

2538 JEFFERSON PIKE
JEFFERSON, MD 21755 301-834-9007
WWW.EDUCATEWITHCARE.COM
EDUCARE@EDUCATEWITHCARE.COM

Thankful November Highlights:

- ◆ November 1—Monthly & Preschool Tuition Due
- ◆ November 1—Kindergarten Readiness Meeting (Ca, B), 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ November 2—Music Make-up Day (G, B, Ca)
- ◆ November 5—ELC Closed (In-service Day)
- ◆ November 5—Bi-weekly Tuition Due
- ◆ November 6—FCPS Closed/ELC Blue Jays Class (PS) Closed
- ◆ November 6—Tim's Gems Mobile Mine", 10 a.m. (Cardinals, Herons)
- ◆ November 7—FCPS Open 4 hrs. late/ELC Blue Jays Class (PS) Closed
- ◆ November 7 & 8—Conferences (Robins)
- ◆ November 8—FCPS Open 4 hrs. late/ELC Blue Jays Class (PS) Closed
- ◆ November 8—EFA Meeting, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- ◆ November 9—FCPS Dismiss 3.5 Hours Early
- ◆ November 9—Spirit Day, "Wear Red, White, & Blue)
- ◆ November 9—STEM, "Food Groupies"
- ◆ November 9—Scholastic Book Club Orders Due
- ◆ November 12—Photo Day (G, B, Ca)
- ◆ November 12—Holiday Family Portraits, 3-6 p.m.
- ◆ November 13—Photo Day (Hu, Ch, R, B)
- ◆ November 14 & 15—Conferences (Cardinals)
- ◆ November 14—Stuffing Drive Items Due by Noon
- ◆ November 15—Monthly Early Bird Tuition Due
- ◆ November 16—Fitness Fun Day, "Bean Bags"
- ◆ November 19—Bi-weekly Tuition Due
- ◆ November 19—FCPL Bookmobile
- ◆ November 20—Thanksgiving Feast (lunch provided/all ages), 11:30 a.m.
- ◆ November 21—FCPS Dismiss 2 Hours Early
- ◆ November 21—ELC Closes at 4:30 p.m. (Thanksgiving Eve)
- ◆ November 22—ELC Closed (Thanksgiving Day)
- ◆ November 23—FCPS Closed/ELC Blue Jays Class (PS) Closed
- ◆ November 26, 27, 30—Conferences (Blue Jays)
- ◆ November 30—Special Treat Day

Key:
Blue—Off-Site Field Trips
Pink—Center-wide Events
Green—Family Events
Red—Closures (in-service day, holiday)
Purple—On-site Special Events

November Curriculum Highlights

November Unit of Study: Food & Family

Children will gain a greater awareness of similarities and differences among families, learn about nutrition including food groups, and experience a Thanksgiving feast at Educare (preparation and meal).

November Curriculum Enhancements* (See Educare Calendar of Events for specific dates.)

- ◆ **Home/School Activity** (monthly) – To honor our Educare family members who have served our country, Educare children, teachers, and families are invited to wear red, white and blue on November 9 (Veteran's Day is November 11). Small name cards in the shape of a flag will be available at the front desk throughout November on which families can write names of family members who are presently in the service or who are veterans. The flag-shaped name cards can be turned into the front desk to put on display on the bulletin board in the main hallway. Families may also provide photos of family members in the service or veterans.
- ◆ **Food Fun** (monthly) – This month's Food Fun will occur in all classrooms on November 19. Children will be preparing food to be enjoyed at the center-wide feast on November 20.
- ◆ **Discovery Walks** (monthly) – Discovery Walks are led by Ms. Janice once a month for each classroom; each walk begins at 10:30 a.m. and Discovery Walk Days are designated on the monthly Educare calendar. Children need to come dressed in appropriate clothing for the weather and for walking outdoors (safe shoes, hats, coats, etc.). This month children will be exploring harvest time and the importance of feeding wildlife during upcoming winter months.
- ◆ **Music** (weekly) – Ms. Janice will provide exciting music and movement related to Thanksgiving, families, and nutrition.
- ◆ **Fitness Fun Days** – Special P.E. equipment will be provided in the nest on November 16. November's focus will be "Bean Bags."
- ◆ **Fitness Focus/Head Rolls**— Children will stay fit doing head rolls each day throughout November.
- ◆ **STEM Focus — Food Groupies!**—Children will be introduced to the nutrition curriculum called Food Groupies on November 9. The STEM presentation will include short videos and food-shaped stuffed animals that will bring healthy eating to life. Teachers will bring this nutrition curriculum into the classroom throughout the month of November. Children will learn about science (how nutrients in foods help our bodies grow), technology (how to prepare foods using blenders, ovens, peelers, processors, mixers), engineering (discovering which tools are most effective for preparing specific foods), and math (measuring quantities of foods).
- ◆ **Community Helper Focus/Chef**—Children will focus on the important role that a chef has in our community.
- ◆ **FCPL Bookmobile Visits**—The Frederick County Public Library Bookmobile will be visiting Educare Learning Center every four weeks. All classrooms will receive new library books with each visit. The Robins, Cardinals and Blue Jays will select their own books from the bookmobile to keep in the classroom. A FCPL librarian will provide a story time for children in the Blue Jays and Cardinals classrooms. The next visit will be on November 19 at 9:30 a.m.

