



# Blaze the Trail



Help us create a space where movement, joy, and community come together.

November 21, 2025

Dear Friend,

For more than 30 years, Montessori Academy of London students — from Casa to Junior High — have called the gym at Colborne Street United Church their home for physical education, sports, and community events. It's a space filled with laughter, teamwork, and the familiar sound of sneakers squeaking across the gym floor.

That well-worn floor, however, has seen better days — **it's over 70 years old!** And while it has held up remarkably well, it's time for a much-needed upgrade.

The gym is a vital part of our students' experience — a place where they grow stronger, build confidence, and connect with their peers. After **70 years of use, the floor urgently needs replacing.** It is also in need of **protective wall padding** to enhance safety for competitive games like basketball or volleyball.

"In our time in Montessori, we really enjoy spending time in our gym. If our gym were to get new floors, new paint, and new revamps, it would enhance not just our gym class experience but also our community. Our gym serves so many different purposes outside of PE, including everything from science fairs, holiday lunches and different performances and assemblies. Having this revamp would mean a lot to our school, and our community."  
- Katelin B. Junior High

Last spring, we forged a **long-term partnership with Colborne Street United Church**, including a lease agreement that ensures continued access to the gym. In the years to come, we will work together to ensure a vibrant community hub for our school and neighbourhood. As part of this ongoing collaboration, the school and church have agreed to update the gym. Montessori Academy has pledged to support the **new floor and installation of wall padding**, while Colborne Street United church is investing in other improvements in the gym space.

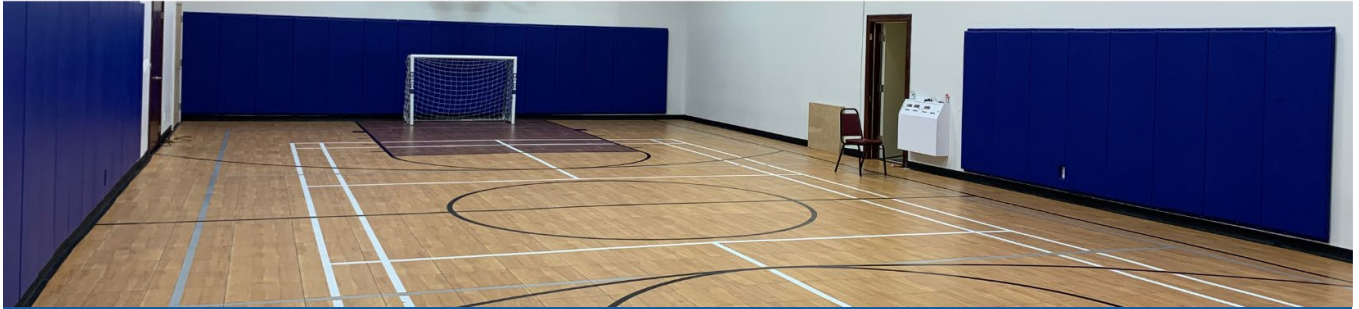
**But we can't do it alone. We need your help to raise \$60,000 by June 30, 2026.** In support of this project, we are launching a **"Blaze the Trail" fundraising campaign** to replace the gym floor and install protective wall padding — giving our Trailblazers a refreshed space where they can run, jump, play, and thrive. With your support, we will transform the space into a safe, inspiring environment for movement, learning, and community games and gatherings.

**Here is how your donation will make a difference:**

- **\$50** helps cover just over 2 square feet of gym flooring
- **\$150** covers 1 foot of protective wall padding
- **\$250** supports both flooring and safety upgrades

Or choose an amount that's meaningful to you — **every gift brings us closer to a gym that matches the energy and spirit of our students.**

To show our commitment to this project, I (Tina) have personally pledged to donate \$1,000 toward the gym upgrade by June 2026. A pledge is simply a promise to contribute a specific amount by a set deadline, and it can be fulfilled in installments over time. We invite you to join the Executive Director's Challenge — every gift, no matter the size, brings us closer to a safer, vibrant space for our students and community. Together, we can make this vision a reality!



Imagine the possibilities... This is a sample of one of the floors being considered. A premium, durable surface that will last another 70 years!

As an independent school, Montessori Academy of London **does not receive public funding**. Tuition fees cover our day-to-day operations and the cost of delivering a high-quality education to your child. As a **registered charity**, we report our revenue and expenses annually to the Canada Revenue Agency, and our financials are publicly available on their website. **Every dollar raised is reinvested directly into our school and its programs — including this much-needed gym floor upgrade.** To bring major initiatives like this to life — and to ensure our students learn in a safe, inspiring learning environment — we rely on the generosity and support of our community.

**Help us get the ball rolling... on a new gym floor!** Your donation will directly support the installation of a new floor and protective wall padding — an upgrade that will benefit generations of Montessori Trailblazers to come.

You can donate online at [Montessori.on.ca/donate](https://montessori.on.ca/donate) or by returning the enclosed form.

**Every gift makes a difference.**

Thank you for being part of our community — and for helping us build something truly special.

With gratitude,

Tina Brown  
Executive Director

Tonya Dendrinos  
Fundraising Director

**P.S. Every gift helps — \$50, \$150, or \$250 brings us one step closer to our goal.** You can also spread your gift over the school year by making a pledge or becoming a monthly donor.

Donate online by visiting [montessori.on.ca/blaze-the-trail](https://montessori.on.ca/blaze-the-trail) or complete and return the Donation Reply Form below to the Administrative Office in the envelope provided.



### DONATION REPLY FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to remain Anonymous:

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

**OR**  Sign me up for monthly donations in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be withdrawn on the 1st of every month beginning on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ 1st, 20 \_\_\_\_.

Direct my gift to: (Please select one)

- Special Projects (Blaze the Trail - Gym Floor)**     Programs     Endowment Fund
- Where it's needed most (Unrestricted)     Capital Improvements     Faculty Development
- Financial Support

Payment Options:  Cheque  Cash  Credit Card

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have included a gift in my will.
- Please send me information about including a gift in my will.
- I would like information about leaving a gift of securities.

Montessori Academy of London is a Registered Charity.

**Charitable Registration # 1052 29124 RR0001**

For more information regarding your donation, contact Tonya Dendrinos, Fundraising Director, at 519-433-9121 ext. 233 or email [tdendrinos@montessori.on.ca](mailto:tdendrinos@montessori.on.ca).