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EDUCARE
WASHINGTON, DC

Gazette

"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today." - Malcolm X



Letter from Leadership

Happy National Teacher's Day! A special shout-out to all of our teachers! Thank you for your hard work and for playing such an essential role in shaping children's education!

Happy Mother's Day to all the lovely, loving moms! We hope you have a wonderful day celebrating with your family!

Onsite Update: On April 19th, we opened two additional classrooms for a total of 8 and have returned to operating 5 days a week! We are excited to slowly and safely be returning to a new normal and serving our children and families in person!

Re-Enrollment for the 21-22 school year is underway! Please check with our Enrollment Team to ensure you have completed the required steps to secure your child's placement at Educare DC for the next school year. Contact enroll@educaredc.org or your FES for assistance.

Parent Town Hall: Join us on Tuesday, May 4th at 5:30 pm for a parent town hall. These town halls provide a space for parents to ask questions and discuss school updates. Keep an eye out for more info from your FES - hope to see you there!

Parent Council Meeting: These meetings are a great way to 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, May 18th at 5 pm.**

Prenatal Program: This new program will support pregnant mothers and their babies to ensure they have access to quality healthcare, support from coaches, 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 May



- **4th** - Parent Town Hall @ 5:30 pm
- **18th** - Parent Council Meeting @ 5 pm
- **28th** - Professional Development Day (School Closed)
- **31st** - Memorial Day (School Closed)

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.



Learning Tip of the Month



Guide your child by using **questions!**

Asking children questions is a way to guide them towards healthy behaviors by helping them think about what they do - and what effect they have on others. It can be hard to remain patient and calm with our children sometimes - a toddler grabs a toy from a playmate, or a 5-year old throws a snack they don't like on the floor. It is tempting to punish children to stop to their behavior quickly, but punishment often teaches children little about better alternative behaviors.

When we provide our children with lots of gentle reminders of the course of the first few years of their lives, often in the form of questions, they will develop the ability to think about their behavior before acting on their feelings. *What just happened here?* is an excellent question after a child's behavior has caused a problem - this allows them to reflect on their behavior, how they want to behave, and increased self-control over time. Asking questions that require more than a yes-or-no answer are the best. Below are some examples:

- What problems are there when you run in the house?
- What do you see on the table that might easily spill?
- Why is it healthy for you to brush your teeth?

In addition to helping build healthy behaviors, asking open-ended questions helps start a conversation with your child, which can help build your relationship with one another. Having a strong relationship is important when having these open discussions with your child about their behavior - it is important that they are not afraid of a punishment based on their answer to your question.



SHOUT-OUT!

"Shoutout to the [EDC IDEA team](#) for having a smooth onsite transition, supporting one another with classroom setup, inventory, and canvassing the neighborhood for recruitment. Huge shout out to [Ashley Betlock](#) for her leadership and for supporting the many departments (facilities, comprehensive services, education Team) with ideas and planning as the team transitioned to EDC IDEA. Special shoutout to the [CCP team](#) for their flexibility and thoughtful discussions during our staff meetings in preparation to transition back to CCP sites. Special thank you to Torrian for completing the COVID-19 prevention monitoring visits! Major shoutout to [Dianna](#) as she monitored the many renovation projects for CCP and EDC IDEA! Dianna went above and beyond to ensure EDC IDEA was up and running with classroom and office furniture, access to the internet for staff, and licensing documents were submitted for the facility. You are truly appreciated!" Ms. Talia Newman

"SHOUT-OUT & WOO-HOO to Nikia, Jayda, Vinele, Selasi, & Kia for all of the behind-the-scenes support, dedication, and teamwork these past few weeks with completing some of the finer details at the IDEA site. Your support is invaluable. I am truly grateful 😊!" - Ms. Dianna

"The biggest shout-out and virtual hug for Ms. Pyper and Mr. Berry for supporting me with advocating for children with special needs ♥" Ms. Angela

"Enormous thanks to [Ms. Dianna Washington](#) for her great leadership in the design, construction and opening of the new Educare site at IDEA PCS!! Big shout out to [Ms. Vinele Butler](#) for jumping in to help with getting the new IDEA site ready and set up these past two weeks! Thanks to [Ms. Barbara Ledyard](#) for being responsive to staff requests for onsite testing – and for managing the process and logistics to make it happen!" - Everyone from Educare DC

"I want to send a big THANK YOU and shout out to the Educare DC team members who dedicated time to go out into the community and spread the word about our new campus location, Educare DC at IDEA, this week. It was such a pleasure to be around your positive, go-get-it attitudes and your willingness to be a part of recruiting new children and families for our programs. Thank you, Mrs. Glover, for being a team leader and Mrs. Betlock, Mrs. Cunningham, Ms. Henry, Ms. Pyos, Ms. Gladden, and Ms. Butler for being great brand ambassadors. I look forward to partnering with you again in the future." Ms. JaiFawn Hood

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.