



**Weekly Parent Newsletter**  
September 11, 2020

**Second Grade Highlight**

Students in second grade are learning all about how plants grow and what they need to survive. They've been using text features to help understand some of the most interesting parts of plants! Did you know that roots have hairs that help plants get extra water and nutrients from the soil?



**Ice Cream with the Inner Core**

Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Families, bring your favorite treat and come to celebrate the start of the school year with the Inner Core Team.

When: September 16th

Time: 1:15PM on Teams.

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

[+1 202-539-1291](#) United States, Washington DC (Toll)

Conference ID: 730 625 822#

What to Bring: Your families favorite treat – be ready to show us! We are looking forward to meeting with you and getting to build our Cooke Community Together!

Upcoming events for 3rd-5th on September 23rd. More info in coming weeks!

**Wednesdays Schedules**

Remember that Wednesday schedules are different from the rest of the week. If you have any questions about the schedule for Wednesday or any day of the week, please check in with your student's teacher.

**Having Technology Problems?**

If you are having problems with technology or login into your class, contact the Family Support line by calling (202) 442-5885 or visit <https://dcps.instructure.com/courses/179580/pages/support>

**Breakfast and Lunch for Students (and Food Distribution)**

Even though we will be starting the year with virtual instruction, DCPS remains committed to supporting our students with meal distribution during the pandemic. Ensuring access to nutritious meals means that students are set up for success and ready to learn.

Grocery sites are available throughout the District to provide fresh fruits, vegetables, and non-perishable groceries to families. Residents are encouraged to bring a cart and/or tote bag to transport groceries at home. Masks are required at the grocery sites. Grocery sites are open 10 am – 11:30 am (Friday's at CHEC).

The closest location to our school for breakfast/lunch and food distribution is Columbia Heights Education Campus (CHEC): 3101 16<sup>th</sup> St NW. You can find more locations by visiting: <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/food>

### ***Parent University***

DCPS Parent University is a workshop series for families facilitated by the Communications and Engagement Office. Each session is designed to help families play their important role in supporting student learning and growth. The workshops are an opportunity for families to share strategies and learn new ones from each other and DCPS Central Office teams.

To view or register for upcoming sessions, visit: <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/parent-university>

### ***Family Microsoft Teams Training Sessions!***

Microsoft is partnering with DCPS to offer free training sessions for families!

Join the webinar where you will learn from an experienced educator, trainer and parent how to use Surface and Teams to promote independence, engage with teachers and peers, support various learning preferences and styles while providing a simple and safe remote learning experience for all. Q&A will be available.

Every Wednesday through the end of September at 10am and 6pm.

- Sep 16: [Live Event 10am](#)/[Live Event 5pm](#)
- Sep 23: [Live Event 10am](#)/[Live Event 5pm](#)
- Sep 30: [Live Event 10am](#)/[Live Event 5pm](#)

### ***Updates from the PTO***

Hello HD Cooke families, and sincere welcome to our new families who are joining us this year! We all know this is not the year we envisioned, but we are planning on making the most of it. Our primary goal for this year is to support a strong school community, and we hope you join us in our efforts!

We'd like to invite all interested families to join the first PTO meeting of the school year, it will take place virtually next Tuesday, September 15th, at 6 pm on Zoom.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4438490776?pwd=L3dHNmNONjE4NUtCMFA2WW5OWWhpZz09>

Meeting ID: 443 849 0776

Passcode: 113075

Our agenda will be as follows:

- Introduction of PTO leadership - 5 min
- Summary of last years activities - fundraising, plans, budgets - 5 min
- Fall 2020 activities - call for volunteers, virtual class parents, introduction of grade-based WhatsApp groups - 10 min
- Open discussion - 20 min

And as always, if you need to reach us, please email [hdcookepto@gmail.com](mailto:hdcookepto@gmail.com).

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you all soon!  
Mariann Gallo and Maria Felenyuk, PTO co-presidents

***Stay in Connected!***

Visit our website:

<https://www.hdcookeschool.org/>

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