



## MI CASITA MONTESSORI SCHOOL

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"The most important period of life is not the age of university studies, but the first one, the period from birth to the age of six. For that is the time when man's intelligence itself, his greatest implement is being formed. But not only his intelligence; the full totality of his psychic powers...At no other age has the child greater need of an intelligent help, and any obstacle that impedes his creative work will lessen the chance of achieving perfection."

-- Dr. Maria Montessori, *The Absorbent Mind*

February 18, 2009

Dear Prospective Parent:

**Mi Casita** Montessori School invites you to extend the Montessori philosophy to **Tu Casita**, or *your* home.

We are offering sessions of Parent-Infant classes to parents with children prenatal to 18 months. We invite you to come learn how to prepare the ideal home environment to meet your child's needs and potential. Children are currently exposed to many obstacles to development and this course will show you, the parents, how to recognize these obstacles and what aids to development can be offered instead. Just like in the financial world, the greatest return on an investment comes when it is begun sooner, likewise is the case with your child's foundation to life. From this understanding stems our passion for starting to offer these *Parent-Infant* classes in our community. A supportive environment can make a difference in the development of a child, even in the first few months of an infant's life (when many wonder what else is the infant capable of doing besides eating and sleeping). Thus, these classes are also offered as a prenatal class to help parents understand the theory and make preparations that can affect change as soon as the child is born. New families are welcome as well as any who came last fall yet still want to continue learning about their infant's newest developmental stages.

The classes will be held in our Nido, a prepared environment for children under 18 months, and the course is meant to be a relaxing experience for the infants and adult participants. In other words, we will accommodate for needs of the moment such as nursing, mealtimes, etc. As the children are exploring the environment or engaging in their activity, the following topics will be covered over the course:

- Set up of home environment
- The development of movement
- The development of language
- The development of independence
- Weaning/eating
- Toileting
- Positive guidance
- Montessori theories

*Give your child an Advantage for Life!*

In this course, you will come to understand the Montessori approach to life and the educational program offered at MCMS, specifically how these young children exhibit so much confidence, concentration, and independence. Parents will be able to more deeply appreciate the wonders in their midst when they observe what their child is really capable of doing. Your child will be set on a path in which he or she can grow in **Joy and Independence**.

The course consists of **six meetings from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.** (There are no make-up classes). Our spring course will run **Fridays from March 27th – May 8th, 2009 (No class on April 10<sup>th</sup>)**. Participants are welcome to re-register to keep up with support relevant for each developmental stage. The parent or parents or parent with other caretaker attend class with the child. Enrollment is limited and we will take participants on a first-come, first serve basis. The six-week course fee is \$180. Those attending the course will receive priority in admission to MCMS in the future.

If you are interested in attending this course, please return the enclosed registration form as soon as possible. If you cannot attend this cycle then check on our website for future classes or let us know that you would like to be contacted again when we offer another cycle. We look forward to guiding you on your own road to learn about the Montessori way of life and to help your child to reach his or her own potential.

Respectfully,

Sonya Jones  
Montessori Parent-Infant Coordinator

P.S. If you are interested in learning about how to better guide your infant and cannot attend this class or this type of class format, please note that I also offer consultations in the comfort of your own home. You may contact the office or send us an e-mail if you are interested in finding a convenient time to schedule a consultation. You could also consider this type of consultation as a great baby shower gift for a friend or other loved one. Again, our purpose is to spread the Montessori way of life in our community starting with a prenatal preparation.

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