



Dear Parents,

As director of Montessori Escuela, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in our school. I am very excited to be able to offer this special program to young children and their parents.

At Montessori Escuela we provide a warm, nurturing environment for children to learn and explore. Our "Casa de Niños," or Children's House, delivers a rich academic environment which closely resembles all the securities and comforts of your child's own home, allowing for an easy transition to, and adequate preparation for Kindergarten. Our school provides a combination of both Primary Montessori education and Spanish Immersion for children 2-5 years of age. In addition, students receive a complete Montessori education in Spanish, providing each child with tremendous language proficiency as well as valuable communication skills. We currently accept 6 students per class, each academic year, in order to offer each child the guidance and nurturing support needed at this young age of discovery. Our school day runs five mornings per week, three hours each day, from 9 o'clock to 12 noon. The family style atmosphere of our school affords children the opportunity to become self-motivated individuals and allows them to approach learning in their own unique way.

I have been teaching young children and working with families for more than 10 years now and I have learned a great deal throughout my time as an educator and a parent. Anyone with young children would agree that there is something inherent and natural about our kids' desire to explore their environment. They want to get their little hands into everything and to be a part of everything. This is exactly what children are meant to do. The eagerness with which they investigate, observe, discover and learn about the world around them is quite remarkable and their little brains soak it all in. This is what Dr. Maria Montessori describes and refers to as the, "absorbent mind."

According to Montessori philosophy, the first six years of life are arguably the most significant years with regard to emotional, physical and social development. Throughout these years, there are definite periods of heightened sensitivity in which children are able to learn and absorb knowledge at an exceptionally accelerated pace. It is our job as parents and educators, to pay close attention to these promising moments, and provide our kids with the guidance necessary to maximize these opportunities for growth. Therefore, the goal of our program is to simultaneously educate children, foster independence, build confidence and most importantly, develop a lasting love for learning.

Finally, although we parents want our children to reach their full potential, I believe that genuine success can only be determined by the degree to which the child has enjoyed the experience. Children adore the process of learning, not necessarily the outcome. For that reason, regardless of their mere few years of life, children can often serve as our best teachers. We adults could stand to learn a thing or two about the ways in which children find joy and purpose in tackling whatever the task at hand, simply for the procedure itself, rather than seeking some sort of profit or end result. If we could follow

our children's lead, many adults would begin to live life according to Ralph Waldo Emerson's advice that, "Life is a journey. Not a destination." The journey is the part we can all aim to appreciate. Thus, as teacher and observer, I determine success by the change in expression on a child's face: at the start of a project, there is often a look of uncertainty, pensiveness and extreme concentration, and then, little by little, as the task is accomplished and mistakes are self-corrected, the facial expression transforms to a bright smile; one which exudes pure confidence and pride. Yet, all of this is only possible when we provide a safe, warm and nurturing environment where the child can make a mistake one minute, fix it the next, and then relish in their own sense of accomplishment. That is exactly what I aim to provide each child at Montessori Escuela.

Finally, at Montessori Escuela, parent inclusion is highly recommended and encouraged. We want you to share this experience with your child as much as possible. For that reason, we strive to maintain ongoing communication between parent and teacher on a regular basis. In addition, families are invited to join us for various events scheduled throughout the school year where, alongside your child, you are welcome to participate in activities such as art, life skills, cooking, holiday celebrations, our end of school year family barbecue, and more. We aim not only to create lasting memories at Montessori Escuela, but also to document them for future enjoyment. During our end of year barbecue you and your child will enjoy your personalized school yearbook, allowing families to remember these precious childhood moments that flutter by all too quickly. Finally, we will celebrate many holidays and dress up monthly for school spirit days. Childhood is all about positivity and fun, so please come join us!

Montessori Escuela is located on Ridge Road in Belmont, Massachusetts. In addition to rigorous academic exploration, we spend time outside each day enjoying fresh air, encouraging physical activity and enjoying the seasonal changes in nature that our New England environment provides.

For more comprehensive information about Montessori Escuela, or to request an application and enrollment packet, please visit our website at: www.MontessoriEscuela.com and feel free to contact me directly with any questions: 508-454-0631

I look forward to welcoming your child soon,

Maria