



Parent Newsletter

November 2012

VOLUME 12 – ISSUE 11

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Charl du Toit

The greatest gift.

“I’ve never received a present from Santa Claus. My parents thought I should only be given verifiable facts.” It’s too bad that no one ever told your parents about the secret of Santa Claus. When you know the secret, you believe in Santa Claus all your life, even if you cannot verify the facts. This is how the article, “Santa Claus: Making the Invisible Visible” starts in the book - Building Cathedrals, Not Walls by Maren Schmidt. She goes on by explaining to the 12 year old girl how there are thousands of people around us who are invisible workers making our lives easier.

On your way to school you drive on a road maintained by someone. The children work at desks that someone had to manufacture, someone had to transport to school, and someone has to clean on a daily basis. These invisible people are all Santa’s who strive to serve humankind, to make life more enjoyable, more comfortable and more magical.

I get it. Once you know how Santa works you become Santa Claus. You do your regular stuff with love in your heart, and try to help others not expecting anything in return. Santa is people helping people. Marion explains further that elementary children who enter a developmental stage of reasoning, around the age of six, and begin to wonder about Santa, need to be given the opportunities to work and contribute to something bigger than themselves. We need to show them how to choose to be part of the magical power of giving, service and surprise.

There are so many people in your child’s life who strive to make it better for them. Even the security guard at the gate smiles at each child who enters our school’s premises and knows everybody by name. The cleaners go beyond their call of duty to return that one sock that got lost yesterday. The secretary in the Office is always of help while your child’s directress tries her best to educate the man within that will reveal himself one day. These are all Santa’s, who go

beyond their call of duty to make your life easier. They do not ask to get medals; they do not do it because they have to, but because they want to.

Let’s make Montessori a Santa story this festive season by making the ordinary extraordinary out of love without expecting anything in return.

May you and your family enjoy a blessed festive season and return safely back to our humble Montessori Community.

Charl du Toit

SAMA President