



**EVERYBODY LOVES MOROCCO!**

# THE MONTESSORI JOURNAL

**N°2 2023-2024**

## **COMMUNITY SPIRIT**

EMC was honored to celebrate the vibrant heritage of our beautiful country with our children.

The EMC community came together in celebration of Morocco, with a shared spirit of appreciation and camaraderie.

## **WINTER WONDERLAND**

As per EMC tradition, we end the calendar year with a celebration of our beautiful community!

## **ACADEMICS AT EMC**

In the lively halls of our elementary, a palpable sense of excitement fills the air as assessment week unfolded.





## EVERYBODY LOVES MOROCCO!

EMC was honored to celebrate the vibrant heritage of our beautiful country with our children.

The EMC community came together in celebration of Morocco, with a shared spirit of appreciation and camaraderie. The children delighted everyone with their performances and research presentations showcasing the vibrant Moroccan culture. Both parents and their little ones dressed in Moroccan attire, adding an authentic touch to the event – a big thank you to our awesome parent community!

The school offered an exhibition of the craftsmanship of Morocco reflecting the rich heritage of our country, while a spirited music group further enhanced the atmosphere with their rhythmic beats and lively tunes!

It was a day of joy, learning, and cultural appreciation, fostering a sense of unity within the community.





## SINGING OUR MOROCCAN CULTURE

**Aydan's Grandfather, Mr Saad Agoumi, guided our elementaries gracefully since beginning of the year in a fantastic project.**

They have learned to sing a wonderful song from the Andalusian music repertoire: Shams-Al-Aashiya. The children learned the song and are rehearsing to present to their parents during the Winter Wonderland Event on December 21st. We thank you, Mr Saad, for an unmatched commitment and passion for the project. We are grateful for your contribution and for bringing such a wonderful cultural aspect to our program.



## BRAVO NICOLAS!

**Our super dad has completed a fantastic challenge! Here is a little video of the last minutes of the swim and the message he shared with us:**

« I DID IT - 07 h 53 de nage pour relier l'Asie à l'Europe à la nage (22 km au lieu de 18 km) avec mon binôme américain dans une mer démontée avec des courants forts et des vagues sur toute la traversée.

L'océan m'a encore une fois démontré que c'est définitivement lui le "Patron" » Nicolas has joined our



Elementary 9-12 students to share his experience and inspire them to transcend apprehensions, fears and set the bar of their dreams as high as they can imagine.

Thank you for a wonderful contribution, Nicolas!



## TODDLER READING CLUB

We are delighted to welcome parents to the first TODDLER READING CLUB! It's been a while since we started the school year, and all children now feel like a family. We are friends, we care for each other and share precious moments together. Parents are invited to come and read a book of their choice, in their preferred language, to all the children present at the Reading Club.

A wonderful initiative that once again highlights the family spirit and promotes the diversity and richness of our community.



## PARENTS & TEACHERS CRAFTING TOGETHER IN PRIMARY

We are excited to extend a special invitation to our Parents for an Arts and Crafts Workshop dedicated to bonding, creativity, and seasonal decorations for your child's environment!

This is not just about crafting beautiful decorations; it's a fantastic opportunity for parents to come together, share quality time, and strengthen the sense of community within our school. We believe that fostering connections between

parents and teachers is an integral part of creating a supportive and vibrant learning environment for our children. In the midst of our busy lives, it's also important to carve out moments for ourselves. This event offers a break from the routine, allowing you to focus on your own creativity and well-being.

We encourage our parents to bring their enthusiasm and good mood and spend quality time with one another, and their children's teachers.



## WINTER WONDERLAND

As per EMC tradition, we end the calendar year with a celebration of our beautiful community! The success of this event resides in the involvement of its members, so we invite parents, staff members, and students, to participate in any way they choose! This is a wonderful opportunity to discover each others' field of expertise, areas of interest, and grow as a community.

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## SAFEGUARDING AND GUEST SPEAKERS

### Social Media and Internet Safety tips and parenting experiences.

Myriam Ezzakhraji, journalist and media specialist, visited Hoy and Moon students on Friday to offer them a workshop around media: internet, social media, and personal data protection.

The aim was to raise awareness about the importance of proper use of media so that the students can navigate safely on the internet and social media.



# PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Our guides are offering the parent community many very useful and interesting workshops to deepen their understanding of The Montessori Method, or to exchange tips and parenting experiences.

