

February 12, 2019

Important Dates

13 February, Wednesday	Early Release, 1:26 PM
14 February, Thursday	School Information Session, 12:45PM
18 February, Monday	No School, President's Day
25 February – 1 March	Knight Take Notes
7 March, Thursday	Early Release, Parent-Teacher Conference
8 March, Friday	Parent Teacher Conferences- No School

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

From the Principal

Hi Everyone,

Rain, rain, go away! Thanks everyone, for your patience with the weather and the changes to the schedule. We look forward to getting back on track here soon. Please check out the PTA website to view the <u>PTA Newsletter</u> for this week. Eileen

Kudos and Appreciation

We love our new sensory path and want to say THANK YOU to **Mark Jones**, **Danielle Mascioli, Jen Brown** and **Megan Lynch** for giving up their Saturday to come lay down the path. We really appreciate the extra time and effort you put in.

Our **SCA** has been hard at work selling Valentines this week. The proceeds will help continue to support all the great activities the SCA does. Thanks!

We want to thank **APS Facilities** for responding to our needs to have some trees cut down. Safety first! Thanks for the quick response. A very special thanks to **all our volunteers** for all you do to help our students and teachers. To show them how much we appreciate you, **Stacy Rosenthal, PTA President**, hosted a wonderful brunch on Sunday. Thanks Stacy!

Announcements and Reminders

Learning Lab: Starting **next week**, students in grades 3, 4, and 5 who need assistance completing assignments, projects, or studying for tests and quizzes are welcome to come to Nottingham's Learning Lab. The Learning Lab is a study hall in the library that is staffed by Nottingham teachers from 3:45-4:45 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. The Learning Lab IS a quiet place for students to get work done, free from distraction with some assistance from an educator. The Learning Lab is NOT free baby-sitting, or one on one tutoring! Because a student's work load changes weekly, we understand that there may need to be flexibility with who attends each week. Additionally, pending the popularity of the Learning Lab, we may tweak it, as needed. Transportation must be provided or arranged by families. If your student can walk home, they may walk. Bus riders must have a parent pick them up. Please contact Megan Lynch <u>megan.lynch@apsva.us</u> if you have any questions.

We are going to try the following procedures (to be updated as needed):

- 1. Your child must sign up on the MORNING of the day they wish to stay after school for assistance. This will allow us to get a proper head count to make sure there is room and sufficient adult supervision.
- 2. There are limited spots available, the maximum capacity is 20 students each day.
- 3. Sign up will be located outside the Library on Clipboards attached to the window/glass

Kindness Counts: Nottingham is an inclusive school where differences are embraced, and students treat each other with kindness and compassion. When thinking about extending that into our lives outside of school, you may consider stretching the social circle of your child and reaching out to make a class-wide, or grade-wide impact by planning play dates at local parks or playgrounds with other families. Some children in our classes may be on the social fringes and may not readily come to mind when putting together party invitation lists or play dates. However, for these children, being included in an event like a birthday party can be a self-esteem "game changer". Kindness counts, and inclusivity matters! Just something to think about as we wrap up our Kindness Initiative here at Nottingham.

Valentine's Day Reminder: Love is in the air.... Just a friendly reminder to refrain from sending Valentine's treats or candy with your Knight in celebration of the holiday. Cards or special notes are always appreciated, but due to dietary restrictions, edible items are not allowed to be distributed. Thank you for understanding.

Reminder...For **Rising 6th Grade Families**: Last week fifth graders heard a presentation about their neighborhood middle school. They were given blue Course Request Forms and a yellow Program of Studies book. Please review this material with your fifth grader and complete the CRF in pencil (sign your name in ink). The CRF should be completed and returned to your child's teacher by Friday, February 22. If any students are accepted for transfer within Arlington and intend to transfer to another APS middle school, please let our counselor, Mark Jones, know this. If you have questions about the CRF form, Mr. Jones can be reached by phone (703-228-2302) or email (mark.jones2@apsva.us). Remember Forms are due on 2/22

School-based Results from Your Voice Matters Survey Now Available...In October 2018, APS and the Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth and Families shared countywide data about school climate and child well-being gathered from more than 12,000 respondents, including APS families, students in grades 5-12, staff, and teachers, as part of the 2018 Your Voice Matters survey. The <u>online</u> <u>survey results dashboard</u> has been updated to include school-based data. For more information, visit <u>www.apsva.us/planning-and-evaluation/evaluation/surveys/your-voice-matters/</u>

Reminder...Planning is under way for **Crossing Guard Appreciation Day**, the annual **Virginia Safe Routes to School** event that recognizes the role of crossing guards as a critical link in the Safe Routes to School network. Schools across Virginia will celebrate Crossing Guard Appreciation Day 2019 on **February 13**. In Arlington, we will honor our 26 APS elementary and middle school crossing guards for the entire week, from February 11-15. Click here for more information.