November Special Events (Calendar Attached)



- ◆ **Stuffing Drive, 10/15-11/14**—Help us "Stuff the Foyer" with 90 boxes of stuffing. The EFA is working with the Brunswick Food Bank to provide stuffing for the Thanksgiving Packages that will be provided to 90 families in need this holiday season. Boxes are due by noon on November 14.
- ◆ **Kindergarten Readiness Meeting, 11/1, 6:30 p.m.**—Families of children in the Blue Jays and Cardinals class that are going to Kindergarten in Fall 2019 are invited to attend a Kindergarten Readiness meeting on Thursday, November 1 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Childcare will be available at \$5/child (limited spaces available only to children presently enrolled at Educare).
- ◆ **Daylight Savings Time Ends, 11/4**—Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on November 4.
- ◆ **ELC CLOSED, 11/5**—ELC will be closed on Monday, November 5 for an In-Service Day. Teachers will complete continued professional development and attend a staff meeting.
- ◆ **Tim's Gems Mobile Mine, 11/6, 10:00 a.m.**—Tim's Gems Mobile Mine will visit ELC for children in the Cardinal's and Heron's classes to sift for gems and fossils and go "panning" for gold. Children will go home with their own bag of treasures that they find.
- ◆ **FCPS Adjusted Schedule Days on 11/6-11/9**—For families in the Blue Jays and Herons' classes, please note the changes in FCPS schedule resulting in changes in attendance at ELC. Children in the Herons class who will be attending ELC on the 4 hour delay days must bring a lunch to ELC.
- ◆ **Fall Family Conferences Continue**—Fall conferences are commencing this month: Robins (11/7-11/8), Cardinals (11/14-11/15), Blue Jays (11/26, 11/27, & 11/30), . Please sign up in the main hallway for a conference with your child's teacher. This conference will provide the opportunity to ask questions about the curriculum and discuss goals for the school-year. **If the date and times do not fit your schedule, please contact the teachers to set up a phone conference or to meet on a different day/time.** Each conference will be about 20 minutes. We ask that parents/guardians arrive five minutes early to ensure that conferences stay on schedule.



Saran and Ethan from the Cardinals class show off the pumpkins they picked themselves during the field trip to Jumbo's on 10/10/18.

- ◆ **Spirit Day, 11/9**—Join us in wearing Red, White, and Blue to show our patriotic pride on November 9 in honor of Veterans' Day on November 11.
- ◆ **Photo Days, 11/12 & 11/13** — School pictures will be taken on November 12 & 13 at Educare by Frannie Sweeney Photography. Please see the information previously distributed regarding classroom photo day schedules. Payment envelopes are due to the desk prior to the scheduled photo day. CD's of children's photos will be delivered to families the week of December 3.
- ◆ **Family Holiday Portraits, 11/12, 3-6 p.m.**—Families are invited to have professional holiday family portraits completed on-site at ELC. Each family will have the choice to purchase a digital copy of 5 separate images on a CD with the Copyright included or choose to purchase packages from the proofs. **A sign-up sheet is located at the front desk to secure a designated portrait time slot (10 minutes per family).**
- ◆ **Thanksgiving Feast, 11/20, 11:30 a.m.**—Children in all classrooms will be enjoying a feast provided by ELC. The feast will include chicken nuggets, macaroni and cheese, fruit salad, corn muffins, Jello, brownies, and sugar cookies. Each classroom has been assigned side dishes to prepare for the feast. **Children do not need to bring a lunch on the day of the feast.**
- ◆ **ELC Thanksgiving Holiday Schedule, 11/21 & 11/22**—ELC will close at 4:30 p.m. on November 21 (Thanksgiving Eve) and will remain closed on November 22 for Thanksgiving Day. Please inform the front desk of any planned absences during the holiday season. See the calendar on the front of this newsletter regarding the FCPS Holiday schedule and Educare's Blue Jays (Preschool) hours of operation.



