



Weekly Parent Newsletter

February 12, 2021

Important Date Reminders

Kids Ride Free cards pickup 2/17 – Please contact office to let us know you need to pick a card. See info below for more information.

President's Day 2/15 – No school in observance of President's Day.

Virtual Learning on Tuesday, Feb. 16

Several HD Cooke staff members will receive the second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine on February 15th and February 20th. While we hope the second dose not impact our staff, DCPS is taking precautions to ensure teachers who may experience some side effects are able to have the time to recuperate.

To prepare for this possibility, DCPS has decided to not have in-person or CARE classes on February 16th.

Teachers will continue to communicate with families to determine if they are able to hold live virtual classes with students or if they will leave asynchronous work for them on Tuesday. If you have any questions, please contact your student's teacher.

Report Cards

Reports are now available in the parent portal. We will also mail the report cards home next week. Contact the main office if you have any questions.

Black History Month Celebrations

Join us on Wednesdays during the month of February for "Live Wednesdays" to celebrate Black History Month. Our next event is Wednesday, February 17 at 1:15 pm for a Performing Arts event. The events take place on Microsoft Teams Family Events.

Swag Refresh

There is still time to purchase HD Cooke T-shirts. Mr. Mitchell has put together a new "clothing line" for the Spring season! [Here is the link!](#)

All proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward supporting HDC families impacted by the pandemic.

Inclement Weather

In case of inclement weather, we will post any updates, late arrivals or closures on our social media pages as soon as it is available to us. @dcpublicschools social media accounts and

The HD Cooke Black History Committee Presents "Live Wednesdays" supporting the 2021 theme The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity. We hope you enjoy!

03 FEB	PREK3-3RD GRADE: READ ALOUD FAMILY CHANNEL ON TEAMS 1:20 PM
03 FEB	4TH-5TH: AFRICAN DRUMMER FAMILY CHANNEL ON TEAMS 1:15 PM
10 FEB	TRIVIA: REPRESENTATION IN MEDIA FAMILY CHANNEL ON TEAMS 1:15 PM
17 FEB	PERFORMING ARTS FAMILY CHANNEL ON TEAMS 1:15 PM
24 FEB	INTERACTIVE COOKING EVENT FAMILY CHANNEL ON TEAMS 1:00 PM

Celebrating Black Excellence

Made with PosterMyNet.com

dcps.dc.gov website will also have the information. We will also send a message to parents and information will also be made on local news stations.

DC CARES Program

The DC Cares Assistance Program for excluded workers is open. It provides **\$1,000 in cash assistance for immigrants without work authorization, people who work in the informal economy, and other excluded workers (DC residents excluded from Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA))**. The application is down for maintenance right now but should reopen on **February 2**. Information is here:

- English: <https://www.dccares2021.org/en-US/>
- Spanish: <https://www.dccares2021.org/es-ES/>

Funds will likely run out, you are encouraged to submit applications quickly. Thank you!

Need Internet Access at Home?

Mayor Muriel Bowser wants to make sure your student has internet at home during this virtual school term. DC Government will be paying for a year of residential internet service for eligible households provided by Comcast and RCN.

DC Government will reach out to SNAP and TANF eligible households with PK3-12th grade students enrolled at DC traditional and charter public schools. Contact the school or your student's teacher for more information.

Visiting the School

Anyone needing to come to school must have a scheduled appointment. Visitors are not allowed at school without an appointment at this time. All visitors will have temperature checks at the door. To make an appointment, please contact the main office at 202-939-5390 or you can send an email to Ms. Emma Amaya (emma.amaya@k12.dc.gov) or Ms. Jackie (Jacqueline.alvarado@k12.dc.gov).

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 you student needs a current physical.

We have also posted flyers along with this newsletter on our website for your convenience of locations to contact for more information regarding immunizations.

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 **2/17**. 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)

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:

Our need for help for our school families continues. If you are able to make a donation to the PTO to purchase grocery gift cards for families in need, please visit our website to [make a donation](#).

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>

Stay in Connected!

Visit our website:

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

Follow us on Social Media:

<https://www.facebook.com/HDCookeES>

<https://www.instagram.com/hdcookees/>

<https://twitter.com/HDCookeES>