

ISSUE 2 | VOLUME 7 | AUGUST 2021

EDUCARE
WASHINGTON, DC

Gazette

"Let us remember: one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world." - Malala Yousafzai



Letter from Leadership

First Day of School! Monday, August 23rd, is the first day of the new school year! We are excited to start the new year with our students back onsite

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 Council Meeting: There will be no Parent Council meetings in July or August and will resume in September after the start of the new school year. 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.

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 August



- **9th - 20th: Summer Break and Professional Development (School Closed for Students)**
- **23rd: First Day of School**



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.

Moving Up Ceremony!

On July 15th, we were able to celebrate our rising kindergarteners with a fun, socially distant Moving Up ceremony! Staff and teachers organized a lively outdoor event, where students and their families could come together to celebrate their children's accomplishments and growth at Educare DC.

Students received their own "big kid" backpacks filled with school supplies, personalized graduation certificate, and other goodies. It was a joy to see students smiling faces as they celebrated with their teachers, some of whom they haven't seen in person since the pandemic began.

The event is a culmination of students' time at Educare. Over the years, they've learned to stand, walk, and talk, to write their names, ask questions, and form friendships. On any given day they've been scientists and firefighters, artists and astronauts (and much more)!

Although we are sad to see them go, we are equally excited to watch them take the next step in their educational journey. We know they will go on to do great things!



Learning Tip of the Month

With the start of the new school year, many of our schedules are changing!

For both parents and children, transitioning back to school can be stressful, especially after a year of working and learning from home.

Young children thrive on routines - it's comforting for them to know what's next in their day. So abrupt adjustments can cause stress for them until they can get settled into their new routine.

Skilled early care and education providers know how to help children adjust, but it is also good for parents to help reinforce and support their children during that transition. Here are some tips!

- Work with teachers on the best way to say goodbye from their child at drop-off (brief goodbyes are often best)
- Stay calm and reassuring during the transition - use a calm voice and relaxed body language to help reassure they are safe
- Remember that, although it can be hard, these transitions will help your child build new relationship skills with other kids and teachers and build resilience



SHOUT-OUT!

"I wanted to acknowledge Ms. Marie Williams for winning the 24 Carrot Award for Nutrition Education Delivery. She won among all CACFP participating child care in the District!" So proud of her!" -Ms. Patricia

"I want to send a huge KUDOS and CONGRATULATIONS to the Family Engagement team and all the staff and parent volunteers contributing to a fantastic Family and Community Engagement event this past Saturday. Not only was it a great demonstration of teamwork, but it was also an excellent opportunity to share our culture with new and prospective parents and re-engage our current families in preparation for a successful new school year. Way to go, Mrs. Glover and your team; it was a pleasure to be a part of such a well-organized and executed, family-focused event." -Ms. Hood

"Shoutout to Ms. Patrice Davenport for creating graphical data sets to inform the teaching staff on their praise vs. individualized and specific praise. Thanks for sharing how you are coaching the teachers to improve the quality of feedback dimension at our recent education meeting. Your leadership is appreciated!" - Ms. Newman

"I wanted to give a warm and sincere "Thank You" to Ms. Washington. This year not only did some of us had to transition from working remote back onsite; some of us also had to transition from Parkside into a NEW site. With that, just as we tell our children and families, "sometimes transitions, new ventures, and changes can be scary", Ms. Washington has made Educare DC at IDEA feel just as "at home" as Parkside. Ms. Washington's presence alone is very comforting. She is very resourceful and always willing to support or assist in any capacity no matter how busy she is, and she does this all with a SMILE. Not only is she an Educare DC "OG", she is one of Educare's few GOAT's!

I also wanted to give a special "Thank You" to Mr. Berry, too for always being an effective team player and one of my biggest cheerleader as we continue to build out the Professional Development department for Educare DC as a whole- especially in its infancy stage. If there is anyone in Educare that wears a million hats, it is him! However, in knowing that, and as we continue to grow as an organization, he still maintains his trusting relational disposition by always being flexible and modeling "active listening" during Reflective Supervision with a "solution-based" mindset in response. Most importantly, I appreciate him for always pushing and motivating me as an ECE Practitioner and Professional holistically." Ms. Kiyana Morgan

"Shout-out to Mrs. Glover and Family Engagement across the board for implementing the vision of the Family and Community Engagement Fun Day! Also, thanks to those who Teamed up with us to help make this event a success: Enrollment, Comp Services, Ms. Butler, and Ms. Soriano. Team is the true spirit of Community, and without it, we are just people in the same building with no connection! I'm looking forward to future events." - Ms. Black

"Shout out to Breonica Scott for providing mental health supports for on-site staff! The setting and activities she created in the garden are both innovative and much needed. Thank you for everything you do to support our staff! Nora Reed has been such an integral part of supporting our students with learning differences! Thank you for being an advocate for those families and supporting staff and children in the classrooms!" - Ms. Angela

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.