



## *Weekly Parent Reminders*

*January 5, 2024*

### **Important Dates**

January 9: Open House (9 am)  
January 15: School Closed (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)  
January 19: Family Friday & Coffee with the Principal  
January 22: Picture Day  
January 24: Middle School Fair!  
January 26: PD for Teachers (No school for students)

### **Winter Coat Drive**

Have any gently used coats at home that you would like to donate? Please bring them to school! We are collecting new and gently used coats for families in need. You may drop off at the main office or with Officer Cary at the main entrance.

Need a coat? Please let us know!

### **Family Friday & Coffee with the Principal**

On Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 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**

Reminder for all families of the importance of attendance for all our students. Being at school on time every day prepared to learn is important. 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.

### **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](https://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/aXyzHV9Fj> 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