



MONTESSORI CASA INTERNATIONAL
PRESCHOOL

Inspiring a passion for learning

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VOLUME 55

Directly from

Punum's Desk...

Montessori and character development

I had the opportunity to spend sometime with a few of our alumni this past week. To say that I was impressed with them is an understatement. Over ice cream we chatted about their favorite subjects in school, their friends, what they would like to be when they grow up and I was amazed at their self-confidence and how self-assured, compassionate and kind they were. I had to remind myself that I was talking with seven year olds!

At Montessori Casa International, it is our aim to build the character of the child and in these formative, critical years we concentrate on developing **autonomy, self-control and concentration**. I believe that this development will create strong individuals that will be motivated to learn and live to their potential.

In order to do this we give them a fine blend of freedom and responsibility. Dr. Montessori recognized the child's task of constructing a man and this made her significantly aware of the importance of educating the intellect

and training the will. She spoke of "liberty in the prepared environment". In her concept of liberty, however, she did not mean license but one that carries along with it responsibility. She believed that the child cannot learn to be responsible unless he has freedom to exercise it and he cannot be truly free until he can learn to be responsible.

This training to understand freedom as a privilege and responsibility has to be governed by reason and begins at a very young age. In our classrooms, children are taught to care for the environment and the objects within it; care for the self so that s/he can be a valuable member of society; care for other people and their needs so that one knows how to behave in society. These exercises are all carried out within the freedom of the prepared environment.

The importance of freedom with responsibility in our world today is as immense as it was 100 years ago. It is our job to prepare the child by giving him/her the freedom to make the right choices and decisions. The prepared adult has the knowledge of human development and believes in education as an aid to life. Responsibility is a process and has to be attained by experiences within the environment. This earns us freedom – no one gives it to us but it comes from within.

Montessori Casa International

International Food Festival

Our room moms will soon be sending you an evite regarding International Food Festival. We look forward to hearing about your country and tasting your food.

Montessori Casa International

November 2016

- 1 Day of the Dead
- 9 Parent Education Morning
- 16 International Family Night
- 23-25 Thanksgiving Break – NO SCHOOL

Parent Education Morning

Wednesday, November 9th

8:15am - 8:45am

Chinese Curriculum

Please join Anna for an understanding of the MCI Chinese curriculum. Anna will discuss what are our objectives and how we meet them and will then go into a question and answer session.