



Weekly Parent Reminders

December 5, 2025



Important Dates

December 15 - 19 – Winter Break Spirit Week
December 19 – Bake Sale and Caroling
December 19 – Family Friday (8:45-9:00 am)
December 19 – Coffee with the Principal (9:00-9:30 am)
December 22 – January 2 – Winter Break (No school for students)
January 5 – Return to School!!

Dressing for the Weather 🧤🧣🧥🧼

Please remember that our students have recess every day, weather permitting. We go out to play and run and have fun as long as it's not raining and if the temperature is over 32 degrees. Please send your student in layers as the weather fluctuates.

Bake Sale and Holiday Caroling

The PTO will have a holiday bake sale on December 19! We will have baked good, hot chocolate and other treats. Stop by to purchase some items and support the PTO. Students and staff will also be out caroling to get everyone into the holiday spirit before Winter Break!

OSSE Strategic Plan Community Input Survey

OSSE is proud to support learners citywide from birth to adulthood. OSSE is developing their 2026-2030 strategic plan and wants to hear from school leaders, educators, and families across DC. Your input will play a vital role in shaping and guiding OSSE's priorities and initiatives for the coming years. Please complete the [survey](#) (also available in [Spanish](#) and [Amharic](#)) so that OSSE can learn about your perspectives. The survey closes Friday, December 12.

Join the Local School Advisory Team (LSAT)

Hello Families! We need more family representation on our Local School Advisory Team (LSAT). We invite you to join to lend your unique perspective to help shape our students' educational experience. By participating, your voice can help us make decisions in our school budget, improving programs, policies, and the overall school environment for all students.

Please join us for our next meeting on Monday, December 8th from 3:35-4:30. We will meet to review the budget process, share our thoughts, and outline priorities for the upcoming budget. We will meet in-person in Ms. Dhanaraj's room (313) or you can join us via Microsoft Teams. We hope to see you there!

Winter Break Spirit Week

We want to remind families that attendance is important every day, even the days before a holiday. Students are always learning. Please make sure to make travel plans during the days that school is closed. To help motivate everyone the days leading to our break, we will have Spirit Week the week of December 15:

- **Monday (12/15)** – Candy Cane Day! Wear red and white!!
- **Tuesday (12/16)** – Flannel Day! Wear your coziest and favorite flannel!
- **Wednesday (12/17)** – Grinch Day!! Wear all green and mean!
- **Thursday (12/18)** – It's sweater weather!! Wear your ugliest sweater to make a fashion statement!
- **Friday (12/19)** – Pajama Day!! Wear your warmest school appropriate PJs!

SY25-26 Impact Aid Survey

The SY25-26 Impact Aid Survey is available starting November 10, 2025. Each year, DCPS asks all families to complete the Impact Aid survey to generate additional federal funds for DCPS. This year, the surveys will be fully electronic using the Seamless platform. All eligible applications received by December 19, 2025 will be submitted as part of the initial application due on January 30, 2026. Using the surveys linked below, all DCPS families should complete one survey per child, not household, in their preferred language.

While December 19th is our initial deadline, families will have until April 30, 2026 to complete the survey. All additional eligible surveys will be included in our application amendment due June 19, 2026.

- [English](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Amharic](#)
- [Chinese](#)
- [French](#)
- [Vietnamese](#)

The SpEd Hub 2025- 2026 Training Calendar is [HERE!](#)

Ready for another round of engaging, informative, and valuable trainings with the DCPS SpEd office?

They have packed the year with family favorites and NEW trainings, all requested directly by YOU, our families, caregivers, and community members! They're thrilled to share their new lineup, designed to help you learn more about special education and connect with their team for support, resources, and guidance.

Explore their website's [events page](#) to discover the list of trainings available in the new year and register to join them! They can't wait to see you there!

DC Public Library Winter Family Festival

DC Public Library will be hosting its annual Winter Festival on Sunday, December 7 from 1 - 4:00 pm at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library.

The event will take place in the auditorium and on the 5th floor in the Event Space and surrounding corridor. The Washington Ballet Southeast Ensemble and Blue Sky Puppets will be performing in the auditorium. There will be a family photo booth, face painting, crafts in the event space and other activities. For more information please click [HERE](#).

Garden Assistance 🌱🌱

We need to plant some seedlings in the ground, and we need help! Do you love to be one with nature? We are working on growing our garden and need your help to maintain it. Come help us make it beautiful and bountiful! Any questions, see Ms. Jackie in the office or talk with Ms. Courtney in PreK.

Kids Ride Free Metro/Bus Cards

If you have a card from last school year, please request a new one. The ones from last school year will expire at the end of September. The Kids Ride Free program allows students enrolled in DC Public Schools, DC Charter Schools, and DC private/parochial schools to receive a KRF SmarTrip card for free travel to and from school and school-related activities within the District of Columbia, using Metrorail, Metrobus or the DC Circulator. Please contact the main office (202-939-5390) if your student needs a Kids Ride Free card for the new school year for the bus or metro. **Reminder that these cards are for student use ONLY!!**

Immunization Forms 📝🩺

If you have not turned in your health forms, please do so right away! Health physicals and oral health assessments are required annually. Students also must be current with their immunizations to attend school. As outlined below, a series of medical forms should be turned in to the school as part of the enrollment process, and any updated forms throughout the school year should be submitted to the school nurse.

The following documents are part of the [DCPS School Enrollment Package](#):

- [Universal Health Certificate](#) (required annually for all grades, documenting immunizations, tuberculosis assessment, lead screening and a physical exam). If you have questions about DC's immunization requirements, please discuss them with your child's physician. You can also contact DC Health's Immunization Division at (202) 576-7130.
- [Oral Health Assessment](#) (required annually for all grades)

Social Media

Follow us on our social media pages to get information and see what we are up to:

Facebook: facebook.com/HDCookeES

Instagram & Twitter: [@HDCookeES](#)