



Weekly Parent Reminders

May 2, 2025



Important Dates

May 5-9 – Teacher Appreciation Week
May 8 – Lockdown Drill
May 20 – 22 – 5th Grade Camping Trip
May 26 – School closed in observance of Memorial Day
May 30 – Final Family Friday for the School Year (8:35 am)
May 30 – Final Coffee with the Principal for the School Year (9:00 am)

Teacher Appreciation Week

How much do we love our teachers!! We love them so much! Teacher appreciation week is May 5-9! Let's show them so love and gratitude all week long!

Monday – Thank you note – Tell your teacher how much you appreciate them!

Tuesday – Flower – Pick a beautiful flower to bring to your teacher!

Wednesday – Fruit – Bring your teacher their favorite fruit!

Thursday – Treat or snack – Chocolate is always a good treat!

Friday – Tea, Coffee or Juice – Bring their favorite drink!

These are just some suggestions of ways to show your teachers some love and gratitude.

Lockdown Drill

The safety of our students is always a high priority for us here at H.D. Cooke Elementary School. One of the best ways to ensure a safe school environment is to practice our emergency drills and procedures. District of Columbia law requires our school conduct several drills throughout the school year, one of which is a Lockdown Drill.

While we cannot always inform parents when we conduct a drill, this message is to inform you that our school will conduct a **Lockdown Drill on May 8th, at 9:30 a.m.** This routine exercise protects our school community from potential dangers in the building or campus. Every school in DCPS is required to complete two lockdown drills per year. This will be our final Lockdown Drill for the school year.

Attendance Matters!

Just a reminder that attendance is very important every day! As the weather warms, we want to remind everyone that it is important to come to school every day. To be on time and be ready to learn! Try to make appointments after school as much as possible. Doors open at 8:35 am and students learn all day until 3:15 pm dismissal. If your student will need to be absent for an appointment or illness, please drop off a note in the main office or email: Araceli.FigueroaVelez@k12.dc.gov.

DC-CAPE Continues

DC-CAPE testing continues. Please make sure your 3rd – 5th grade student is arriving on time, fully rested! They must arrive at school at 8:35 am to have enough time for breakfast. Try to schedule all medical appointments for times after school, when possible, to ensure that they do not miss the school day. Talk with your student's teachers to find out the specific schedule for your student.

Immunization Forms

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)

Kids Ride Free Metro/Bus Cards

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!!***

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](#)