddy to their classmates, saying no to bullying behavior and reporting bullying to an adult when it happens. For more information, check the National Bullying Prevention Center website. <https://www.pacer.org/bullying/nbpm/unity-day.asp>

Introducing the Nottingham Green Team

Introducing the Nottingham Green Team Interested in making a positive environmental impact at Nottingham? Then consider joining the **Nottingham Green Team!** Nottingham's **Green Team** is looking for interested 3rd through 5th graders to join us in...

- Promoting efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle at school and at home
- Learning about environmental conservation
- Developing an appreciation for the outdoors
- Helping Nottingham celebrate Earth Day
- Raising up new Planet Partners through outreach to grades K - 2

Most activities will happen during monthly meetings before school on Tuesdays from 8-8:45am. All interested students must complete and return [the permission slip](#) by Friday, October 26th to greenteam@nespta.org. The first meeting will be announced via email so be sure to include your email address.

If you would like more information about Nottingham's **Green Team**, please feel free to contact Green Team Leaders Mimi Shah and Melody Reis at greenteam@nespta.org. Parents are encouraged to participate in Nottingham's **Green Team** meetings and events.

Family Bingo Night is Back: Looking for some Friday night fun? Come to Nottingham's Bingo Night on Friday, November 9 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the multi-purpose room. Bring small games, books, puzzles, toys, etc. to donate as prizes. The other bingo nights will be held on January 18 and February 22, 2019. If you would like to help with Bingo nights, please reach out to [Courtney Holmes](mailto:Courtney.Holmes@nespta.org) at familynights@nespta.org.

Reminder... APS has entered into an MOA agreement with **Healthy Schools, a CareDox Company that provides flu shots for school age students**. It is designed to increase vaccination rates for children, protect families from illnesses, and keep more students in school during the flu season. This service is provided at no cost to public school districts and made available to ALL children (ages 4-18 years) in the district regardless of their insurance status. More information will come as we get it.

Reminders

Reminder...KNIGHTS IN MOTION IS BACK! For those unfamiliar with this student favorite, Knights in Motion is a running program for 1st-5th graders that takes place every Friday during recess. Knights run laps, earning tokens and punches on mileage cards attached to personalized running necklaces.

Because of the huge level of student participation, we need parents to volunteer to help punch mileage cards, distribute tokens and cheer on their Knights as they achieve fun, fitness goals with their friends. There is a huge need for **1st, 2nd and 3rd grade parent volunteers** as these grades have an enormous level of participation. It is great fun; your kids would love to have you there!

Visit the [Sign Up Genius link](#) to join your Knight in this great fitness adventure. Also, please remember to send your child(ren) to school in running shoes and with a water bottle on Fridays. Thanks! Questions? Contact Amy Balkema at knightsinmotion@nespta.org

Location: Nottingham Baseball Field (Ohio and 29th Street)

Recess Times

1st Grade:	11:30-12:00	(Volunteers 11:20-12:05)
4th Grade:	12:00-12:30	(Volunteers 11:50-12:35)
5th Grade:	12:30 -1:00	(Volunteers 12:20-1:05)
3rd Grade:	1:00 - 1:30	(Volunteers 12:50-1:35)
2nd Grade:	1:30 - 2:00	(Volunteers 1:20-2:05)

Reminder...Please Sign-Up - NTM Knights Parent Community Text Message Group
New this year, we are starting a **Remind** text message group for dissemination of critical, time-sensitive information for our parent and guardian community. We envision sending

text messages that relate to delayed or disabled buses, weather delays or emergency school closings, notice of lock-down and safety drills, and any other urgent notifications that relate to school operations and the safety of our students.

To join this alert group, please send a text message to the number **81010** with the message **@ntmparents**, or you can also sign-up through the web at:

<http://www.remind.com/join/ntmparents>

Reminder...2018 Reflections Art Contest Deadline is October 24

(TOMORROW)...The National PTA Reflections program is PTA's cornerstone arts program. The program offers students the opportunity to earn local, state and even national recognition for original artwork they create in response to a specific theme. This year's theme is "Heroes Around Me." Students must create their own original work inspired by the theme. Art will be accepted in the following six categories:

- *Dance Choreography
- *Music Composition
- *Film Production
- *Photography
- *Literature
- *Visual Arts

The submission bin will be in the PTA office and entry forms are available in the front office.

The Deadline for turning in entries is Wednesday, October 24. Many Knights participated in the Reflections program last year and created wonderful art. More information about the program, including rules for each category can be found at <http://www.vapta.org/arts-in-education/reflections.html>.

