



Weekly Parent Newsletter

November 13, 2020

Important Date Reminders

Kids Ride Free cards pickup 11/18 – Please contact office to let us know you need to pick a card. See info below for more information.

Thanksgiving Break 11/25-27 – No school for students for Thanksgiving Break

Impact Aid Survey Forms

Each year, DCPS asks all families to complete the Impact Aid survey to generate additional federal funds for DCPS. This year, the survey has moved to an electronic format using the Seamless platform and will be open for completion from October 30th to December 22nd. All DCPS families should complete one survey per child, not household, in their preferred language and submit by Tuesday, December 22, 2020. To access the form click [HERE](#).

DCPS International Food Days 2020

DCPS Global Education and DCPS Food and Nutrition Services are excited to announce DCPS International Food Days 2020 – celebrations of food, nutrition, culture and community – to be held during International Education Week, November 16-20. This year's celebration will include two International Food Days, featuring sample meals from India and Trinidad and Tobago, DCPS Global Chef events, and the first ever DCPS International Food Days Cook Off! DCPS Meal Sites will provide sample meals to all DC Public School students. To learn more about the key programming events, click [HERE](#).

Gratitude Tree Making with the Inner Core Teachers

Come and celebrate all the things we have to be grateful for as we prepare for our Thanksgiving Holiday. Materials Needed: Brown lunch bag (or any brown paper bag), scissors, glue or tape, and crayons. We will meet on the Family Events @ [Cooke Teams](#) page on Wednesday, November 18th @ 1:15pm.

Cooke Time!

Join us for some cooking/baking sessions. We will do virtual sessions in the evenings as we get ready for the holidays. See the attached flyer for more information on dates, times and zoom information. The first one will be November 18th lead by Ms. Jackie. She will show you how to make Mexican Wedding Cookies (also called Polvorones).

Ingredients needed to cook along:

½ cup of pecan halves

2 ½ cup confectioners' sugar

Pinch of salt

1 cup unsalted butter

½ teaspoon vanilla extract

1 ¾ cups all-purpose flour

DCPS Wants to Hear from You!

We value your opinion, and your perspective is critical as we continue to navigate this public health emergency together. To ensure we are hearing more from you and engaging directly with families, DC Public Schools is partnering with Trendency Research, an independent research firm, to track your experience with learning at home and the school year overall.

Survey Links

- English: bit.ly/DCPS-November-Survey
- Spanish: bit.ly/DCPS-noviembre

Updated Contact Information

A reminder that if your phone number or email address needs to be updated, please make sure to contact the main office to provide the information (202-939-5390). This will ensure we have the most current information. As we continue to communicate any information to families it's important that we are able to connect with all families.

Updated Physicals and Oral Health Assessments

REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING -- Health physicals and oral health assessments are required annually. Medical forms must 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. Students must have an up-to-date health assessment form on file with the school once in-person learning begins. This is the best time to ensure your student's health form is updated. Schedule an appointment with your doctor if your student needs a current physical.

Students will NOT be able to return to in-person learning without an updated health and immunization form on file.

You may call the school to find out if your student has an updated health form (202-939-5390) or you can email your current health form to Ms. Emma (emma.amaya@k12.dc.gov).

You can find all the forms by visiting: [School Health Requirements](#)

School Year 20-21 Dietary Accommodations

If your student requires dietary accommodation for the 2020-2021 school year, please complete the appropriate dietary accommodation form. Note that the form(s) must have all applicable sections completed for the form to be processed.

New accommodation forms must be completed each school year, each summer, and if your student moves to a different school during the school year.

Forms can be found [here](#).

Kids Ride Free

If you would like to request a new Kids Ride Free SmarTrip card, please contact the main office and we can have one ready for you to pick up. Next pickup date is **11/18**. You must contact the school to request one prior to picking up.

For more information you can visit: [Kids Ride Free FAQ](#)

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: [DCPS Support Page](#)

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 16th St NW. You can find more locations by visiting: [Food Distribution](#)

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: [Parent University](#)

News from PTO:

Back in October we had our "Stock the Pantry!" food and donation drive. We were able to raise almost \$1,000 with your help! Thank you all so much for your generosity. The PTO will use the funds raised to purchase and distribute groceries for Thanksgiving dinner to families in need. If you would like to make a donation for this effort, please use our PayPal link: <https://www.hdcookeschool.org/pto>

WhatsApp Groups

If you'd like to be able to contact other parents, please join the WhatsApp group that was created by PTO for your grade. Download the App to join us.

Prek3 - <https://bit.ly/3jHB1yZ>

Prek4- <https://bit.ly/2GS76ph>

Kinder - <https://bit.ly/34AX1p8>

1st - <https://bit.ly/3nroull>

2nd/3rd - combined - <https://bit.ly/3jIZyUm>

4th/5th - combined - <https://bit.ly/30MaVDJ>

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