

Crunching, crinkling autumn leaves - spiraling, swirling in the breeze



Letter from Leadership

Thank you to all the parents and families for your patience and understanding during our first weeks of remote classes! We are learning new and better ways to guide our remote learning program every day. Our teachers have enjoyed being able to share all the laughs and joys from watching the children learn!

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! A Zoom link will be sent via the Remind App and through your Family Engagement specialist. This month's meeting will be held on October 13th to welcome everyone back and to help kick off the beginning of the school year!

Prenatal Program: We are excited to start our new prenatal program later this fall! The program will support pregnant mothers and their babies to ensure they have access to quality healthcare, support and coaching from experts, and connection with other mothers. Email enroll@educaredc.org or call 202.727.5604 to learn more and join today!

Virtual Halloween Parade: At the end of the month, we will have a virtual Halloween parade to show off your amazing costumes! If you would like to participate, DM a picture of your child or family dressed up to one of our social platforms, or email your picture directly to mdavid@educaredc.org!

LIFT DC: You've seen LIFT on Educare's Instagram this past month; now's your chance to join the hundreds of DC families working with LIFT toward a better future for their children. Whether it's finding a higher paying job, going back to school, buying a home, or paying off credit card debt, LIFT works one-on-one with parents to help them achieve their dreams. All of our services are completely free, virtual to keep you safe, and we provide parents with a small cash stipend to help them along the way. Contact Lucy at LSmart@whywelift.org or text 202-915-3359, and let's LIFT together. Learn more by visiting whywelift.org

Important Dates in October



- 9th - Professional Development Day (School Closed)
- 12th - Indigenous Peoples' Day (School Closed)
- 13th - Parent Council Meeting (Via Zoom)



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.



Jump, Hop, Skip, And Run!

Ms. Baylor and Jamia have been leading our outdoor experiences for our remote program to allow our children to have some social interaction - even if limited by social distancing guidelines. Every Tuesday and Thursday - rain or shine - our teachers have been providing outdoor experiences as an opportunity for parents and children to join teachers and other students for play and learning at a local park.

Ms. Baylor and Ms. Jamia shared their experience with outdoor experiences so far: "The parents truly enjoy it, and the smeyezing is just so cute! You can see the children's happiness, even with a mask. We dance, we exercise, we count, we talk, we educate, we have fun, and most importantly, we love."

One of our students even came all the way from Baltimore to see Ms. Baylor! Our teachers are grateful for this opportunity and are excited to continue to share these wonderful moments with their students and families!



Learning Tip of the Month

Show your children the importance of **play!**

Play-based learning is not only fun but also helps support cognitive and social-emotional development in young children. Through play, children learn essential skills such as problem-solving, collaboration, language, and self-regulation.

Giving your children a space to play alone can also support positive developmental outcomes in young children. Take time to watch and listen to your children before joining in - observe how they are playing and experimenting.

Along with giving them space to play alone, you should play and learn alongside your child. Children are always watching adults. When children see you making new discoveries, they learn too and become excited about the learning processes.

By offering other materials or modeling a new skill based on your child's interest is a way to initiate interaction and suggest additional possibilities - extending your child's learning while they continue to play.



SHOUT-OUT!

"I want to send a shout to the **EDUCARE ORGANIZATION**. **TO MY COLLEAGUES (teachers, leadership, coaches, FES, Operations, media and advocacy, comprehensive team, "hiring team," and anyone I missed). THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE TO SUPPORT, CONQUE, DEVELOP, EDUCATE, AND REDEFINE WHAT EARLY LEARNING IS ALL ABOUT!** It has been remarkable to see the development of education and solutions during these extraordinary times. **COVID 19 has not stopped the relationship building with families, child and teacher interactions, our mission to provide a safe place for the community, partnerships with other CDCs in Wards 7 and 8, and expanding services through the HS3 and Prenatal programs. In almost 7 months EDUCARE DC has elevated, developed, and took off in the industry in ways other ECE COMPANIES have dreamed about. I am so proud to be a sliver of this delicious pie of GREATNESS!"** Ms. Prince

"I want to shout out the **FE Department (Ms. Hood, Ms. Brooks, Mrs. Glover, and Mrs. Homer-Williams)** for their dedication to staying connected to families. Long days and nights full of phone calls, emails, and text messages to ensure our families receive enrollment support for both onsite and remote learning. The families appreciate your hard work and so do I" - Shaunda White

"We would like to give a shout-out to Kiyana. She has been such an integral part of our hiring process, and she does it with a smile." - Angela and Torrian

"Shout-out to Rhia Hardman for the love she shows to the on-site staff we love ♥ you Rhia" - Marie and staff

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.