

Trinity Montessori School

ELEMENTARY PROGRAM INFORMATION



Unnecessary Expense versus Smart Investment

This year marks a significant milestone in your child's educational journey as he/she graduates from Casa. As parents, you must be very proud of your child's accomplishments so far and look forward to even more success in the future. However, this is also an important point in your child's educational journey as he/she is about to embark on his/her Elementary education. We acknowledge the importance of your decision at this juncture and aim to provide you with information that we hope will prove useful.

Education has great intrinsic value and is arguably the most important investment one makes in life. It is one asset that cannot be lost or taken away by others. As such, money spent towards high quality education is a smart investment rather than an unnecessary expense. As exciting as the latest gadget or a new toy may be, it is something that can be easily broken, lost, or taken away and has no value beyond its immediate and short lived pleasure.

Perhaps one of the major factors that deter parents from choosing private schools is the financial burden associated with that choice. Public schools are "free", and as such, choosing a public school may be enticing. However, parents have to consider that the quality of education offered by public schools is by no means the same as one offered by a good private school program. Often, parents who opt for public education find that they need to register their children in different after-school classes in order to keep the child busy and ahead in academics. Sometimes parents have to hire private tutors for their children to strengthen their understanding in various subjects. All these classes and programs are often quite expensive,

and exhausting for parents who have to drive their children around. As for the children, they can become quite stressed and tired, as they would have already spent 7 hours at school each day, followed by another 3 to 4 hours going to extra classes

Students enrolled in a high quality private school program learn more efficiently and are able to realize their full potential during the school hours. Consequently, they can spend their after-school hours enjoying other activities that are equally important to their healthy development. They can spend more quality time with their family, learn and engage in team sports, go to the library, visit the museums, watch live musical performances etc. These activities expose them to different life experiences necessary for understanding the concepts that they have learned at school, as well as help them to become more well-rounded individuals.



For parents who are contemplating private schools, we would like to draw your attention to the following:

Nurturing Environment

One of the most important features of our Elementary Program is our small class size. The exceptionally low student-teacher ratio in our classes provides teachers with more time and focus for each student. In this way, students in small class sizes have more opportunities to participate, ask questions, and gain confidence. Teachers are fundamental in establishing a nurturing environment. Our teachers are professional educators, guided by their passion for teaching, their love for children, and their commitment to professional development. Our classrooms are designed to provide students with freedom to explore and to become active participants in their learning process.

includes elements of the Ontario Curriculum that would otherwise be missing in a traditional Montessori Curriculum.

Why Trinity Montessori?

Trinity Montessori's Elementary Program was established in 2000, and has since been committed to facilitating an environment that fosters growth, success, and independence. Throughout the years, we have had the privilege of welcoming many Casa graduates to Grade one. The following are highlights of what makes our Elementary Program special and why we are proud to recommend it to you.



French Immersion does not always guarantee their fluency in French if only one parent speaks French fluently. If parents cannot speak French, they cannot monitor and assist their children's progress. The parents become disconnected from their children's education, starting from the early stages of their development. Furthermore, children whose parents speak a language other than English at home will have no opportunity to speak English, either at school or at home. Consequently, they may not become fluent speakers in French and their English may suffer as well. When the child reaches grade 4 and the child is placed back in the regular English program, he/she usually finds it challenging to write or express him/herself adequately in English. He/She may encounter difficulties in all aspects of his/her academics because of poor English vocabulary and abilities. Children who are strong in language skills will be able to catch up rather quickly, while others may struggle. The language barrier may cause them frustration and may lead to low self esteem.

Accelerated and Enriched Curriculum

Trinity Montessori School's curriculum is very unique and is based on a holistic approach to learning and is centered on educating all aspects of the child. Our Montessori Curriculum is based on Dr. Montessori's belief that a child's understanding grows as he/she learns about the world and his/her place in it. As such, students are presented with "big ideas" from the beginning and learn about the world by means of classification and organization. However, in an effort to ensure that there are no gaps between our curriculum and the provincial curriculum, our curriculum also

Why is French Immersion not for everyone?

Research suggests that children can learn up to five languages simultaneously when they are young. Guided by this report, many parents choose to send their children to French Immersion Schools hoping that they become bilingual citizens.

However, such research is premised on the notion that one or both parents can fluently speak those languages. In other words, sending a child to





Customized Lessons and Differentiated Teaching

There is a large body of research suggesting a direct correlation between students' level of engagement and their learning. Such evidence stipulates a learning environment that is conducive to a deeper level of engagement on the parts of the learners. One of the key components of a highly engaging environment is that it is sensitive to, and inclusive of, students' different learning styles. Our Elementary teachers are committed to facilitating such inclusive environment and invest a great deal of time and effort in designing lessons and activities that are differentiated and

accessible to a wide range of learners. Furthermore, we understand that children have different strengths and weaknesses and as such, require appropriate lessons and activities customized to meet their individual needs. For this reason, our teachers focus not only on developing individualized lessons for each student, but also on assessing their progress throughout the course of the academic year.



Assessment and Accountability

Though it is not a requirement for private schools, every year, our students participate in both the National CAT (Canadian Achievement Test) and the Provincial EQAO (Educational Quality Accountability Office) assessments. By participating in EQAO, we want to ensure that our students also meet (and often exceed) the provincial expectations in reading, writing and mathematics. Throughout the years, our scores have continued to closely reflect our students' amazing progress and we pride ourselves with the quality and standard we have set and continue to maintain.

Opportunities to Shine

We feel it is our responsibility to provide our students with a variety of opportunities for success. These opportunities often extend beyond academic endeavors. Every year, our students participate in different writing, art, mathematics, and singing contests. In order to train their body as well as their mind, our students are engaged in a variety of physical activities such as swimming, ice-skating, indoor tennis, etc.



ACHIEVEMENT

Montessori Model United Nations

Recognizing the pressing need to incorporate the education of global citizenship and peace education into the curriculum, Trinity Montessori's Upper Elementary students have been regularly participating in the Montessori Model United Nations. We first participated in this prestigious annual international event in 2008 (one of only a few participating schools in Canada), and have been participating regularly since. Dr. Montessori knew that if there is to be peace in the world, we must change our ways of thinking and our attitudes and habits, which can only be achieved through education. Because the 9 to 15 year-olds are in a sensitive period of reason, justice and morality, these children are very capable of learning, understanding and finding solutions for global issues. Through this program, the school hopes that the students will gain more exposure to and interest in global issues. The debating, negotiating, public speaking and presentation skills that they develop and strengthen in the process, will become invaluable tools of the students and will serve

them well in becoming leaders of the future. As Ambassador Lorenzo of the Dominican Republic stated during the conclusion of the 2007 MMUN General Assembly, "The next generation of leaders will come from this program. Soon they will be sitting here, and it will be their responsibility to complete what we have left undone." The process not only empowers students as they learn about global citizenship and peace, the participation will also be a valuable addition to the child's portfolio as he/she further pursues in his/her education.

The aforementioned are some attributes of Trinity Montessori Schools' Elementary Program. We encourage you to speak with our team of teachers as to gain a deeper understanding of what Trinity Montessori School offers. Please do not hesitate to make an appointment if you would like to visit us, tour the building, and ask questions.

We look forward to meeting you all.

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