

Nottingham Knightly News

December 8, 2020

Dear Nottingham Families,

I hope everyone continues to be well. Please continue to have your child wear his or her mask, social distance and ensure we are helping to keep each other healthy.

We are two weeks from winter break and look forward to our **Winter Extravaganza**. Throughout the week, students are encouraged to participate in **Spirit Week** (see attached below). **On December 18** we will have our **Winter Celebration!** Please see the attached for additional information on the day.

[PDF Winter Celebration \(3\).pdf](#)

[WINTER WONDERLAND SPIRIT WEEK.pdf](#)

Homework over the break!

- If you haven't already, establish a learning space for each child in your family that is free from distractions.
- Headphones are a great stocking stuffer!
- Gather and organize the learning kit materials that will be used during instruction. To help with this we will share a list of what's included next week.

Just a quick reminder that our **SCA "Cheer Cards"** collection is going on **Dec 1-14**. A collection box is next to the TV in the lobby. Feel free to drop them off when you are able.

If you would like to contribute to a **class gift for your classroom teacher**, please make sure your room parent has **a current email address**. If you need any help, feel free to reach out to **Corin Stone via email at** roomparentliaison@nespta.org.

The window is now open **for instructional changes to your instructional delivery model and transportation selection** for secondary students. Please refrain from making any changes to your selection as we are unable to consider those changes at this time.

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.

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.**

[Arlington CCPTA Book Drive for Winter Break Flyer.pdf](#)

Some upcoming dates:

- December 18, Friday Winter Extravaganza (all day)
- December 21-31 Winter Break
- January 18, Monday MLK Jr. Day – No School for Students

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

Eileen

Reminders

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.

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 [apsva webpage](#).

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. Last week, Mr. Crouse sent 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.

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>

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.

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. 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.