

# Nottingham Knightly News

**January 7, 2021**

Dear Nottingham Families,

Welcome to 2021 and welcome back to school! We are very excited to see everyone today and look forward to a year filled with hope and happiness (and vaccines). My apologies for the delayed weekly.

The superintendent continues to work with administrators and staff on the return to school plan. He will speak in detail about the return of level 2 and 3 students at tonight's school board meeting, at 7:00 PM. Meetings are available for viewing live on the [APS website](#) and broadcast on Comcast Cable Channel 70 and Verizon FIOS Channel 41. Videos will also be posted on the School Board web pages following the meetings. Nottingham staff will reach out soon to share information once most of the plan is finalized. We will also do our best to be flexible relative to children keeping their current teachers. However, I am very sure that this will not be possible for many in all cases.

I wanted to call your attention to the superintendent's words relative to yesterday's events at the Capitol.

*...I know that many in our community are still processing yesterday's violence at the U.S. Capitol. These events were upsetting for all of us and are especially challenging to process in the midst of an already uncertain and challenging time. Together, we will work to ensure our children feel safe and supported, and that they understand that peaceful transition of power is fundamental to our democracy. We can do this by providing positive examples and reassurance to our students and each other. Arlington Public Schools is here to support our students, staff and families who may need additional help to process these events. Students and families can contact their school counselors, [social workers](#) and [school psychologists](#). We have also provided resources to teachers for talking to students today about violence and how to constructively engage with others who have differing views. We encourage families to access supportive resources online for [parents](#)... Now that the curfew for Arlington issued last evening has been lifted, we are resuming normal schedules for school activities and athletics. We continue to monitor and will keep you informed of any changes...*

**Winter Weather Procedures.** In the event of a change in our operating status due to weather, APS will alert all staff and families by 6 p.m. the evening before, with any morning updates communicated by 5 a.m. **Distance Learning will continue for all students during inclement weather events providing there is no interruption in power or network connectivity. In the event schools and facilities need to close due to an inclement weather event, Level 1 students attending school in-person would temporarily revert to Distance Learning.** Distance Learning will follow the

normal schedule during inclement weather, with asynchronous instruction on Mondays and synchronous instruction on Tuesday through Friday. It is possible that a major storm causing a power or network outage may require us to cancel distance learning and call an official "snow day." APS will follow our inclement weather protocols on deciding if other school-based activities, such as meal services, in-person learning support or athletic practices can continue, and will keep you updated through School Talk messages, social media, text alerts, local media, and our website. [Click here to view our winter weather procedures](#) in full.

**Kindergarten Information Night** will be held virtually on **Monday, January 25 at 7:00PM**. If you, or a neighbor, have a rising kindergartner, be sure to join us.

### **From our counselor, Mark Jones: Parent Support**

Our school counselor is offering **parent support team meetings in January**. Parents can sign up with this [LINK](#) and meet other parents on Teams that are interested in supporting each other to solve some common parent challenges. You can find a fuller description in the link, and if you still have questions, please contact Mr. Jones by email: mark.jones2@apsva.us.

In addition, Arlington's Child and Family Services is offering a new virtual parent support. [Click Here to Register](#)

Each week a different topic will be discussed, including:

- Internet Safety
- Time Management for Teens
- COVID Related Grief and Loss
- How to Navigate the School IEP Process
- Positive Praise and Behavior Management

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

### **Some upcoming dates:**

- January 13, Wednesday Williamsburg Information Night
- January 18, Monday MLK Jr. Day – No School for Students
- January 20, Wednesday Inauguration Day – No School for Students
- January 21, Thursday Swanson Information Night, 6:30PM
- February 2, Tuesday PTA Meeting – Presenter, Mark Jones
- February 12, Friday Virtual Dance Party
- February 15, Monday President's Day – No School for Students
- February 25, Thursday Early Release – Parent-Teacher Conferences
- February 26, Friday Parent-Teacher Conferences

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

Eileen

# Learning Kit Materials

**Please see below for the learning kit materials by grade level. If you have not yet picked up your materials, you can stop by the school anytime from Tuesday – Friday 9:00AM-2:00PM.**

## **Kindergarten**

PE Kit (ball, jump rope, chalk)

ELA Kit (foam letters, magnet letters, mirror, letter cards)

Math/Science Kit (2 white boards- one with lines one without, dry erase markers, stacking blocks, ruler, geometric shapes, counting dots, playing cards)

Composition Books

Letters and Numbers: HWT

Post-it notes

Science Fusion

Music Kit K-2- egg shaker

Art kit: there is modeling clay, watercolor paints, construction paper

## **1st Grade**

ELA Kit (foam letters, magnet letters, mirror)

Math/Science Kit (2 white boards- one with lines one without, dry erase markers, stacking blocks, ruler, geometric shapes, counting dots, playing cards)

Post-it notes

Handwriting Without Tears

Science Fusion

Music Kit K-2- egg shaker

Art kit: there is modeling clay, watercolor paints, construction paper

## **2nd Grade**

ELA Kit (foam letters, magnet letters, mirror)

Math/Science Kit (2 white boards- one with lines one without, dry erase markers, stacking blocks, ruler, geometric shapes, counting dots, playing cards)

Post-it notes

Print With Me: Handwriting Without Tears

Science Fusion

Music Kit K-2- egg shaker

Art kit: there is modeling clay, watercolor paints, construction paper

## **3rd Grade**

Math/Science Kit (2 white boards, one with lines one without, dry erase markers, base ten blocks, ruler)

Post-it notes

Red and Blue Pen

Highlighter

Cursive: Writing Without Tears

Science Fusion

Art kit: there is modeling clay, watercolor paints, construction paper

Music kit: egg shaker, recorder, and hand drum

## **4th Grade**

Math/Science Kit (2 white boards, one with lines one without, dry erase markers, base ten blocks, ruler)

Highlighter

Post-it notes

Science Fusion

Art kit: there is modeling clay, watercolor paints, construction paper

Music kit: egg shaker, recorder, and hand drum

## 5th Grade

Math/Science Kit (2 white boards, one with lines one without, dry erase markers, base ten blocks, ruler)

Post-it notes

Science Fusion

Art kit: there is modeling clay, watercolor paints, construction paper

Music kit: egg shaker, recorder, and hand drum

# Reminders

**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)

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**.

**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.