



“Mathematics rightly viewed possesses not only truth, but supreme beauty – a beauty cold and austere, without the gorgeous trappings of painting or music”

Bertrand Russell

“... Thus, while presenting things gradually, a view of the whole, an understanding of the whole, is given to the child, who will then go into the details”

M. Montessori

We had a smooth transition from Spring Break back to Violeta. The children seem happy to be back in their environment, and are working with energy and focus. We had four birthday celebrations this week at Violeta, a nice way to come together and share with our friends their journeys around the sun!



We introduce mathematics following the same method that we use with other languages in the classroom: the number rods allow the child to first experience quantity sensorially, and then associate the symbol with the quantity. This is a big step in their progress to numeracy

A child can learn the numbers and how to count, but she needs to relate this language to the sensorial, concrete, experience of quantity in order to understand what a number is (concepts like lineal progression, cardinality, sequence, and the fact that number is not a property of matter). We start this experience of quantity exploring length and lineality with the red rods. These rods are then segmented (red and blue) to represent quantity in the number rods (see left). The concrete exploration of mathematical concepts is the basis of the Montessori math curriculum and happens every time we introduce a new concept. At home, make sure to count concrete and many different things. You can also play the “bring me” game where you ask your child to “bring me three spoons”, or “blow me five kisses”. In this way, numbers become quantities, not just words in a repetitive poem.

Looking Ahead

April 8, Sat. 11am. **Info Session** at Snapdragon Montessori, 1190 Cambridge Street, Cambridge.
April 12, Wed. 6-7:30pm. **Violeta Parent Evening.**
April 14, Fri. **No School.** Good Friday
April 17, Mon. **No School.** Patriot’s Day
April 21, Fri. **No School.** Professional Dev Day
3/27 Snack, laundry, flowers: Luke



Walking on the Line: we walk tandem on the line following the rhythm of the music. We have to control each part of our body in order to keep the balance and keep our feet on the line! Sometimes we carry a glass with water in our hands or a small pillow on our heads to make it even more difficult!



We explore the geometric solids in many different ways: we feel them with our eyes closed and under a blanket, we find relationships between their sides and other geometric figures, we learn their names and we share them with friends!



We enjoy birthday celebrations so much! This week we celebrated Nelson, Isabella, Daphne and Teo’s four journeys around the sun!