



### Looking ahead:

**Sat, Jan 23** - Wildflower Network Parent Info Session, 2PM Wild Rose Montessori

**Feb, Feb 2** - Re-enrollment papers due

**Wed, Feb 2/17** - Parent Evening, 6:30PM, TBA

**Snack & Laundry** - 1/25, Rohit

“A child’s work is to create the man (woman) he (she) will become. An adult works to perfect the environment, but a child works to perfect himself (herself).”

-Dr. Montessori, (*The Secret of Childhood*, 1966, p. 197)

Thank you for joining us for a Practical Life demonstration on washing hands. This exercise, like all the lessons of Practical Life, brings dignity to physical labour. They aid the child in becoming a functional member of the community. The multi-step processes give direction to the child’s movements. Like a ritual or ceremony, familiar and interesting activities are elevated through the lesson: one task is isolated, details are analyzed, and movements are economized. In this manner, the body is guided by the mind leading to self-regulation and concentration; the ultimate aims of all our work.

As you bring these ideas home remember: ‘never give more to the mind than to the hand’. If you want them to watch what your hands are doing, don’t talk. If you have vocabulary or explanations, gain eye contact and keep your hands still.

Encourage independence at home! Dressing, eating, and toileting awareness can all be learned if we show them. If the children are part of these processes, they will be more motivated to participate.



I am learning to **focus** my attention on my work in Violeta, where there are always so many people doing interesting activities like washing, writing, spooning...!



I need **time** to practice scrubbing so I can perfect my movements myself!



Taking turns requires **inhibitory control!**



I need to be **uninterrupted** to independently engage and discover the consequences of my actions! Wood polishing helps me take care of our new wooden coati from Argentina!