

ISSUE 02 | VOLUME 6 | SEPTEMBER 2020

EDUCARE
WASHINGTON, DC

Gazette



Letter from Leadership

Onsite Program Update: Our onsite program has been open for about a month! A special thank you to all the parents and caregivers for their understanding and flexibility with our new processes and procedures - such as our outdoor, socially distanced drop-off and pick-up. At the end of each day, teachers and staff have a touch base to ensure we are continuously meeting the needs of our staff, children, and families onsite and adjusting and evolving our procedures as needed.

Remote Program Update: The new school year, along with our redesigned remote learning program began on Monday, August 31st! Each student group will have different time slots available for live Zoom lessons, and there will be pre-recorded lessons for those who cannot make the live lessons.

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. Zoom links will be sent via the Remind App, and through your Family Engagement specialist. This month's meeting will focus on back to school and what is new at Educare DC. Keep a lookout for more information on the date and time.

Parent Town Halls: Town halls will be held to discuss remote learning and/or onsite issues or concerns. Keep an eye out for more information!

LIFT DC: Check out our social media this month to learn more about our partner, LIFT DC! Their mission is to help create strong, stable and secure families through workshops that focus on personal well-being, social connections, and financial strength.

Additional Information:

Contact Educare DC: Please call (202) 727-5604 if you have any questions.

Remind App: Remember to utilize the Remind App, if you are not already - contact Family Engagement to help set an account up or if your phone number has changed.



Important Dates in September



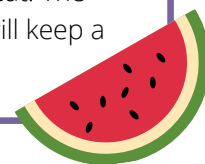
- 7th: Educare DC closed for Labor Day
- TBD: Parent Council Meeting



Growing in Unusual Places!

Even though our doors were closed for a while, there were still amazing things happening at Educare DC. Last month, our teachers and students discovered something amazing growing in front of the building in our flower bed - watermelon!

We found six whole watermelons growing in the flower bed near the entrance of the building. Our teachers used this as a wonderful learning opportunity - discussing with their students the different ways that the seeds could have found their way into the flower bed, such as someone eating a slice of watermelon, or possibly carried by a bird. They also picked one of the watermelons to harvest and cut up to eat! The kids determined that the watermelon was not quite ripe and a little tart. Don't worry, though - our students will keep a close eye on our other melons to determine when they are ripe and ready to pick and eat!



Learning Tip of the Month

Help your child find and predict the different patterns around them!

Patterns are all around us - once you start looking for them, you will find them everywhere. There are patterns in colors, shapes, sounds, dances, and even our daily routines. Being able to recognize patterns is a skill that translates directly into subjects like science and math - algebraic thinking is one example! By exploring these ideas now, you are setting your child up to succeed in bigger math ideas later.

Young children can explore very simple repeating patterns through simple exercises, such as asking your child to copy patterns that you make, and then you can copy your child's patterns! See below for a few additional exercises:

- Snack Pattern Necklaces - use fruit-flavored cereal O's to create a necklace with a specific color pattern. Start simple with two colors repeating and then add more colors for a larger pattern!
- Build Pattern Block Towers - use different blocks to create towers, alternating between different shapes or colors. See if you can copy each other's creations!



SHOUT-OUT!

"Shoutout to Jayda for her excellent organizational skills, taking on more responsibilities within the CCP and with our newly awarded grant. Jayda also created an amazing detailed orientation for the CCP Parent Orientation."

Shoutout to the instructional coaches for continuously working with the CCP teachers while their buildings were/are closed to prepare for reopening, transitions and lesson planning. All of the coaches have done an excellent job individualizing their coaching for their respective sites and identifying priority needs of the staff!" - Ms. Newman

"Mr Truesdale and the AMAZING onsite team! Thanks for your dedication to our children, your creative approach to learning, and your commitment to keeping a safe environment at Educare DC!" - Ms. Pyper

"I want to give a special shout out and thank you to the onsite teachers and staff. You all are rockstars. Each day you show up and do your absolute best to uphold our high quality standards. Thank you for your sacrifice and willingness to pave the way through these uncharted waters. You all are heros!!!" - Ms. Morgan

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.