

Nottingham Knightly News

October 27, 2020

Dear Nottingham Families,

Our second **virtual coffee, "Social Emotional Supports and Resources"** is this Thursday, October 29 from 8:00-8:45AM. You may [use this link](#) to join us! To pre-submit questions, please use this [google form](#).

Costume Showcase: We'd love to see students' costumes for this year's Halloween and will be showcasing them on **Knights @ 9 on October 30**. If you'd like to take a picture of your Knight or a submit a short video wishing their classmates and teachers a happy Halloween (less than 10 seconds) we will incorporate them into a montage to be played that day. This will allow students in different classes and grades to see all the spooky, funny, or iconic costumes that we normally get to see during our parade. **Please email pictures to nicole.gustafson@apsva.us or upload your videos to google drive and share with Ms. Gustafson by 5pm on October 28.**

At **1:30-2:20PM on October 30**, all classes will enjoy a **virtual Halloween Party**. More information will come from our fabulous room parents!

IMPORTANT!! New Library Book Pickup Schedule: We are delighted that so many families have had an opportunity to check out books through our new virtual process. Starting this week, we will be adding an additional time for families. Library book pickup will now be available on **Thursdays 2:30-3:30PM and 5:30-6:30PM**.

The rest of the process will remain the same. We ask that you **place a hold** on your books **by 1:00 on Wednesdays**. Remember when searching in the catalog to select books with the **green IN flag**. Otherwise, those books are checked out to another patron and will not be available yet for checkout. It's always a good idea to check your account before coming to pick up books to make sure they have moved from the HOLDS page to the CHECKED OUT page. That way, you will know the books are checked out to your student and are ready for pickup.

Books from this year or last year may be returned at the Thursday pick up times OR may be placed in the red book return bin located in the lobby in front of the office. If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Gustafson nicole.gustafson@apsva.us or Regina Koehler regina.koehler@apsva.us.

Transition to Hybrid Instruction We are beginning to plan for the transition to hybrid instruction. I've received numerous requests from you that students be allowed to remain with their current teacher when the hybrid model opens up. Our goal is to do just that. It

just depends on a few factors -- whether the teacher is granted his or her preference; if a family decision contradicts with the teacher's actual final placement; and, if the teacher is needed at a different grade level. Unfortunately, I cannot guarantee a placement. I will say, however, that no classroom changes will be put into effect until we move to a different model. **As soon as we have updates to share, we will communicate with families directly.** Attached are two pictures of a typical grade level classroom set up for the hybrid model. Also, here is a brief video with an example of a [hybrid classroom](#). Please work with your child(ren) to ensure they are ready for the following **daily requirements**:

- participate in **health screening** (bus stop, door of entry, parent vehicle)
- **wear masks** throughout the day, except when actively eating
- maintain **social distancing** of at least six feet
- **follow entrance and exit protocols** (note: playground use will not be permitted before or after school)

[IMG_9978.JPG](#)

[IMG_9979.JPG](#)

Based on the **APS Dashboard** and the APS Hybrid/In-Person Model page for additional information. This is a fluid situation and things are frequently being updated. I encourage you to continue to visit the **APS Hybrid/In-person Model page** There you will find a very **helpful FAQ** which will help you answer any new questions. Today, you will receive an **update from Dr. Duran about phase two** reopening. I've attached it here for your reference.

[Phase two update.pdf](#)

APS is seeking input on the proposed 2021-22 calendar until October 30. The current plan is to have the final calendar proposal go to the School Board for information at the November 17, 2020 meeting and go for approval at the December 3, 2020 meeting. This will allow a final calendar to be approved more than a month earlier than last year. The link follows: **[2021-2022 Calendar Survey](#)**

Be sure to visit our Nottingham PTA website for updates, [newsletters](#) and other information.

Some upcoming dates:

- October 28 Wednesday Asynchronous
- October 29 Thursday Virtual Learning
- October 30 Friday Virtual Learning

Virtual Halloween Party 1:30-2:20PM

- November 2 Monday Asynchronous
- November 3 Tuesday Asynchronous
- November 4 Wednesday Virtual Learning

Goal for Phase One Return

- November 5 Thursday Virtual Learning
- November 6 Friday Virtual Learning

Thanks,

Eileen

Reminders

Every October, schools and organizations across the country join together to observe **National Bullying Prevention Month**. The goal is to encourage schools, communities and organizations to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying and put an end to hatred and racism by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of all forms of bullying on all children of all ages. **Nottingham Knights** have been and will continue to participate in lessons designed **to help students to recognize, refuse and report bullying and cyberbullying**. For more information see <https://www.secondstep.org/bullying-prevention>. Bullying is unfair and one-sided and it happens when someone hurts, frightens, threatens, or leaves someone out, on PURPOSE. Students can report concerns to Mr. Jones through his canvas link and parents are encouraged to reach out to Mark via email at mark.jones2@apsva.us. More information about bully prevention can be found through our website on the counseling page [here](#).

A note from **ITC, Ron Crouse** regarding the use of APS student devices.

- **Please do not change the device name** on any APS student iPad. When the device is renamed, it creates issues with students being dropped from Team meetings. If you believe that your child's device has been renamed, please contact Mr. Crouse.
- **Please do not sign-in to any Apple ID account on the APS iPad**. The iPads are managed remotely by APS and when there is a personal Apple ID on the device, it conflicts with the policies and applications that are served through APS.

Mark Jones, our school counselor, will be teaching counseling lessons to students in kindergarten through fifth grade, offering small group counseling, as well as short term individual counseling. To learn more about the school's counseling program and its resources, including its new **Virtual Calming Room** and upcoming parent solution focused reflecting teams facilitated by Mr. Jones, click this [link](#).

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.

A work group has been created to primarily address the community concerns expressed to the School Board and Superintendent regarding the relationship and the operations that Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) have with APS. The work of the Work Group will also serve to meet the requirement to review the memorandum of understanding with our local law enforcement and ensure opportunity for community input during the review per VA Code § 22.1-280.2:3.

<https://www.apsva.us/post/aps-and-school-resource-officers-work-group-seek-s-committee-members/>

In October and November, we will host a series of virtual “coffees” to cover some topics in more depth. Coffees will be held via MS Teams from **8:00-8:45AM**. Dates for each “coffee” are as follows (**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN TOPICS**):

- **Thursday, October 29 Social Emotional Support**
- **Thursday, November 12 Conversation with Instructional Coaches**
(assessment, instruction, gifted services)