

Nottingham Knightly News

February 16, 2021

Dear Nottingham Families,

Please join us on **March 2 at 7:00PM for our next PTA meeting**. We are currently working on finishing details to the master schedule, class lists and room assignments. During the week of **February 22, you will receive a letter** with your classroom teacher and room assignment, entry pathway, supply information and lots more! These letters will be posted in Parent Vue and personalized for each student. **School hours remain 9:00AM-2:20PM.**

Our teachers have received one or, in many cases, both doses of the vaccine. Some staff are experiencing significant side effects. We are doing our best to make sure classes are covered and will communicate when there is a change to the daily schedule. Thanks for your patience.

The PTA is an important player in what happens at Nottingham and we are searching for a team to lead the 2021-22 school year. We are currently searching for people to fill the roles of President, Vice Presidents (External/Fundraising, Internal/Volunteer, and Communications), and Treasurer. It is an excellent opportunity to meet new people, be part of a great team and laugh. No experience required. Contact the PTA Nominating Committee at nominatingcommittee@nespta.org or reach out directly to Stacy Rosenthal, Lauren Rascoe, or Angela Na!

Superintendent Durán has shared another [update with the community](#). Please review it at your leisure. Key points include:

- Camera use
- Hybrid Schedules
- Transportation details

Students in grades PK-1:

- PK and grade 1 will attend on Tuesdays/Wednesdays (beginning March 2)
- **Kindergarten will attend on Thursdays/Fridays** (beginning March 2)
- New teacher assignments will be updated in Parent Vue as soon as possible
- Teachers will contact you directly to introduce themselves and welcome you to the new class.
- **PK will use the [concurrent model](#)**
- **Kindergarten and grade 1 will use the [hybrid model](#)**

Students in grades 2-5: Your child's homeroom teacher will not change. As of today, all teachers are planning to return in person. **All classes in grades 2-5 at Nottingham will use the concurrent model.**

- Grade 2 will report on Thursdays/Fridays (beginning March 2)
- Grade 3 will report on Tuesdays/Wednesdays (beginning March 9)
- Grade 4 will report on Thursdays/Fridays (beginning March 9)
- Grade 5 will report **either on** Tuesdays/Wednesdays **or** Thursdays/Fridays (beginning March 9)

Some upcoming dates:

- **February 17, Wednesday** **Report Cards in Parent Vue**
- February 22, Monday Nottingham School Information Session
- February 25, Thursday Early Release – Parent-Teacher Conferences
- February 26, Friday Parent-Teacher Conferences
- March 2, Tuesday PK-2 Students Return
- March 9, Tuesday 3-5 Students Return

Thanks,

Eileen

Reminders

Families are now able to register kindergarten students for the 2021-22 school year by using the **Online Registration Process**. Families unable to complete the registration process online are able to register by using the **Student Registration Document Drop Off Process**. Families can determine their neighborhood school by using the **Boundary (Attendance Area) Locator** and are encouraged to register before the end of the current school year to help schools prepare and plan for incoming kindergarten students. Families interested in attending an option school or program are currently able to apply online until Thursday, April 15, 2021, at 4 p.m. The process for applying to pre-K and elementary option schools and programs is available on the **school options webpage**. As a reminder, all families will need to apply for the option schools or programs they are interested in every year to be included in the lottery because waitlists reset annually after the lottery occurs. Families interested in applying to a pre-K or elementary option school or program should complete an application through the **online application portal**. The

following is the pre-K and elementary option schools and programs application process timeline:

- **April 15, 2021:** The application for pre-K and elementary option schools and programs closes.
- **April 22, 2021:** Lotteries for all elementary option schools and programs will be held by the APS Welcome Center.
- **April 23, 2021:** Lotteries for all pre-K programs will be held by the APS Welcome Center.
- **April 30, 2021:** Families will be notified of their acceptance or placement on the waitlist.
- **May 14, 2021:** Families must confirm or decline attendance to an option school or program.

For additional information or questions about the registration process or pre-K and elementary option schools and programs, please contact the APS Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or schooloptions@apsva.us.