## Toddlers

Our Toddler team has conducted two sessions: A look at Independence and A Montessori Chef. We thank the parents who made it to these events for their commitment and encourage all others to join these important events and jump in in the partnership the school is trying to build for a successful Montessori experience

## Primary

Our Primary team has also conducted a session about the importance of Independence.

The choice of the themes is based on our observations in the classroom, this is why we strongly encourage you, parents, to join us for these workshops.

## Elementary

Our Elementary coordinator facilitated a very successful sharing group: Parents support Parents

A discussion among Elementary parents once again highlighted what an amazing parent community we have in our school!

Strategies were shared for enhancing home reading, aiding children with homework, fostering a positive attitude towards mistakes, and applying the theory of multiple intelligences.

Parents of younger children found reassurance from those with older children, emphasizing that many challenges improve over time.

The consensus was that as parents, our role is to love, accept, and support our children without being too overstressed with societal expectations. Like flowers, children will bloom, each in their own time.

We thank Omar and Fatima Zahra Benchekroun, Gokalp and Esmâ Kahraman, Rita Benjdya, Yasmine Sekkat, Adel Tazi, Zina Smires, Nouredine Boulouha, Omar and Wafaa Amrani, Safaa Sadouk, Damilola Dada and Shae Juman for making the time and sharing their experience. A warm thank you goes to Ms. Elena, as an organizer and facilitator of this very special event.





## **ACADEMICS AT EMC**

In the lively halls of our elementary, a palpable sense of excitement fills the air as assessment week unfolded. The diligent efforts of our young learners are shining through as they eagerly tackle their assessments with confidence and determination.

The teachers have guided the pupils through thorough revisions, imparting valuable knowledge and nurturing a positive learning environment. The result is a collective spirit of joy and accomplishment.

It's evident that their hard work and dedication have not only fostered academic growth but have also cultivated a love for learning.

The collaborative journey of exploration and understanding has paid off, and the teachers are delighted to witness the confidence within each child.

Assessment week may be a time of evaluation, but it's also a celebration of the collective achievements and positive energy that permeate the Elementary Level. In this vibrant atmosphere, education becomes a dynamic adventure, and every challenge is met with a smile and a can-do attitude!



## **IGCSE EXAMINATIONS**

Our eldest students have taken their first IGCSE exams this past November. It was an exciting time for them and for our school! EMC just got certified as a Pearson Examination Center, which means our students take their exams in the comfort of their school setting. We eagerly await the results, and wish them much success in their upcoming IGCSE Math, Science, Computer Science, English, English Literature, Art & Design exams in May!

# FIELD TRIPS AND GOING OUTS

## Mimosa sun and Earth @ Rabat

Our young explorers embarked on an educational adventure as they visited the Ministry of Energy and Mining for a guided tour through the Museum of Geology. Excitement filled the air as the children delved into the fascinating world of dinosaurs and explored the rich tapestry of fossils discovered right here in Morocco. From ancient mysteries to geological wonders, this trip provided a hands-on learning experience, igniting curiosity and leaving the students with a newfound appreciation for the wonders of our planet's history.



## Mimosa Moon @ Rabat

In celebration of Moroccan Culture, Mimosa Earth and Sun's children went to Rabat last week to visit the Museum of History and Civilizations and the Rabat Jewelry Museum.

They had the chance to explore Roman artifacts from Volubilis, marvel at the intricate mosaics, and discover the historical significance of Lixus artifacts in relation to Moroccan history.

They also saw ancient jewelry from Roman and Islamic times, made from sea shells and metals. They explored Amazigh jewelry, like special bridal items, everyday jewelry, and clothes with cultural importance.

It was a day full of learning and fun!







## HoY @ Barcelona!

Our most recent trip to Barcelona was a success and we would like to share with you some highlights that made it memorable for everyone. Enjoy!

For our HoY learners, this current cycle has been all about studying the concept of walls in varied areas of study and learning about how they influence the ways we relate with each other. Walls convey a variety of messages about the culture, history, and society of a place, and although they started as a simple utilitarian element to defend a place from threats, a wall now reflects the characteristics of a community. They tell us whether we are welcome, how to behave, and the character of the people behind them.

