



Child dusting dishes



Cleaning dishes



Sweeping



Elementary classroom



School neighborhood



Goodbye Amita Ma'm



Creative drama



Our 2015 graduates

Greetings Everyone,

November, 2018

The joy of watching these children grow and develop at Alpha Montessori School is inexpressible. No matter what we might write in this newsletter, photos we show you, or tell you in person, nothing can touch the beauty of the reality of being in the presence these extraordinary young people. No one who has visited the school can leave dry-eyed. Joy begets joy. Our children enjoy having visitors from any part of the world, who in return feel welcomed. They love practicing their English on real live subjects!

Our 60 children are growing in so many ways. Even the three-year old's dust their classroom materials and keep them in an orderly manner. They all wash their lunch dishes and keep the roof-top garden clean; jobs they happily do with care and a sense of ownership. One thing that makes the school so special is the environment of love and affection they feel all day, every day. This sense of care and safety makes learning easy and engaging for them; from the academics to naturally treating each other thoughtfully. The environment is clean and organized; one which calls them to think, be creative and work purposefully. The children's academic knowledge is far greater than anything they would have learned from the regular public-school system, as is evident from our graduates who visit us when they can. They are doing well in their "new" schools as they excel in their 8th to 12th grade classes. It is always a delight to see them and share their current lives.

It was again a blessing to have Ms. Hulton and Ms. O'Malley visit the school. Under the guidance of Ms. Hulton, the children made Power Point presentation on topics such as Montessori Education, Environment, Teachers, and Donation. It is flattering to see their love for their teachers and their appreciation of the quality of education they receive in the school, hence their love for the school and staff. Given a chance, they would never leave the school. Ms. O'Malley led a two week long creative drama and art workshop. Children of all ages participated fully and that was an opportunity for many of them to open up and let go of their shyness. The art of Zentangle is evident in every aspect of their work: on notebooks, blackboards and greeting cards they create. Children and teachers alike, are grateful to Ms. Hulton and Ms. O'Malley for giving their time and sharing their deep affection and knowledge with everyone at Alpha Montessori.



Meo Ma'm welcome



Computer class



Elementary class



Roof top garden



Leaf cleaning



Primary classroom



Gardening



Class in the garden



Education in the garden



Girls dancing



Music class



Braiding



Sensorial



Sensorial

Our thanks also go to TCS, Tata Consultancy Services, a computer company who sends their young employees to the school as volunteers. Their love and dedication has been such a gift to the school and the children love to work with these volunteers who are very happy to be associated with the school. TCS has also donated medical services to the school, offering the children and their families a chance to get free medical checkups and any necessary drugs.

The number of years we are offering this education to the children has been expanded to the 8th grade and six of our senior children will be graduating from 8th grade next year. It is a huge accomplishment for all of us. The staff and children are so proud and at the same time sad to be leaving the school they love.

We have a new teacher in the school, Ms. Foziya, an Indian Muslim who brings her vast knowledge of social science, politics, and history. In no time, the children have embraced her and have been challenged by her. Her background is an asset for the school as it offers exposure to a more diverse, larger world for the teachers and the children.

Our rooftop garden is a crowning treasure at the school. The children enjoy caring for it and learning about plants, trees and how to grow the vegetables they have only seen in small shops and vegetable carts in their neighborhood.

The art and cultural programs are thriving. The children enjoy doing art work, weaving, learning music, and performing dances for their yearly live cultural program which is performed on the roof amid the garden when the weather permits.

The work goes on at Alpha Montessori along with growth, learning, and joy, within the embrace of affection and unlimited possibility. We all thank you for your gifts and good will for the school. This beautiful creation could not and would not exist without you and your thoughtful generosity. Thank you, our dear friends and family, thank you!

With great affection and gratitude,
Amita

We gratefully accept donations on our website, via PayPal. www.igniteafi.org To send a check, please mail to: **IGNITE: A Foundation for Learning** 241 S. Cedros Avenue, Solana Beach, CA 92075



Boys dancing



Weaving



Sensorial



Foziya Ma'm



Medical check-up