Dear Parents,

This week we began speaking to the children about their personal, social emotional, and academic goals for the year. I had them fill in a goal sheet. I was able to assist them with brainstorming, according to their past successes and challenges. After I have received all students’ goal forms back, I will then add a few goals/comments too. I will then email you with what they have come up with. We will then be asking you if you would like to add some comments to their sheet about the goals they set.

I want to be positive at this time due to the abnormal year they have been having. I have encouraged the students to set goals that are about self-growth, feeling inspired and meeting new challenges, not about how they have functioned during quarantine or on the computer. The growth I will be looking for as we return to class is how they use their time, what effort do they put into their work, can they persevere through a challenging task, and what joy are they gaining from the work they are engaged in.

As the Montessori Philosophy states, in the second plane of development, from 6 to 12 years old, the child possesses a "rational mind" to explore the world with imagination and abstract thinking. The prepared environment, therefore, is one of the core components of the Montessori philosophy. According to Dr. Montessori, the learning environment, and everything that the child comes into contact with should foster independent learning and exploration. It is not just the materials but the interactions with peers and teachers and the movement of “big” work. We have seen our children need a great deal of adult direction and dependence on us for help over the past months. One of my main goals as we move forward will be to continually direct them towards more independence where appropriate.

I will be available to meet with parents via Zoom who need help interpreting the goals. I would ask you to contact me directly if you would like to set something up.

We are excitedly looking forward to transitioning the children safely back on campus and setting applicable goals in relation to the Villa classroom. I know that this will bring them back to a place of familiarity, peace, and comfort

Thanks for all your support,

Leticia & E2 Teachers