



Looking ahead:

Mar 15-16 - Parent Check Ins

Mar 19-30 - Spring Break & Spring Playgroup

Apr 11 - Violeta Parent Montessori Evening

Mon, March 12: Snack & Laundry - Jasper

Log-in to smile.amazon.com, click on "Violeta" & Amazon will donate to us!

"When we speak about the social question of brotherhood we must remember this. The only remedy for this social question is to take the children of this age [first plane] from the different social classes and give a common education at this period of their development. If you wish the different classes to be happy together, you must put them together at this age. ...if we instill this fraternity and understanding into the lives of children during the construction of their personalities, it will become a characteristic of each individual and will not need to be learnt from a lofty philosophy later."

~Dr. Montessori



This wonderful quote from the AMI Refresher offers an opportunity for action.

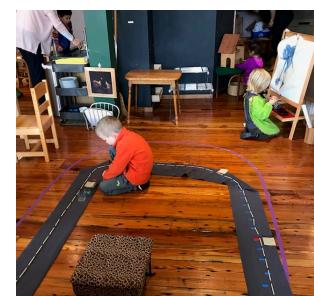
Last week's Wildflower Network Parent Evening with Debbie Irving challenged all of us to create an action plan to build integration and equity into Violeta. This action plan requires all the adults to be part of the children's prepared environment: here is an authentic opportunity to align home and school by preparing the adults to live into our Principle of Equity. Courageous conversations around diversity and inequities that are present in our world are an essential step on our journey.

In building community, the social skill of sharing is often an adult desire for their child. It is important to understand what is an appropriate expectation for "sharing" during the child's stage of development for our 3-6 year olds. A child during these ages is focused on his/her interests and needs. The children are learning empathy and impulse control. This is why works in Violeta are designed and demonstrated for individual children. The child can then choose to do that activity and use it as long as they are interested. The best way to be a good friend and member of our classroom is to ready the work after the child uses it perfectly so the next person has what they need.

The ability to make choices is empowering for individual children and therefore empowering for a community. During Virginia McHugh Goodwin's visit the Violeta Staff discussed the unique quality of making choices: in Violeta the art of making choices, making decisions, and working leads the child to independence (physically, mentally, and emotionally). Early stages in making choices are best supported by frequently offering limited options - only 2 approved choices. "Freedom within limits" gives structure and boundaries for children to feel safe and secure in the world around them.



We look forward to hearing from all of the parents next week at the "Parent Check Ins" what choices they observed in their child during the "Follow Your Child" event!



Our Violeta Community at work!