



Weekly Parent Reminders

September 1, 2023

Important Dates

September 4th – School Closed in Observance of Labor Day

September 7th – Lockdown drill (9:15 am)

September 20th – Back to School Night (5-7 pm)

September 29th – Coffee with the Principal (8:45 am)

Welcome back Cooke families!! We are so excited for the new school year!! It has been a busy week of joyful learning, getting to know each other and learning new routines! Teachers are busy contacting families to set-up visits.

Please remember to contact the office if your phone number should change at any point during the school year. You can reach the office at 202-939-5390.

Lockdown Drill

The safety of our students is always a high priority for us here at H.D. Cooke. 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 **September 7, 2023 at 9:15 a.m.** This routine exercise protects our school community from potential dangers in the building or campus. Please know that every school in DCPS is required to complete two lockdown drills per year. Contact the office if you have any questions or email Principal Lam at ryan.lam@k12.dc.gov.

“Self-Dismissal” and Sibling Pickup Permission Form

All students in grades *PK 3 through 5* must have a signed permission form on file in order 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)