Contact Ashley McNair at reflections@nespta.org with any questions.

Reminder... Fall Social & Auction is Saturday, November 17 -- Tickets On Sale

Now! Join the Nottingham Elementary School PTA for an evening of barbeque, bluegrass, and country cocktails at the Fall Social & Auction on **November 17, 2018** at the Columbus Club of Arlington. Blazing hot auction items, games of chance and skill, a liquor bottle pull, blue ribbon bake sale, and live music by local bluegrass band Hollertown will round out the fun at this not-to-miss hoedown! Visit nespta.org to buy tickets!

- **Help Round Up Some Unusual Suspects! We are looking for a wagon load of liquor to make our Bottle Pull a real humdinger!** Will your donation make someone hoot with glee or holler with aguish? That's right -- we're looking for brand new bottles of all kinds of liquor. Deliver it to the front porch of 6219 26th Rd N and get ready for the Bottle Pull at the Fall Social & Auction. You might just catch a unicorn! Questions? Contact fallsocialandauktion@nespta.org
- **Sign up for the Blue Ribbon Bake Sale: Do you have a blue ribbon recipe for pie, cake or cookies? Bakers, start your mixers! Sign up here** to bring your best sweet treat to Bluegrass and Boots. We'll sell them in a good ole fashioned bake sale, and a panel of staff judges will select the best. The winner receives a blue ribbon and sweet prize!

Reminder...A Note on Attendance...We encourage everyone to be at school on time each day. As a reminder, we **begin each day at 9:00 AM and conclude at 3:41 PM**. 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 send a letter home when absences or tardies and early departures begin to accumulate.

If your child does need to miss school, please email the homeroom teacher and the main office attendance email (attendance.ntm@groups.apsva.us). Teachers will work with students to make up any missed assignments. If there is a **last-minute change for pick-up, please call** the main office at 703-228-5290 as emailing the teacher may not get the message to your child in time.

Reminder...Did you know that **October is Bully Prevention Month**? Throughout the month, our counselors, **Mark Jones and Kellynne Bisbee** will work with teachers to instruct students on several aspects of bullying. Nottingham students are taught to recognize bullying behavior and provide strategies for dealing with it, including assertively saying "no" and reporting to an adult. If you have questions about our program or our steps to prevent bullying, please contact Mark or Kellynne for more information.

From the PTA President

We are always thankful for our parent community and especially so during the book fair. Last week's book fair was a tremendous success under the leadership of Elizabeth Ingram (her last!) and Morgan Chinoy. We also had 50 parents volunteer their time – whether for one shift or many, setting up or breaking down – the book fair would not be the wonderful event it is without our supportive parents! Thank you all!

Thank you to Dr. Gardner for having her first special education principal's coffee last Friday morning. This first coffee was an introduction and overview for the year ahead and included a discussion on ways to solve problems and move forward. Please stay tuned for more principal coffees throughout the school year, which are open to all parents.

We will send out a separate email this week detailing the logistics for next week's Halloween parade.

As always, I welcome your comments, questions and feedback at president@nespta.org.

Thank you,

Stacy Rosenthal
PTA President 2018-19

Community News

- **[Want to Learn How to Send Your Kids to College Without Going Broke?](#)**

For many families, the high cost of higher education is a daunting proposition. Some families have children attending college next year and others have years to plan; but the fears of tackling these monumental and rising costs are the same. The College Funding Coach® is here to help families figure out HOW to pay for it! Please join us at Yorktown HS in Patriot Hall on **Wednesday, October 24, 2018**, 7-9pm for the Little-Known Secrets of Paying for College workshop. This is information you can't afford to miss! To RSVP please [Click here](#) or visit our website, www.thecollegefundingcoach.org and look for upcoming classes in your area.

- **Guiding Children to Authentic Success**

What is authentic success and what does it mean for your child and for you as a parent? Are we overemphasizing accomplishment and performance and underemphasizing resiliency and empathy?

This presentation by Dr. Heather Tedesco, a McLean-based applied psychologist, will focus on the long-term approach to parenting and will give ideas on how to incorporate your core values as you guide your children through life. Join us **Wednesday, October 24, 2018** from 7-8:30 p.m.

Friends, neighbors and family are welcome! Light snacks and beverages will be offered. For more information and details about parking, please visit:

<https://stmarysarlington.org/PARENTING2018/>

Please send newsletter submissions to newsletter@nespta.org by 7pm on Sundays.

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