

# ***Nottingham Knightly News***

***October 1, 2019***

## ***Kudos and Appreciation***

This week is **Custodian Appreciation Week**. We value and appreciate **Dilma, Rolando, Ana and Noe** so much. Students are making cards and pictures and we'll treat them to lunch on Friday. Thanks to our fabulous custodial crew for all you do to make our school a clean, safe place to learn.

### ***From the Principal***

We are looking forward to our **PTA meeting** tonight, **Tuesday, October 1** at 7:00PM, where Sarah Putnam will present on **Standards Based Grading**. We welcome our neighboring schools, Discovery, Taylor and Jamestown to hear all about it.

Did you know that we've already completed **4 fire drills, 2 lockdown drills** and a **bus evacuation drill**? Our students know what to do in the unlikely event of any of these **emergencies**. We are also having an all school safety assembly to review our C.A.R.E.S philosophy and safety procedures. Ask your student(s) about it!

**Pedestrian Safety Update:** Traffic Engineering and Operations Bureau Chief, Hui Wang, has given us an update in terms of what is being done to address pedestrian safety in the neighborhood. Chief Wang indicated that DOT, does have **two studies underway** in this area – a speed study and a 4-way stop study. **ACPD has been conducting enforcement** along this stretch for the past few years. This past year, ACPD handed out 70+% more speeding tickets than they did the previous year.

Parents, students and staff are strongly encouraged to **follow all traffic and pedestrian signals, signs and directions** posted and crossing guards when walking to and from school. Students should consider using a buddy system for increased safety. Parents are asked to **refrain from parking in no parking zones, along crosswalks or in fire lanes**. Together, we can ensure safe arrival of all our students on the way to and from school each day.

We've seen an increase in **pups on our property**. Some students have dander allergies, others are very afraid of dogs, and some owners are not cleaning up after

their pets (this could be community members in the evenings). Please consider leaving your pups at home during arrival and dismissal. Thanks.

Check out the attachment with great **information about vaping**, its use, and the dangers involved. Thanks **Janet Pence**, for sharing the information.

Have a Pokemon fan in your home? Please ask your child(ren) to leave their **Pokemon cards at home**. They are starting to cause some issues and we don't want any to turn up missing, traded accidentally or lost. Thanks!

**Calling all Courtyard Cadets!** We are looking for volunteers to keep our outdoor learning space in pristine condition so children can continue living and learning while connected to nature. If you'd like to **volunteer your time**, energy, and child(ren) to help clean up the courtyard we have several opportunities and several different jobs to choose from:

- Weed the flower beds
- Skim the pond
- Sweep the walkway/ clear away dead leaves.
- Pick up trash (anything that doesn't belong)

**October 16<sup>th</sup>** and **December 11<sup>th</sup>** are Nottingham's early release days this fall. If you'd like to volunteer on one of these days, please sign up using the link below.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a44aaab2dabff2-nottingham>

**Reminder...**Our school counselors, **Mark Jones** and **Kelynn Bisbee** will be offering **counseling groups** of 6-8 weeks in length, periodically throughout the school year for kindergarten through fifth grades. The first groups will start in October and will take place during the school day and at a time coordinated with grade level teachers. If you would like your child to be in a counseling group, please complete the attached google form, which also has more information. The form is accessed only by Mr. Jones and Bisbee. <https://forms.gle/Cx3Dcjwq3uKGZnhk9>

**Reminder...**Our school counselor, **Mark Jones**, is hosting **career lunches** for fifth graders. He is seeking parent volunteers to come during a fifth grade lunch period (12:45-1:10) and speak about their career path and current responsibilities. If you are interested in presenting at one of these lunches, which will be held periodically throughout the year, please complete the attached google form, which will go directly to Mr. Jones. <https://forms.gle/DtT31uEdyjWqBdX89>

**Reminder...**New this year, Arlington Public Schools will use **Raptor Technologies** to manage persons wishing to volunteer. All volunteers will undergo a sex offender screening and will need to complete the following online application listed below.

- English: <https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MjQyMDplbi1VUw==>

- Spanish: <https://apps.raptortech.com/Apply/MjQyMDplcy1VUw==>

Once your application is received, you will receive a generated email that informs you that your application has been received and is currently going through the review process. Before the volunteer application is approved, the sexual misconduct training will need to be taken and passed. Liaisons will create an account for the volunteer in Safe Schools and assign the Sexual Misconduct training. Each volunteer will be informed as to the status of their application once completed. If you do not hear back about the status of your application within one week please contact your school's **Volunteer and Partner liaison**.

**Reminder...A Note on Attendance...**We encourage everyone to be at school on time each day. 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.

Eileen

## ***Upcoming Events and Opportunities***

### ***Important Dates***

1 October, Tuesday

PTA Meeting, 7:00 PM

2 October, Wednesday

Bike and Walk to School Day

ASPAN Walk-a-Thon

14 October, Monday

Professional Learning Day

15 October, Tuesday

Picture Day

15 October, Tuesday  
Parent Session on Standards Based Grading,  
7:00 PM (Syphax Center)

16 October, Wednesday

Early Release, **1:26 PM**

24 October, Thursday

Early Release, **1:26PM**

25 October, Friday  
Conferences

Parent Teacher

31 October, Thursday  
Halloween Parade and Classroom  
Celebrations, **2:15PM**

**2019-20 Early Release Dates:** October 16, December 11, January 15, February 12, March 11, June 3, June 10. Students will be dismissed at **1:26PM**.

**2019-20 Parent Teacher Conference Dates:** October 24-25, March 5-6

**Reminder.... TOMORROW** is **Bike and Walk to School Day**. The **ASPAN Walk-A-Thon** will take place immediately following the start of the day. Students should report to class after Bike and Walk to School Day. Students will then walk around Nottingham with their classes. Please feel free to stay after you drop your student off from Bike & Walk-To-School Day to cheer your child on. ASPAN's goal is to end homelessness in Arlington County by providing housing and life-sustaining services. Please consider pledging a donation to ASPAN to help them achieve this goal. <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/aspan>

**ADHD Parenting Series: Wednesdays, October 9th – November 6, 2019:  
6:30pm – 9:00pm**

*Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Boulevard, Rooms 452/454, Arlington, VA 22204* [Map](#) [Directions](#)

Join us for a 5 week session on parenting students with ADHD. Topics covered will include:

Session 1: ADHD – What parents need to know

Session 2: ADHD – Diagnosis and Treatment

Session 3: ADHD at Home

Session 4: ADHD at School

## Session 5: ADHD and Adolescence

This session will be facilitated by the **Parent Resource Center** Coordinators Kelly Mountain and Kathleen Donovan, as well as Susan Scott, Parent. Kelly has a background in school psychology, Kathleen has a background in special education, and Susan is a parent who has facilitated ADHD parenting sessions for many years. Interested participants are asked to commit to all five sessions. For additional information, please contact the PRC at [prc@apsva.us](mailto:prc@apsva.us) or 703.228.7239. **Registration is required**, and space is limited for this session. [Register now.](#)