



2026

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAMA Annual Conference:

Venue: The Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town

Date: 25 and 26 April 2026

Theme: FLOURISH — Unfolding Potential: Each Fold a Lesson, Each Child a Hope

Conference Management and Leadership day:

27 April 2026

Venue: The Bay Academy, Hout Bay.

Zoom & Regional Meetings:

Birth to Three discussion Zoom:

Facilitators: Claire Howie; Claire Goffe-Wood and Joelene Draper

TIMES: 19h00 – 20h00

Term 1: 4 March - Grace and courtesy in the IC - and the importance of it. (Claire Goffe-Wood)

Term 2: 6 May- Movement and gross-motor skills (Joelene Draper)

Term 3: 9 September- Acquisition and development of language (Claire Howie)

Term 4: 4 November - What to offer the older children (all three) focus on the areas of the classroom

Three to Six discussion Zoom:

Facilitators: Sumaya Tar Mahomed; Joanne Schimper; Mienkie Pinchen, Emma Medell; and Helen van der Merwe (only for first one)

TIMES: 19h00 – 20h00

Term 1: 11 February – Helen v d Merwe Topic: transition of the 5/6 year old preschool/ child to 6 to 12

Term 2: 10 June - - Importance of mixed aged ratio and number of children in one environment; Our focus but always much more to learn (Mienkie)

Term 3: 16 September - Educating the senses in the outdoor environment : How to encourage sensorial exploration within the environment ensuring the child's experience is rich (Sumaya)

Term 4: 11 November - Observations (Joanne)

Six to Twelve discussion Zoom:

Facilitators: Martin Pinchen, Sadiya Mohammed; Helen van der Merwe; Bhavna Bhagattjee

TIMES: 19h00 – 20h00

Term 1: Wednesday 18 February – Helen van der Merwe – presentation strengthening communities

Term 2: Wednesday 17 June – Helen van der Merwe – Holistic education across the curriculum: Landmark - Five great lessons; Line to CAPS

Term 3: Wednesday 26 August – Open conversation on assessments and exit routes

Term 4: Wednesday 18 November - Important topics with parents

Cape Town Face to Face Special Interest Groups at Cape Town Montessori School:

Term 1: 21 March - Focusing on Parent Education, strengthens the relationship within the school community; Cultivating the triangle relationship between the child, the prepared environment (school and home) and the adult (the guide/parents)

Term 2: 6 June - How to follow the child and not the curriculum, through Observation and the prepared adult.

Term 3: 22 August - the planes of development and practical skills to bring back into the classroom (i.e. baking, Sewing/knitting/woodworking) workshops

Term 4: 17 October – Heads of school breakfast, Recognising burnout, self development, open conversation on highs and areas where schools and teachers need support.

Gauteng Face to Face Special Interest Groups:

Term 1: 28 March at I M SMART - get to know each other, icebreaker drama games with a questions & answers, that gets us to network differently

Term 2: 9 May at VILLAGE Montessori - Neurodiversity in a Montessori School.

Term 3: 19 September at The Willows Montessori - Supporting a child's physical development through integrated programme

Term 4: 7 November at Ruimsig Montessori for the Heads of school breakfast

Please contact the SAMA Office at [**assistant@samontessori.org.za**](mailto:assistant@samontessori.org.za) for more information.