On Friday, our students embarked on an exciting 4-day journey of exploration as part of this theme and visited the magnificent city of Barcelona in Spain. Being one of the largest metropolises on the Mediterranean Sea, this urban center is a harmonious blending of history

and modernity, surrounded by Roman walls and Gothic buildings. From visits to museums and cathedrals, to discovering the old town and Gaudí's greatest architectural works, our children made the most out of this meaningful trip and crowned it as a very significant experience in their educational background.

Right after arriving in the city, our adolescents didn't waste time and headed to CosmoCaixa, Barcelona's Science Museum. CosmoCaixa is considered as one of Europe's most renowned museums thanks to its didactic and interactive approach to learning, giving our children the opportunity to explore physical, technical, geological, chemical and mathematical relations in hundreds of experiments.

On day 2, our House of Youth participated in an Outdoor Escape Game and competed in teams to discover the ancient Roman city walls and the Gothic quarters of Barcelona while following a background story of historical figures, finding clues and

solving puzzles. Adel's team won, overcoming that of our esteemed Spaniard and very own tour guide Nico!

And what is a trip to Spain without witnessing Barca? The students were fortunate enough to witness one of the biggest home games of the season between FC Barcelona and Atlético Madrid, in front row, pitch-side seats at the Barcelona Olympic Stadium, which was home to the 1992 Olympic Games. This venue is a masterpiece of modernist architecture and provides a stunning view of the city, becoming a true gem of the city.

Travelling the city's metro lines day and night, as well as covering thousands of steps on foot, our learners also visited famous parks and iconic feats designed by Antonio Gaudí, such as the Sagrada Familia church and Park Güell, wrapped in the artist's distinctive style of voluptuous color and texture, freedom of form, and organic unity.

## WALLS THEME AT HOY

The theme of the first cycle at HoY was Walls. The concept was approached in varied areas of study with an overarching question: how walls influence the ways we relate to each other.

Walls convey a variety of messages about the culture, history, and society of a place. Although it started as a simple utilitarian element to defend a place from threats, a wall now reflects the characteristics of a community. They tell us whether we are welcome, how to behave, and the character of the people behind them.

## LET'S START WITH OUR SCHOOL WALLS...

As part of our hyperlocal field work, our young geographers spent time outside of our school walls to conduct a bio-polar analysis of the barriers that separate our school from the outside world. Conducting such research of a familiar place where we spend most our time is a stepping stone to observing walls in a wider context.

The main focus for our young geographers involved observing, as well as scoring, characteristics of our school walls such as height, build quality, visual deterrence and longevity considering the climate. Our next piece of fieldwork will involve observing local and regional sites.



## LET'S CLIMB THESE WALLS!

As sports play a vital role in shaping our children as well, Wall Climbing was incorporated to our curriculum under the guidance of our very own passionate climber guide: Mr Nico (or Mr Techo for his students). The students went to the Cafc-Evasion club every Wednesday morning to enjoy this new sport.



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

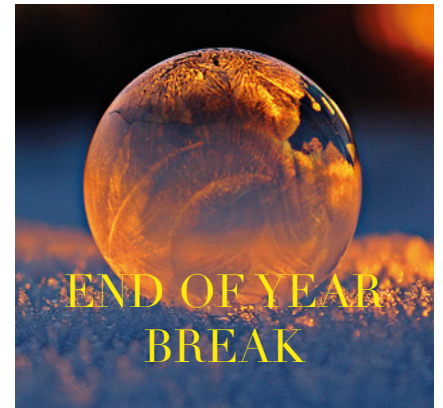
## UPCOMING EVENTS



**19** DECEMBER  
**1-3 PARENT ED**  
 @Californie & CIL : 8:15 to 9:15 am



**21** DECEMBER  
**COMMUNITY DAY**  
 @ the House Of Youth campus  
 10:00 am to 12:30 pm



**22** DECEMBER TO  
**7** JANUARY INCLUDED  
**End of Year Break (no school)**



**11** JANUARY  
**INDEPENDENCE MANIFEST**  
 No school



**12** JANUARY  
**STAFF DAY**  
 No school



**18** JANUARY  
**3-6 PARENT ED**  
 @Californie - more details on the  
 schedule to follow



**26** JANUARY  
**6-11 PARENT ED**  
 @Californie - more details on the  
 schedule to follow



**29** JANUARY  
**1-3 PARENT ED**  
 @CIL - more details on the schedule  
 to follow



**31** JANUARY  
**1-3 PARENT ED**  
 @Californie - more details on the  
 schedule to follow