



Montessori
ACADEMY OF LONDON

Let's Invest Together



2023/2024



"The work of education is divided between the teacher and the environment." – Dr. Maria Montessori

December 8, 2023

Dear MA Family and Friends,

Tuition alone does not cover the cost of operating our school. Our biggest expense is our people – the teaching staff we all know and love. The remainder of our costs are a combination of our programs - including specialty Montessori materials- and spaces, which are the attractive, intentional learning environments that our students spend their days in.

Dr. Maria Montessori places special emphasis on the learning environment and specialty materials.

"The teacher must not content herself with merely providing her school with an attractive environment; she must continuously think about this environment, because a large part of the result depends on it. The teacher, therefore, must:

- keep the didactic developmental material in perfect order. If this is not the case, the children will not take an interest in it and if they do not, the material becomes useless, as the entire Montessori method is based on the spontaneous activity of the child which is aroused precisely by the interest the child takes in the material.*
- make sure that every object used by the children has a place of its own that is easily accessible to them."*

-Dr. Maria Montessori

Our intentional learning environments are an ongoing investment. We continuously strive to keep our classrooms, outdoor spaces, resource areas and buildings up to Dr. Maria Montessori's standards.

We are investing in your child's education.

711 Waterloo St. was purchased 50 years ago. 50 years! After years of careful planning and saving, and generous donations from our parent community last year, we were able to complete the long-overdue upgrades to our Library, Lower Elementary 1 classroom and learning resource rooms, plus create additional meeting areas for parents and teachers. This extensive project cost \$850,000. We were only able to go ahead with it thanks to the additional donations from our community.

This summer, we are installing an elevator at our Oxford location. This is a necessary addition as we move towards making all our locations accessible for people with disabilities. We were fortunate to receive a grant from the Government of Canada's Enabling Accessibility Fund which will cover \$100,000 of this \$250,000 project. The school has saved funds to pay for the remaining \$150,000 for this project.

● ● ● BUT, we need YOUR HELP ● ● ●

Even with careful planning and saving, tuition fees alone are never enough to cover all the costs associated with providing a world-class Montessori education in our beautiful, intentional learning environments. Our teachers work hard to keep the expensive Montessori materials in perfect order and make sure that each piece has a place of its own so students can easily find them. For this reason, it is equally important to replace worn or broken shelving, seating, tables, and carpets. And it all has a cost.

As we continue to invest in significant improvements to our buildings, we need your help to complete other areas of the school. Each summer brings a list of repairs and replacements needed for each building. We are in need of furniture for classrooms and resource rooms, replacement carpets, increased storage space, minor repairs to the Elementary Courtyard and improvements to our Toddler playground at Westmount.



These minor expenses across the school add up quickly and will cost over \$200,000. We need your help to raise \$100,000 to complete our summer repair schedule.

If we all invest together, we can continue providing a world-class education in beautiful, intentional learning environments.

Please consider making a donation to support our upcoming repair and replacement expenses. Your gift will help with improvements across the entire school, at all grade levels as we prepare for our summer upkeep.

Sincerely,


Tina Brown
Executive Director

P.S. Become a monthly donor and spread the impact of your donation throughout the year. Visit montessori.on.ca/get-involved/ways-to-give/ and select “Recurring Monthly Donation”.

DONATION REPLY FORM

Donations of \$20 or more are eligible for a charitable tax receipt. *Please return your completed donation form along with payment in the enclosed envelope or donate online at [Montessori.on.ca/get-involved/ways-to-give/](https://montessori.on.ca/get-involved/ways-to-give/).*

Name: _____ Phone: _____

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Acknowledgement name: _____ Anonymous: ☐

I would like to donate: ☐\$50 ☐\$100 ☐\$250 ☐\$500 ☐\$1000 Other: \$ _____

☐ Monthly Donation. I would like to sign up for monthly donations. Please deduct \$ _____ on the 1st of every month from the credit card information below beginning on _____ 1, 2024 (date).

Direct my gift to: ☐ Unrestricted ☐ **Special Projects (Summer Upkeep)** ☐ Capital Projects
☐ Programs ☐ Financial Support ☐ Faculty Development

Payment Options: ☐ Cheque ☐ Cash ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

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For questions or more information regarding your donation, contact Tonya Dendrinis, Development Director, at 519-433-9121 ext. 233 or email tdendrinis@montessori.on.ca.