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EDUCARE
WASHINGTON, DC

Gazette

“Deep in their roots, all flowers keep the light. – Theodore Roethke”



Letter from Leadership

- **Pete the Cat, Minnie Mouse, Cat and the Hat, oh my!**
Thanks to all who dressed up, attended, and helped run our first Literacy Fest! The day was filled with interactive book readings, science experiments, book crafting, and much more. A special shout-out to Ms. Morgan for spearheading this amazing event!
- **Thank you** to everyone who helped make our first Fatherhood and Motherhood dinner events a success! The dinners gave parents a space to discuss different topics on fatherhood and motherhood. We are thankful to our guest speakers, Delano Johnston and Carolyn Simms for their inspiring messages for all of those who were able to attend!
- **Parent Volunteers:** We are looking for parents who are interested in becoming more involved with the Educare Science Initiative. Volunteers would participate in meetings to help plan science activities for the classrooms. If you are interested, please reach out to Mr. Truesdale or any of the Master Teachers.
- **Parent Council Meeting:** Thank you to all who attended our last Parent Council Meeting! These meetings are a great way to learn about school updates, get involved in the school, and meet other parents and staff. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 10th at 9:30am - please join us!
- **Monthly Raffles:** Every month, six children will win \$50 into their Educare Future Scholars college savings account. Congratulations to our winners George, Hassan, Danni Monae, Alphonso, Jesiah, and Kendall! To be eligible, a family member must do one of these four things: participate in a learning activity in their child's classroom; attend a classroom meeting; join the monthly Parent Committee meeting or make a deposit of any amount in the Family Savings Account. Come to the Parent Council Meeting on March 10th to see if your child wins!

Important Dates in March



- 10th: Policy Council Meeting at 9:30 am
- 19th-20th: Scheduled home visits (school closed)
- 26th: Parent Cafe from 3:30-5:30 pm



Classroom Spotlight: Class 130!

The students in classroom 130 are a creative bunch - they used their imagination to turn baby blankets and other toys into wigs and combs. Their teachers saw this as an opportunity to create a lesson plan to their students' interest by building a salon within their classroom.

The teachers gathered wigs, mannequins, and toy clippers and curlers to create hair-drying stations and more to help bring their students' vision to life. With this fun exercise, the students were able to have peer-to-peer engagement and make real world connections by imitating what happens at a barbershop and hair salon. Additionally, they were also able to foster social, physical and cognitive skills.



Learning Tip of the Month

Engage your child with interactive stories!

When you read aloud to your child, they develop valuable skills and positive feelings with books - they are able to strengthen the part of their brain associated with visual imagery, the ability to understand stories, and word meaning. Below are some ways to make the most of story time:

- **Make Story Predictions:** By asking kids to make predictions when reading, they build key literacy skills, such as understanding sequencing, plot structure, character motivation and cause and effect. Stop periodically and ask questions, such as "What would you do if you were them?"
- **Make Connections to Real Life:** Strong readers aren't passive - their minds are constantly making connections. Pause to connect books to other books you have read or memories and events you both know, for example:
 - "There's a bear in this story! What other stories have we read about bears?"
 - "They have brown eyes and love dinosaurs — just like you!"



SHOUT-OUT!

"I have a few shouts: First, shout-out to Mr. Cole for an amazing event bringing out over 25 fathers for the 1st Annual Fatherhood Dinner. From the speaker, food, and the father's participation everything was amazing and I left feeling great about the work we are doing here at Educare DC. Second, shout-out to Ms. Morgan for an amazing Literacy Event, I saw this vision from the very beginning and it was amazing to see everyone at Educare DC getting involved in order to provide such an intentional and meaningful event for our children and families." - Mr. Truesdale

"Megan - for her up to date postings to our social media and capturing beautiful photos of our activities in and out of Educare. A job well done!" - Ms. Patricia

"Shout out to Mr. Linwood Cole and the CCP FES team for a phenomenal Fatherhood Event! The fathers had a chance to network, share stories, obstacles and how to overcome them. The event was catered, had a fantastic motivational speaker and elegant décor to show the fathers the importance of their presence. Thank you for making the first fatherhood event for CCP a success!" - Talia

"Shout-out to the CCP FES team for putting together an amazing Fatherhood Dinner. It was good to see close to 30 men come together to discuss the well-being of children and families." - Shaunda

"Congratulations, to Ms. Patricia, who has been awarded the Health Services Supervisor Credential Award! We are proud of Ms. Patricia's dedication to widening her knowledge and expertise to lead our wonderful Comprehensive Services Team!" - Jamal

Shout-out & Fireworks!! Ms. Shanay Turner - on earning her Certification as a CACFP Nutrition Professional! Ms. Marie Williams - on renewing her Food Safety Manager's License!" - Diana Washington

A School for Your Community

Educare of Washington, DC, is an early childhood school built to serve the children and families of Washington, DC. We engage and empower parents in their children's learning and provide high-quality education through small class sizes and cutting-edge teaching methods. We are also committed to evaluation and continuous program improvement through our partnerships with the Educare Learning Network, Head Start and the University of Maryland.