



WELCOME TO OUR

# Meet and Greet Session I – Newsletter



## A word from the Executive Director Sarah Kiteleja

I trust this message finds you in good health and high spirits. I am delighted to extend a warm invitation to you to read our first issue of Meet and Greet Session I that I believe holds valuable insights and knowledge on a subject close to our hearts.

This newsletter delves into the session of introducing Montessori (Montessori as pedagogy, Montessori Community of Tanzania, how to start Montessori school or enrolment of children to Montessori schools and being part of Montessori movement).

## About Montessori Community of Tanzania (MCT)

Michael Sungusia – Programmes Manager

Montessori Community of Tanzania is a non-profit organization registered in 1997, promoting the Montessori Pedagogy of education by supporting children's natural growth, potentialities, and personalities to become responsible adults for the benefit of our nation. MCT defines its mission as "the promotion of Montessori pedagogy by supporting children's natural growth and care.





### **LORNA FERNANDES - TEACHER, TRAINER AND SCHOOL OWNER**

Lorna Fernandes was one of the speakers at Meet and Greet session I on 30th September 2023. She gave a general information about Montessori Methodology of education. Montessori education is renowned for its child-centered approach and emphasis on hands-on learning.

Marie Montessori is a education methodology which has its principles. These principles starts from the home settings to the school settings and at the community level.



*Lorna Fernandes, speaking during Meet & Greet Session I*



*Lorna Fernandes, speaking during Meet & Greet Session I*

"Children who watch cartoons excessively tend to speak like cartoons. Children should be given tasks that reflect the realities of our lives, such as washing dishes, cooking, sweeping, gardening - let's create a realistic environment."

"Many of us have become accustomed to the idea that the classroom is where real education happens - children going outside the classroom may seem like they are taking a break. However, the outdoors are also a part of a child's learning experience."



**TAMARA SIMFUKWE, MCT ZONAL COORDINATOR & MONTESSORI TEACHER**

During Meet and Greet Session I, Tamara Simfukwe took us through the Montessori materials, equipments and tools. Montessori education is known for its use of specialized materials, equipment, and tools designed to facilitate a child's self-directed learning and exploration. These materials are carefully crafted to encourage hands-on, sensorial experiences and promote the development of a wide range of skills, including cognitive, motor, and social skills.



*Some of the Montessori materials*



*Tamara Simfukwe showcasing Montessori materials*

"Montessori materials are divided into five categories, one of which is the sensory materials group - these materials help a child develop their senses (smelling, tasting, touching, etc.). The dimensions of these materials are tailored to children and for their use (child-size)."

"Sensorial Group: This group of materials assists in the development of a child's senses, including smelling, tasting, touching, hearing, and seeing. Each sense has its dedicated materials. Through these materials, you can discover visual impairments or hearing difficulties."



**SR. DOROTHEA MORIS, COLLEGE PRINCIPAL AT  
MONTESORRI TRAINING CENTRE - MSIMBAZI**

Established in 1967, the Montessori Training Centre at Msimbazi offers National Montessori Certificate Courses since almost 50 years. The Centre is run by the congregation of The Little Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi at the Diocese of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

We offer diploma courses of Montessori pedagogy and practices for the child between 3-6 & 6-12 years.



*Sr. Dorothea M, speaking during  
Meet & Greet Session I*



*Sr. Dorothea M, speaking during  
Meet & Greet Session I*

"This teacher training college for Montessori teaching methods is under the Montessori Community of Tanzania. We offer 2-year programs for individuals who want to learn Montessori methods and aspire to become teachers."

"We train teachers, offering a 2-year program (for both morning and evening students). We also sell Montessori teaching materials."

For more information:

<https://ami-tanzania.ac.tz>



**VICTORIA MARWA - ARCHITECT AND  
CO-FOUNDER OF THE PAN-AFRICAN ASSOCIATION MONTESSORI  
ARCHITECT (PAMA)"**

"Creating learning environments for children, both indoors and outdoors, is not just about the buildings but is a perspective of the user, and here we are talking about the child. The buildings we design and construct are tailored to the needs of children, and their dimensions are child-size. We have Montessori-designed schools in Arusha, Tanga, and Ifakara."



"Traditionally, fathers are often accustomed to paying school fees and other necessities. However, it is crucial to actively monitor the progress of our children in school. In my journey to track my children's performance, I have learned that they are taught in the same way even though they are different individuals."

*-Reuben Ndege, father and participant at the Montessori Meet and Greet Session I*



"We need to discuss how we raise and develop our children. Children should seek for themselves, pursue what they want. Let's respect our children and help them become what they aspire to be."

*-Mosses Raymond, Human Capital Consultant, participant, and supporter of the Montessori Meet and Greet Session I.*

# A thank you note

SARAH KITELEJA  
- MCT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"I thank you for coming. This is the first session, and we have started well. We are delighted to see people interested in educational matters. In December 2023, we will have a second session for parents.

We appreciate everyone who came especially those who travelled from Iringa and Mbeya. You are always welcome to visit our office for any purpose. Whether you have questions, need assistance, or simply want to catch up, our doors are open to you ."

