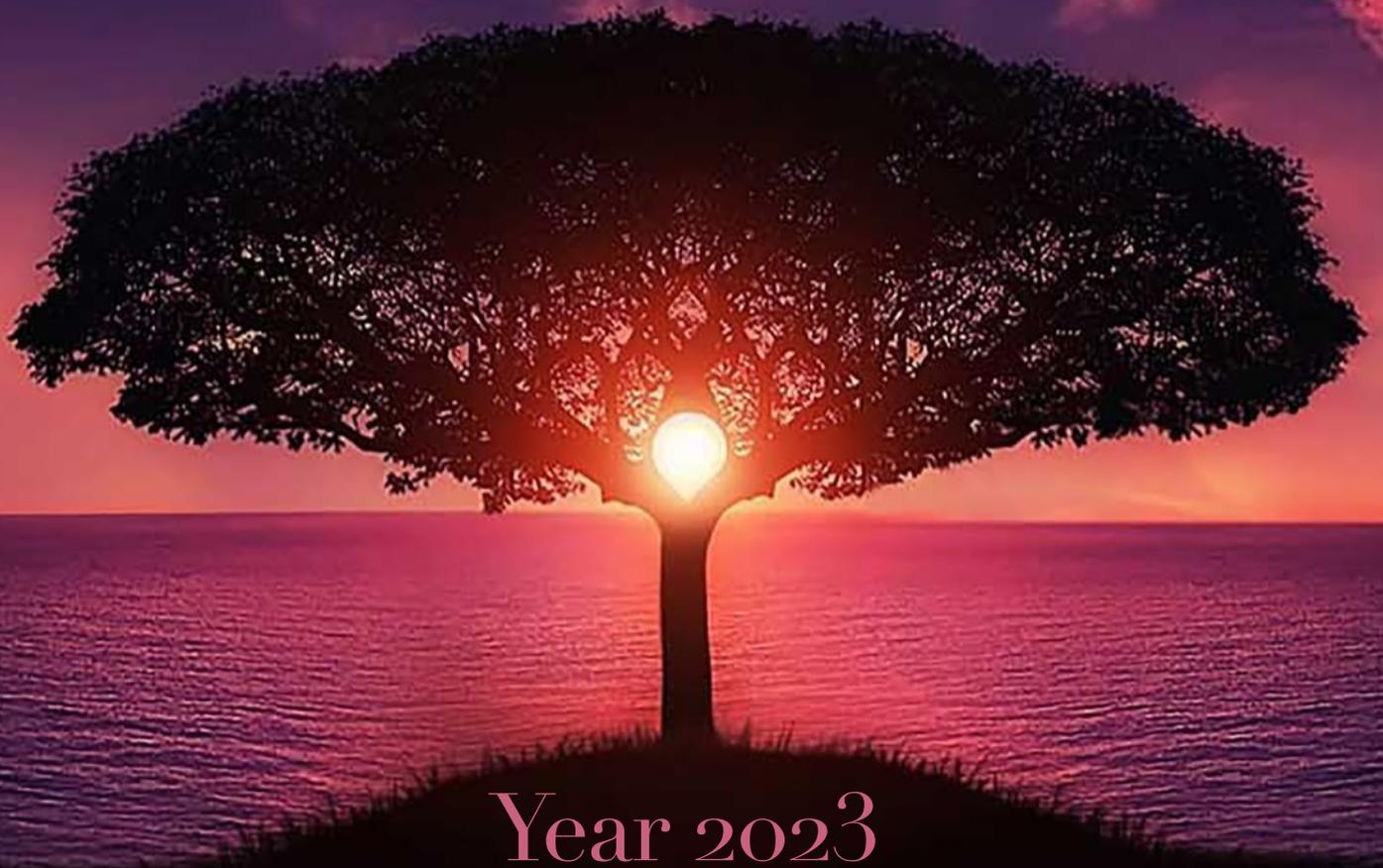




Grace & Clarity

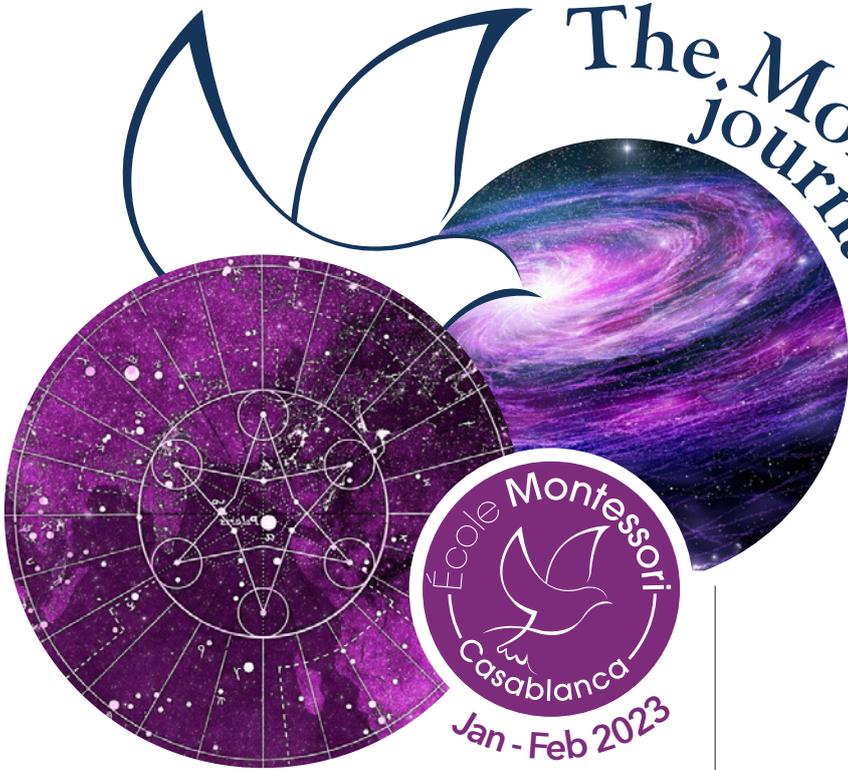


Year 2023

Grace is alignment • Clarity reveals the path

May 2023 bring us
Grace & Clarity

The Montessori Journal



Dear EMC Community,

A new year is always an opportunity to sit back and reflect on our beliefs, our choices of the past, and projections into the future.

Our paths have met at the Montessori crossroad. I invite us all to take a moment to sit back and reflect: what has brought us here.

My personal journey with Montessori was born when I decided to make it my life's work back in 2007, as I was pregnant with my first child. I had envisioned a school for my own children, first and foremost as a parent seeking the best opportunity for them to thrive. My vision was so pure and clear, it has never left any room for doubt, despite all challenges and fears. The journey is a tough one, but is certainly worth the hardships.

After 11 years of existence, we continue to build. We seek to create a school where our children can grow into the best versions of themselves. A school that is much more than an rigid academic race defining excellence, making copies of that which is divinely unique.

We are a school where each individual, child or adult, guide or parent, undergoes the transformation Dr Montessori has envisioned.

This is no simple feat.

Every year brings its adversities, but the pandemic has faced us with the unprecedented: heightened health fears, financial struggles, limited travel and work opportunities. Despite our resilience, whether at home or at school, these challenges have impacted our children's learning.

As true Montessorians in spirit, we constantly seek to observe, learn, and adapt. Post-Covid, we have sat back, reflected, and made an important shift in our approach. A need for more structure emerged in support of academic rigor, all the while conserving the core of what makes us unique: our value system.

Each human being is unique, and deserves to be raised as such.

EMC is constantly in motion, working towards growth for our pioneer families. I want to know about your experience so far, both your growth as Montessori adults, and your children's growth in our care. Please continue to share your successes, your concerns, your thoughts, your doubts by scheduling an appointment:

aicha.sajid@montessoricasablanca.com

Together, we shall continue to write our childrens' future

with Grace & Clarity.

Aicha Sajid



The world needs people who are inspired to embrace tomorrow's possibilities. At EMC, we believe that curiosity, initiative, empathy, community and learning are at the core of our values.

Curiosity

The busy bees in Elementary hive are hustling! We can observe a peak of curiosity and entrepreneurship in the community.

The children are organizing going outs on different topics such as rock exploration, farm production, food preparation laboratory...

We would like to thank the parents who helped us with these initiatives, whether chaperones or greeting our children in their institutions!



