

Weekly Parent Reminders

December 15, 2023

Important Dates

December 14 – 3rd Grade Winter Musical
 December 19 – 1st & 2nd grade Family Sing-along (9:45 – 10:15 am)
 December 21 – Prek – Kinder Family Sing-along (2:30 – 3:00 pm)
 December 22 – January 2 – Winter Break
 January 3 – Return to School
 January 9 – Open House (10 am)
 January 19 – Family Friday & Coffee with the Principal

****Winter Break – December 22 – January 2****
Wishing All our Families a Happy New Year!!



Winter Break Spirit Week

Our last week of 2023 is filled with fun!
 Monday – Hat Day! Get silly!
 Tuesday – Pajama Day! Bring your favorite stuffy!
 Wednesday – Ugly Sweater! The uglier the better!
 Thursday – HDC shirt day! Let’s represent!
 Friday – No School!! Winter Break begins!

Family Sing-alongs!

Join us for some fun sing-alongs! Come sing with us!
 December 19 – 1st & 2nd grade Family Sing-along (9:45 – 10:15 am)
 December 21 – Prek – Kinder Family Sing-along (2:30 – 3:00 pm)

Covid Test Distribution

At DC Public Schools (DCPS), the health and safety of our school communities is paramount. With cold and flu season in full swing, we want to continue to ensure that our students and families have access to free COVID-19 Test Kits to use during the upcoming holiday break.

Please note that students and staff are not being asked or required to share or upload test results before returning to school after Thanksgiving or December break.

For more information on COVID-19 protocols for School Year 2023-2024 please visit <https://dcpstrong.com/covid-19/>.

Parent University: Enrollment

Learn more about how to enroll in DCPS for the school year 2024-2025! Register and bring your questions to our virtual Parent University sessions on Tuesday, December 12 at 6pm or join on Thursday, December 14 at 6pm for a session fully in Spanish! In the meanwhile, check-out Parent University On Demand/A La Carta videos! For more information and registration visit: <https://dcp.dc.gov/page/parent-university>

English: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fWq_kqs5340

Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7RNGOzfvHE3sJBR5kwrmcuibxk4hjLvQ>

Family Friday & Coffee with the Principal

On Friday, January 19th, we will have our Family Friday. The goal of Family Friday is to provide a structured opportunity for caretakers to see the awesomeness inside your student's classrooms!

You will be able to visit the classroom from 8:35 am until 9 am to see the classroom, meet other families and participate in strong start with the class.

Attendance Reminder

As the holiday season ramps up, we want to remind all families of the importance of attendance for all our students. Being here every day ready and prepared to learn. Part of preparedness is arriving to school on time! The doors open promptly at 8:35 am. Please make sure that your student arrives at 8:35 am to have time for breakfast and be ready for morning meeting. Students arriving after 8:50 am are late and must stop by the main office to receive a tardy pass. See you Monday at 8:35 am!!!

Save Time, Earn Gas Money, Carpool Today!

To help reduce traffic, save time, and promote our sustainability goals, H.D. Cooke has teamed up with goDCgo and SchoolPool to connect families for pickup/dropoff carpools. SchoolPool is a free carpool ride matching system that pairs you with nearby families who are looking to share driving duties. SchoolPool is 100% free, secure, and confidential. After signing up, you'll receive a list of potential carpool partners in your area and their contact information. Visit goDCgo.com/schoolpool to learn more.

Pantry Program

Do you have a student that goes to H.D. Cooke? Would you benefit from having a little more food and/or toiletries at home this month?

H.D. Cooke is partnering with DC Food Project to receive monthly donations of minimal food and toiletries. If you have a student at H.D. Cooke and your family could benefit from receiving a little extra food and/or toiletries this month, please complete this referral. A staff member will be in touch upon receipt of the referral in the next 7-10 school days. Thank you!



Referral link for families - <https://forms.office.com/r/aXyzHV9FJj> or use the QR Code below.

"Self-Dismissal" and Sibling Pickup Permission Form

All students in grades *PK 3 through 5* must have a signed permission form on file to walk or take public transportation home alone or with a sibling. No student will be allowed to leave school alone or with a sibling until the attached form has been signed and returned to the main office.

This form is only required for students who are walking or taking public transportation home without their parent, guardian, or another adult who is authorized by you to pick them up. Please return a separate signed form for each of your children.

Students will not be allowed to walk home at dismissal if this form is not returned.

To complete the form online, visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/jHiWsvahne>

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 SmarTrip card for the new school year for the bus or metro.

Social Media

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

Facebook: [facebook.com/HDCookeES](https://www.facebook.com/HDCookeES)

Instagram & Twitter: [@HDCookeES](https://www.instagram.com/HDCookeES)