The Preschool Application process is OPEN! From February 1 until April 15, be sure to apply to APS Montessori, VPI (Virginia Preschool Initiative) or CPP (Community Peer Pre-K) Programs! VPI (Virginia Preschool Initiative) is a free full day Pre-K program located at several Arlington County elementary schools. Students in the VPI program participate in engaging, language rich and developmentally appropriate learning experiences which build their foundational academic and social-emotional skills and assists in preparing students for Kindergarten. **Primary Montessori** is a full-day multi-age preschool program located in many Arlington County elementary schools. Students in the Primary Montessori classroom range in age from 3-5 and participate in a learning environment that emphasizes respect for others, peace and creativity. Students work independently and cooperatively in a prepared environment which enables students to work at their own pace. **The Community Peer Program** is an inclusive Pre-K program located in a few Arlington County elementary schools. This program offers students with and without disabilities a high quality, engaging and interactive preschool experience. The CPP program is designed to provide students with and without disabilities the opportunity to learn together and grow in all developmental areas. **Where to apply:** For application assistance please contact the Welcome Center or contact your local neighborhood school. You can call our Welcome Center at 703-228-8000 or 703-228-8665. Here is the link to apply online: <https://apsva.schoolmint.net/signin> and for questions email us at earlychildhood@apsva.us.

Looking for summer enrichment for your child? **William & Mary's Summer Enrichment Program** is an academically challenging program with an emphasis on inquiry-based learning for students. The program is not meant to replace the regular school curriculum; rather, it recognizes the importance of allowing able children to explore additional

specialized areas of science, mathematics, humanities, and the arts. [Click for More Information](#). Summer 2021 SEP registration is now open for high ability students in grades 2-12. William & Mary's Center for Gifted Education is excited to offer 2 weeks of virtual opportunities with courses available in the morning and afternoon each week. We have virtual courses available in the areas of **robotics, civics, STEM, coding, writing, social science, and many more**. Please see our [Summer 2021](#) brochure for more information.

Directories are here! Please stop by and grab your Nottingham PTA Directory from the **bin in the front of the school**.

Our **Nottingham School Information Session for Kindergarten and New Families will be held on Monday, February 22 at 9:00AM** (virtually). Please encourage our new families to attend. We welcome anyone who would like to hear more about our typical instructional program to attend. We will not address return to school questions at this time.

For families who plan to remain virtual:

Materials: Please continue using the virtual learning kits and other materials that you have been using at home. Please remember to charge your child's iPad each night and send it to school each day.

While students at school are transitioning: Our teaching teams will work collaboratively this week to address the need to ensure that our virtual learners are given the time and attention needed to stay focused on instruction throughout the transition period. Thank you for your patience as we navigate these changes. Your homeroom teacher will communicate expectations the week prior to returning.

For Families who plan to return in-person:

Arrival: Parents are expected to complete the health screener for each child each day. Upon arrival to school, student health screening and temperature checks will occur at entry points. Please use the entry point that most fits how your child will arrive at school each day. Below are the entry points that students may use:

- Door 1 – Bus Riders Only
- Door 3 – Walkers Only
- Door 10 – Walkers Only
- Door 11- Car Riders Only
- Trailer entrance (closest to playground) – 5th Grade Only

Dismissal: All students will leave through the door they enter in the morning. Students must leave campus at dismissal time. The playgrounds and fields are not available for after-school play.

Breakfast: Free breakfast is available for all students as needed. Grab and Go breakfasts will be available at your child's assigned entrance door. Procedures will be provided soon.

Lunch: Free lunch is available for all students as needed. Avoid sending any known allergens with your child. Procedures for lunch will be provided soon.

Water: Please provide a filled water bottle daily. We can refill them in the classroom or at water filling stations, but students may not drink from the water fountains.

Recess: Our plan is to have recess outside, whenever possible. Please be sure your child has weather appropriate clothing each day. Additional information about recess will be provided soon.

Masks: Students and staff are [required to wear masks throughout the day](#), except when actively eating. Students who willfully do not wear a mask may be asked to return to virtual learning.

Materials: Please keep the virtual learning kits and other materials that you have been using at home. Teachers will communicate which materials are needed at school. It's a good idea to send a sweater or sweatshirt to keep in the classroom, just in case students get cold. Please remember to charge your child's iPad each night and send it to school each day.

Extended Day: At this time, there is no opportunity for extended day. We will keep you updated.

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.

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 \(attendance.ntm@groups.apsva.us\)](mailto: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.