

ISSUE 06 | VOLUME 6 | DECEMBER 2020

EDUCARE
WASHINGTON, DC

Gazette

Kindness is like snow - it beautifies everything it covers



Letter from Leadership

Happy Holidays from Educare DC! We hope everyone has a safe and fun holiday season.

Parent Town hall for Onsite Families: We will be hosting a virtual town hall for onsite families this month to discuss the onsite program, along with a Q&A with teachers and family engagement staff. The town hall will be held Thursday, December 10th at 5 pm. Your family engagement specialist will send a Zoom link.

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 Tuesday, December 15th at 5 pm.

Prenatal Program: We are about to launch our new prenatal program! The program will support pregnant mothers and their babies to ensure they have access to quality healthcare, support from experts, and connection with other mothers. Email enroll@educaredc.org, call 202.727.5604, or visit our webpage at www.educaredc.org/prenatal/ to learn more and join today!

Important Dates in December



- 21st - 31st: Winter Break (School Closed)
- 10th: Parent Townhall for Onsite Families
- 15th: Parent Council Meeting



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.



Giving Thanks

Celebrating Thanksgiving and fall at Educare DC looked a little different this year; no fall festival or group dance sessions. But that did not stop us from reflecting on what we are thankful for this year and sharing thanks with others!

This year we partnered with the Culinary Diplomacy Project and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Embassy in Washington, DC, to provide backpacks with vegetables, stuffing, and other goodies for our families. The UAE also provided a fun treat, fresh dates, and an Emirati recipe for Families to try this holiday season. Our family engagement team got there early and rolled up their sleeves to prepare for our "Thanksgiving in a Backpack" event.

The day was full of sweet and happy emotions. It was wonderful to see our families and the excitement the students had when they saw some familiar faces behind the mask. We are sending a special thank you to everyone who made this even possible!



Learning Tip of the Month

Investigate **temperature** with your child!

Temperature may seem like an advanced topic for children, but even young learners can start learning about and measuring temperature!

Start with the simple idea of what is hot and cold - using things around your house to explore this. Kids can "feel" the temperature of ice to demonstrate the cold, or wrap their hands, with your help, around your coffee cup to explain hot.

Once they understand the concept of hot and cold, have your children think about places and objects that have different temperatures around your home and ask questions, such as "why do we put things in the freezer?" or "why do we blow on our food after it has been cooked?". This helps your child build connections of what temperature is and why it is needed.

To explore temperature further, you can even conduct an experiment, such as what happens to water when it gets cold or hot, by putting some water in the freezer, on the counter, and on the stove top. Explore questions and observations such as:

- "Why did the water in the freezer get hard?"
- "Is there steam from the water on the stove top?"
- "Did anything happen to the water on the counter?"



SHOUT-OUT!

"Ms. El has been an invaluable resource to the Educare IDEA remote team! She has gone above and beyond to support us with technology, professional development, and all of our transitions within the virtual world! She has been available when I've needed her most, flexible around our ever-changing schedules, and a patient leader to help make sure we are included where we need to be so we continue to learn and grow to best support the Educare remote staff, children and families! Thank you, Ms. El!" - Ms. Ashley Betlock

"I would like to give a shout out to all the on-site staff. I admire each and every one of you and your dedication to children and families who need you most. I wish I could be right alongside you and give you a big hug. Your hard work is not going unnoticed in these most challenging times - you are superstars." - Ms. Tanya Tavassolie

"I would like to give a shout-out the EDC Family Engagement Team for pulling off a fantastic Thanksgiving giveaway event. My appreciation for you continues to grow each day and the Educare families are lucky to have such a dynamic team of service." - Ms. Shaunda White

"I want to shout out Angela and Jamia for joining our fundraising Zoom event with the World Bank group. They shared their expertise and perspectives in a way that only true practitioners can, and I felt both proud and grateful to be their colleague. One of the donors emailed me after, noting their "excellent presentation" and how greatly he admired their knowledge. And a related shout out to Hannah for pulling together yet another high-quality initiative in the midst of a pandemic. Thank you!" - Pyper Davis

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.