



November, 2024

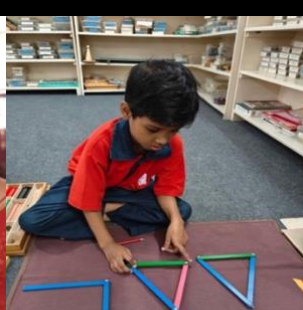
Dear friends and family,
Greetings!

As 2024 comes to an end, we want to share the news of Alpha Montessori School with you. Reflecting on the year, there have been enormous accomplishments at every level. Our long time vision for the school is coming to fruition as the depth of Montessori education has taken hold and everyone has become deeply engaged in quietly learning with joy, focus and growth in all ways. Even the youngest children focus independently on their chosen work through the day.

The rooftop garden, constructed in 2013, has become a learning center for children of all ages. The younger children (ages 3-5) enjoy having garden as an indoor/outdoor part of their classroom. They water plants, wash leaves and pick dead leaves to make compost. They watch butterflies and enjoy watching flowers and growing vegetables. This is a perfect place for them to play with clay and do practical life activities. The elementary children study parts of the plant and classification with living plants in a more natural setting. This beautiful rooftop garden is a rare oasis amid the noise and chaos of this crowded, under-served, poor neighborhood.

The elementary children are busy learning two languages, math, geography, history and culture as a part of their curriculum. All of this is learned through hands-on activities. Their ability to do hand work as in art work, paper cutting, studying symmetry and doing needle work is growing.





Our graduates visit us often. It is a joy to hear about their ability to discriminate right from wrong and be able to relate to people. They are all doing well in their lives! Seeing them each term as they grow, mature and become adults, tells us that they learned to think for themselves, follow their hearts successfully, and both listen to each other and share their lives, dreams and insights.

It is so satisfying to see the expansion of teacher's education. They have become skillful in language and are taking active part in learning the Montessori philosophy. Their personal growth and education has been at the heart of our school's progress. The teachers are gaining a deeper understanding of all the subjects and are able to give constructive ideas about the education of the children.

The nutrition program is thriving, providing one hot meal each day for children, teachers, and staff. All participate in the preparation, serving, and clean up and they look forward to it every day. The meals include a variety of seasonal vegetables, fruits, nuts, and healthy grains, carefully designed to meet nutritional needs. Along with enjoying the nutrition, the children are also getting education about its nutritional value. After the meals, the children take pride in washing dishes and making the kitchen ready for the next day's meal.

All members of this amazing community thank you for your thoughtful support of Alpha School. Your warm wishes carry us through and brighten our days. We wish you sweet holidays, imbued with your care and love!

Warmest Regards, great thanks,
and abiding Love,

Amika *Shaw*

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