



Looking Ahead

March 13-24. No School. Spring Vacation.

April 8, Sat. 11am. Info Session at Snapdragon Montessori, 1190 Cambridge Street, Cambridge.

3/27 Snack, laundry, flowers: Isabella

“...little children ... are not abashed by an older child knowing more than they do, for they sense that when they are bigger their turn will come. There is love and admiration on both sides: a true brotherhood. ... the five year-old feels himself a protector of the younger one. It is hard to believe how deep this atmosphere of protection and admiration becomes in practice. The class gets to be a group cemented by affection ... this is the age in which social and antisocial qualities are going to be evolved according to the nature of the child’s surroundings.

This is their point of origin.”

M. Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*, p.226-7



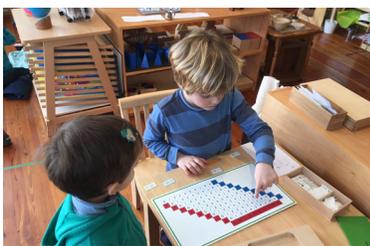
Drawing in Violeta. Welcome Helen!



Chalk boards are great to start writing letters and numbers, so much the better if you do it with a friend!



Working with the counters and numerals requires a lot of concentration!



Can you show me?



Working together



We learned about whales

This week we welcomed Helen Miller, our artist in residence, who will be drawing in Violeta on Tuesdays. The children were very interested watching Helen draw pine cones, seeds and other objects from our environment.

We are seeing a lot of collaborative work in Violeta between younger and older students. This is one of the most wonderful achievements of a Montessori environment. The younger children have wonderful models to continue their explorations and are motivated to pursue challenges and to persevere. For the “older” children it reflects and strengthens the realization of their whole personality: they are now able to consider and understand another one’s needs. Not only does it solidify their knowledge and understanding through “teaching” their younger peers, but it allows them to put their whole being—their minds, their emotions and their body—at the service of a friend. This is a true point of arrival for our older students and gives them the confidence they need to continue their journey into the elementary years with open minds and open hearts. It benefits the entire community and the whole child in every stage. Violeta is a real society, multi-age, diverse, where individualities and needs are respected and cherished. All its members are equally important for the functioning of our small society.

We wish everyone a happy and beautiful Spring Break!