Initiative



At the beginning of the year, Shama from Mimosa Sun and Soleiman from Mimosa Earth had a wonderful initiative. They sent a letter to the Head of School suggesting that Mimosas organize a sleepover at school as a bonding opportunity for the new additions to the elementary community. We have allowed some time for the environments and new children to settle, and a sleepover was organized on January 20th!

The children played, sang, performed, shared delicious food from their homes and slept in their sleeping bags. Some were picked up on Friday evening, others on Saturday at 9 am after breakfast. Needless to say: THEY HAD A BLAST!



A group of older elementary boys, probably inspired by the world-cup football craze, proposed to organize a soccer tournament with the children who were willing to participate and play each Friday. They worked on a detailed proposition and brought it to the administration, who agreed to one Friday per month – as they also had much work to do on Fridays! They came with a very well-planned strategy, and considered every detail of their timetable. They even spoke to the sports coach before presenting their project. They are eager to kick-start their tournament at the beginning of this term!





Empathy

EMC is dedicated to fostering a positive and inclusive environment for our children. In line with this mission, we are excited to announce that the elementary environments will be celebrating Kindness Week starting on Monday, January 23rd.

During this special week, our students will be immersed in a variety of exciting activities that will not only promote kindness and positive communication but also a fun and engaging learning experience.

Elementaries have decided to give back to the community through different actions.

They planned to bake delicious cakes for the support staff as tokens of gratitude for their hard work. They also organized a Charity Drive to Bab Rayan Organization and invited the community to bring gently used clothing and toys to give away. EMC supported the children with the help of a Montessori mom, Amal Mekouar, who is non-violent communication expert.

Amal facilitated two workshops around the theme of "non-violent communication". Children were given insight into the idea that sometimes behind actions and words there are feelings and needs asking to be met. For example: space, attention, compassion. Additionally, they were provided with language to help them communicate in testy situations. Children were also given the opportunity to reflect on how they were feeling inside, using an array of feeling adjectives.



For the 9-12 children, Amal facilitated a discussion about their feelings and the needs behind them. Our students were eager to share their emotions and tried to guess the needs causing a particular emotion. They also came up with a lot of suggestions how to fulfill these needs.

In addition, there was a great discussion about giving and how important it is to give from your heart and fulfill your need for contribution.

Thank you to Amal for her generous contribution to our community!

Community

The HoY students spent a few days at Terre D'Amanar to explore different sports, according to their Work and Study theme. They organized the travel, and negotiated (fiercely) with the hotel to adjust to their budget. Although they know one another since many years (since they were 4 actually!), they came back raving about the trip as a great opportunity to bond and share precious moment with one another.





Learning

This past month, our guides offered many workshops to help parents deepen their understanding about Montessori principles. These moments are a great opportunity to learn about the method and to understand how your child is learning in our environment. It also gives you valuable tools and parenting tips. Please try to make these dates a priority in your calendar! We have offered multiple workshops, many of which we have had very little attendance.

In order to keep on investing the energy and time in making these valuable workshops possible, we do count on parents' presence.



Movement

As you know, EMC was generously offered by a friend of the community to use a parcel of land at the end of the street. It was decided to make it a sport/recess field for the Elementary Level. The new field will be ready in February, everybody is excited to start visiting it!



Security

EMC has proceeded with a set of fire drills to ensure our community is prepared to evacuate the buildings safely in case of emergency. The drills have gone very smoothly, however, the Mimosa Sun children have realized they have once again forgotten Lucky Sun, their class tortoise!

Lost & Found

Several unlabeled items of clothing are found around the school and placed in a big box at the Californie Campus entrance. Kindly ensure you check the box for any misplaced item. Unclaimed clothing will go to charity before the upcoming school break.

Mark your Calendars !



Staff Day

Monday January 30th
NO SCHOOL

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Monday 20th – Tuesday 21st February
NO SCHOOL

Winter Holidays

Saturday February 18th – Sunday March 5th

Parent Education

Silent Journey
Date to be determined

Parent Education

“The exercises of practical life” for Toddlers
Wednesday February 15 th
at 8:10 @ Californie & at 2:15 pm @ CIL

Parent Education

Progression of Math from Primary to Elementary
Wednesday February 15 th
4:30 - 5:30 pm @ Californie