Program Updates/Reminders

- ◆ **Scholastic Book Orders**— Scholastic Book Order Catalogs are available at the front desk each month or visit clubs.scholastic.com, register, find our school, **Educare Learning Center**, and type in our center activation code **M7XFW** to place orders online. Orders will be shipped directly to ELC. Educare earns points for all orders which can be redeemed for books and other materials for the center. **November orders are due to the front desk by November 9.**
- ◆ **Parking Lot Safety**—Maryland Law states that an unattended vehicle may not be left idling in parking lots. In addition, it is against Maryland Law to leave a child under the age of 8 years old unattended in a motor vehicle. Failure to follow these laws could result in a fine, points on your license or a mandatory court appearance. Please be considerate for the safety of our ELC children and families during drop-off and pick-up times. Also remember to maintain safe, slow speeds when entering and exiting the parking lot.
- ◆ **Update Emergency Cards**— It's that time of year again to stop by the front desk to review and/or update your child's emergency form on file at ELC. The Office of Child Care requires that all families review/update/initial their emergency forms every year even if there are no changes to the information. **Updates must be completed by November 30.**
- ◆ **Reminders to keep us staying healthy through this flu season:**
 - **Illness Policy Reminder**— As per our family policy handbook, if a child has a temperature of 99.0 axillary/100.0 oral or higher or exhibits vomiting, diarrhea, or drainage from the eye, he/she may not return until symptom-free for a full 24 hours without medication. Children should not return to the program until ready to participate in the full schedule of activities. All parents/guardians should have alternate emergency arrangements in place enabling another adult to pick up a in a timely manner if the parent/guardian is unavailable. Reminder: No person other than those who appear on the emergency card will be allowed to pick up a child. If someone other than those listed on the emergency card pick up a child, the parent/guardian must call Educare or notify in writing. The person picking up a child must show proper identification.
 - **Flu Guide for Parents:**—It is that time of year that we are seeing heightened cases of the flu in children and adults. Visit this link for a flu guide for parents from the CDC. <http://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/system/files/filedepot/3/cdc-flu-guide-for-parents.pdf>
 - **Handwashing**—*Clean Hands Save Lives*—Regular handwashing, particularly before and after certain activities, is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others. It's quick, it's simple, and it can keep us all from getting sick. Handwashing is a win for everyone, except the germs. <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/health-issues/conditions/prevention/Pages/Germ-Prevention-Strategies.aspx> Visit www.cdc.gov/handwashing for additional information.
- ◆ **Brunswick Business Expo**—ELC is participating in the Greater Brunswick Area Chamber of Commerce (GBACC) Business Expo at the Brunswick Volunteer Fire Co. on November 8 from 5-8 p.m. Stop by and say hello! Visit www.gbacc.net for additional details. Educare is a current GBACC member.

Educare Family Association Updates

EFA Meeting: The EFA will hold their next meeting on Thursday, November 8 from 6:30-8 p.m. Agenda will include the Family Winter Craft Night, PNO, and Holiday Staff Recognition. Sign up at the front desk bulletin board to attend. Child care is available at no charge.

Upcoming Event Highlights:

- ◆ Stuffing Drive (October 15- November 14)—Boxes of stuffing are due by noon on November 14
- ◆ Family Winter Craft Night—Tuesday, December 4, 5-7 p.m.
- ◆ Parent's Night Out—Saturday, December 15, 4-9 p.m.
- ◆ Week of December 17—Holiday Staff Recognition & Lunch (More information TBA)
- ◆ Next EFA Meeting—Thursday, January 10, 2019 6:30-8:00 p.m.



Educare Family Association facebook Group: Join the EFA Closed Group created exclusively for families currently enrolled at ELC to stay up to date with family events. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/EducareFamilyAssociation/>

Educare Inclement Weather Policy — Colder Weather is here!



Fall is here, cold weather is now upon us, which means it's time to remind families of our inclement weather policies at ELC:

- ◆ **ELC Inclement Weather Operation Policy**—See attached copy of our Inclement Weather Policy for 2018-19.
- ◆ **Child Care Weather Watch**— Teachers will be following the Child Care Weather Watch guidelines for time spent outdoors during colder weather at ELC. http://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/system/files/filedepot/3/child_care_weather_watch.pdf