

## **PORTFOLIOS & GRADUATION**

The Kindergarten year in Montessori is the culmination of the child's previous two years of work. This is the time the children not only aspire to new heights but also when they begin to unfold as young leaders, beginning readers and budding mathematicians. Withdrawal from the program at this point can be very upsetting to the child as they miss the most fruitful part of the Montessori experience. Besides reinforcing their academic knowledge, the Kindergarten year enhances their self esteem and develops their self confidence.

The Graduation ceremony recognizes and celebrates those children who have completed the Kindergarten year. The school keeps a sample of each child's work throughout their three year education for inclusion in a portfolio of work which is presented at Graduation. Each portfolio includes pictures of the child during various activities and a progression work samples which demonstrate a mastery of work in all areas of the classroom.

During the final months of the Kindergarten year, the child will help to prepare the portfolio's cover art. If a child is withdrawn early and does not complete the Montessori three year cycle by attending a full Kindergarten year, they will not receive a completed portfolio. They will, however, be given their work samples. Parents will be emailed photographs during the Kindergarten year to print and include in their child's portfolio. There will be 2 or 3 meetings throughout the year to help with portfolio production.