

# Nottingham Knightly News

December 1, 2020

Dear Nottingham Families,

Did you have apple, pumpkin or pecan pie? We made apple and pumpkin and they were delicious. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and safe Thanksgiving break. We are three weeks from winter break and look forward to our **Winter Extravaganza on December 18**. Details to come soon.

We hope you can join us on [Zoom](#) for the **PTA meeting tonight** Tuesday, December 1st at 7pm. Here is the [Agenda](#) and November meeting [Minutes](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81470892913>

A few weeks back, some teachers sent notices to parents inviting them to create a **Parent Seesaw Account** - with such an account, parents can see their child's work, assignments, portfolio entries, and teacher feedback for all of their child's Seesaw classes. As of today, we have 248 parents connected to Nottingham Seesaw accounts! Later today, Mr. Crouse will be sending an email to all families who have not yet signed up for a parent access account. In the email will be a unique link for your child so that you can directly create your account. Please do not share your link as it is assigned specifically to your child. There is no obligation for you to create an account, but we want to ensure that you are aware of the opportunity.

Lastly, **here is a [video](#) showing how you and your child can see student feedback** in a Seesaw account. You can also see this feedback when you are logged into your parent Seesaw account.

<https://vimeo.com/486108181/c479c0ecc0>

**Curious about how your child is doing in music, art, or PE?** Check out their SeeSaw or Canvas accounts to see teacher feedback on assignments or reach out to your child's teacher directly. To learn more, watch this video with information about how to view the comments.

**From our PE Teachers, Mr. Giusto and Ms. Caputo**

I hope you had a nice Thanksgiving break! Please let your students know they will need a few items for PE this week. They will need a small ball for throwing into a target, if they don't have a ball they can always use a pair of socks. They will need a target, for throwing the ball into, a laundry basket or empty box is a good example. They will also need a few items that can stack and try to knock over, empty boxes, or toilet paper rolls will work

(three of each item will be plenty). Lastly, they will need about 6 pieces of paper. Please remind them it is oaky if they don't have all the items. Have a great week.

### **From our ITC, Ron Crouse**

There are three (3) updates and changes that you should make to your child's APS iPad **today** to ensure the best device performance and learning in our virtual world.

The critical steps are below and also documented in this video:

<https://www.loom.com/share/1e494f7a6de04aefb38c3adb57eb8e3f>

#### **Updating the iPad OS (to version 14+)**

▶ this is the first step when the video starts

- Be sure you plug in the iPad to the charger and leave it connected to power through the update process
- Remember after the update downloads and verifies, you will have to click "install now" to force the update to occur
- If the update fails and displays a message that there is not enough storage on the device, please work with your child to [remove any accumulated photos](#) and videos

#### **Login to Hub and Sync Device**

▶ starts at time marker **1:45** in the video

#### **Enabling Graphics in the Canvas Student App**

▶ starts at time marker **2:45** in the video

Central IT will be pushing an Apple iPad iOS update to all student iPads at Nottingham. This update will take the operating system to version 13.7. There are a few things to keep in mind as you help your child with the update:

- It may take a few days for all devices to get the notice to update.
- The device must have at least 50% power to perform the software update.
- The update when downloaded will sit in the options under Settings > General > Software Update and await your permission to update manually.
- So long as the device is connected to power overnight, the update will auto-install and not require any intervention on your part.
- If the update fails, you may need to help your child remove any excess photos and videos from the device to create more storage for the installation.

## **Help Make the Holidays Happier for Some of Arlington's Most Vulnerable**

**Residents:** 2020 has seen more Arlington households in financial crisis than ever before. You can help Arlington families impacted by COVID and economic hardship - donate to the [Department of Human Services' Secret Santa Program](#)! Gift cards are distributed to clients engaged in Department of Human Services safety net programs and other programs for low-income residents, including COVID-impacted households, children in foster care, people with disabilities, seniors with low incomes, teen parents, and families with low incomes.

This year, the Secret Santa Program can accept gift cards and checks by mail, or online donations via secure credit card payments, any time before December 18. [Learn more or make a donation here!](#)

<https://publicassistance.arlingtonva.us/secret-santa/>

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

**Mental Health resources** for students/families to know when schools are closed for Winter break:

<https://careercenter.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2020/11/Holiday-Resources-for-Families.pdf> (English)

<https://careercenter.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2020/11/Holiday-Resources-for-Families-Spanish-Version.pdf> (Spanish)

If you're interested in learning about the **boundary process** the adjusted boundary recommendation will be presented at the start of the **Public Hearing tonight (12/1) at 7:30 p.m.** Additional details, including information about interpretation services at the public hearing is [available online](#). The public hearing can be [viewed live online](#) and on Comcast Cable Channel 70 and Verizon FiOS Channel 41. The School Board will take action on Thu., Dec. 3, on elementary school boundaries for the 2021-22 school year. The Virtual School Board meeting will begin at 7 p.m. and can be [viewed live online](#) and on Comcast Xfinity Cable Channel 70 and Verizon FiOS Channel 41. Information about how to share input at this meeting is available on the [School Board webpage](#). You can learn more about the boundary process by visiting the [aspva webpage](#).

**The Arlington County Council of PTAs (CCPTA)** is collecting new and used books to distribute to Pre-K-5th grade families before winter break. **Please see the attached flyer for more information.**

Please see the [proposed 2021-22 School Year Calendar](#), as well as a proposed revision to this year's calendar to make Inauguration Day, January 20, 2021, a holiday for

staff and students. The School Board will act on the Inauguration Day recommendation at their December 3, meeting, and we will update the community on any changes.

### Some upcoming dates:

- December 1, Tuesday PTA Meeting, 7:00PM
- December 18, Friday Winter Extravaganza (all day)
- December 21-31 Winter Break

Please take a moment to visit the PTA website and read the PTA [newsletter](#). Thanks,

Eileen

# Reminders

We know how much people love their pets and walks throughout the neighborhood. However, we've noticed that some of our friends and neighbors are bringing **pets on campus, which is against school board policy**. Sadly, we've also seen an uptick in evidence (ahem) left behind. With some of our students returning to school, we don't want them stepping in anything. Please help us by keeping pets off campus.

With more cars coming in and out of the parking lot, please remind your Knight to be **VERY careful when riding bikes, using scooters and walking**. We noticed a few students today who breezed through the intersection at N. Ohio and Little Falls without looking! Scary.

**Report cards were issued November 20 via ParentVue.** Nottingham uses standards-based reporting. If you are new to Nottingham, please refer to this [parent guide](#) for more information on standards-based reporting and how we report progress. This quarter, you may see more "insufficient evidence" for two possible reasons. First, it may mean that the teacher has not sufficiently covered the standard yet but continues to work on it with the class. This will be communicated through class newsletters or through the comments section on the report card. Second, a teacher will use "insufficient evidence" if the student has not demonstrated consistent performance. If it's the latter, your child's teacher either shared that with you already or will note it through comments.

The application process for **option schools and programs for middle and high school students opened this week**. Families interested in applying for a secondary option school or program can apply through the [online application portal](#). Families can submit their application anytime during the application window. If families need assistance with completing applications, they should contact the APS Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or [schooloptions@apsva.us](mailto:schooloptions@apsva.us). Additional information and important dates, as well as links to watch the Middle and High School Information Night recordings, are [available online](#).

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.

**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.