



MONTESSORI CASA INTERNATIONAL  
PRESCHOOL

Inspiring a passion for learning

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VOLUME 43

*Directly from*

*Punum's Desk...*

**Respect in the Montessori classroom**

A mother wrote to me recently telling me of one of our third year graduates having a hard time adjusting to her new school --- not because of her teachers --- but because of her classmates. She just cannot understand why they behave in the manner in which they do and why they don't respect the classroom.

Respect is the key word in a Montessori environment. From the very first day that they come to school, the children are welcomed as valued members of our community. Each one has a part to play in the general functioning of the whole. They are encouraged to be independent, responsible citizens. As Montessori teachers, we start the school year by modeling and teaching classroom etiquette to the children. We know the importance of these activities as they serve as tools for functioning in the classroom, using the materials and interacting respectfully with others. Our children learn quickly to use "walking feet" and "inside voices". They walk around a rug; wait patiently for material to be returned to the shelf and know how to politely interrupt a teacher. These lessons help create a productive, effective classroom environment besides developing the social self and the ability to live in harmony in the world.

*"So in the child, besides the vital impulse to create himself, and to become perfect, there is yet another purpose, a duty to fulfill in harmony, something he has to do in the service of a united whole."* Maria Montessori

Respect is a major cornerstone of the Montessori method. We respect ourselves...others...and the world around us. Should a conflict occur, we encourage children to use their words to express themselves and resolve the situation.

It would be my wish that wherever our children go, they would have a prepared environment. Wouldn't the world be such a nicer place if we all respected each other, celebrated our differences and at the same time took responsibility for our planet and took care of it?

At the Casa, we teach the children not to waste, to recycle what we can and shortly we will begin composting. I believe this is the best time in their lives to spread awareness and inculcate responsibility for Mother Earth.

*"Children are human beings to whom respect is due, superior to us by reason of their innocence and of the greater possibilities of their future."* Maria Montessori

Montessori Casa International

**Back to School Night**

Please join us for Back to School Night on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 6pm – 7pm. This is an adult only event and is an opportunity for you to get to know your child's teachers as well as learn about the Montessori method.

Montessori Casa International

September 2015

7 NO SCHOOL --  
Labor Day

24 Evening event – Back  
to School Night

28 Mid Autumn Festival

**Mid Autumn Festival**

中秋节

The Festival of the mid-autumn moon will be celebrated on September 28th, 2015. The day is traditionally dedicated to giving thanks to the Moon Goddess and celebrating the value of family and togetherness. Please join your children in celebration at the Casa from 10:30 – 11:30am.