



## January 2022 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Snow, Snow, and more Snow... Winter seems official after this past weekend. The students enjoy playing on the playground each day that we can go outside. When the wind chill is 15 degrees or above, we head outside for fresh air, socializing and running around. This weekend's deep snow allowed for fun activities such as snow packing, sliding down the hill on bottoms or stomachs, and making snow creations and angels, too! Thank you, parents, for remembering to bring all their snow gear to school each day. With this much snow on the playground, we will certainly enjoy the sunshine and play whenever we can. Be prepared for wet snow clothing and boots to be sent home to dry out overnight as your children will be wearing them home most days. If possible, please label your child's outdoor clothing – thank you!



### Reenrollment and Open Enrollment Process

As you know, reenrollment for current families was held during the first 3 weeks of January. Thank you to the many families who completed their child's reenrollment form and/or filled out the new applications for their younger children, too. With almost all the reenrollment of the returning students complete, Sunrise is now accepting new outside applicants. If you have not yet returned your child's reenrollment (Returning Student application form), your space may be given to a new applicant as the deadline to do so has passed. **Please reach out to me** if you have any questions or if you have not completed your form yet.

I am happy to announce that our January Open House event was well attended, and our second event is this Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 1pm. September enrollment space is very limited already. Thank you for spreading the word about our wonderful program!

### Upcoming Valentine's Day at Sunrise



As you know, Monday, February 14 is Valentine's Day. Both Ms. Kristin and Ms. Laura will send out details to their classrooms soon about what to expect for this holiday. Please contact your child's Head Teacher directly with any questions or comments.

*Offering quality Montessori preschool, pre-k transitional and kindergarten programs since 2005.*

31 Hayward St., Suite J2 PO Box 515 Franklin, MA 02038

[www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

## Other Upcoming News & Events

### Sunrise January Donations

Thank you to Kelby Feeherry's family for ordering a new Kalorik Handheld Vacuum for our classrooms. Daily cleaning is part of the Sunrise Team schedule, and the Feeherry's thought we could use a bit of extra help!

Sunrise is fortunate to have an amazingly dedicated parent body that helps keep our program in top shape. Thank you always for your ongoing support!

### Think Ahead about Sunrise's Summer Program

Many families have been inquiring about our Summer Program. I am thrilled to announce this very popular program will be back in full swing this year with four weeks scheduled. You may choose either the 5 Morning (8:30am to 11:30am) or 5 Full day option (8:30am to 2:30pm); the process is easy and you may sign up week to week or for all four weeks. We are flexible. This year, Ms. Laura will lead the program with either Ms. Jessica, Ms. Samantha, and/or Ms. Angela as her team helpers. The weeks and themes are as follows:

- Week 1 June 20-24 Ocean Adventure
- Week 2 June 27 – July 1 Arctic Expedition
- Week 3 July 11 – July 15 Desert Oasis
- Week 4 July 18 – 22 Rainforest Explorers

During the summer schedule, Sunrise **does not** offer the before or aftercare program. More information, costs and other details for signing up for the summer program will be available shortly.

### Health and Safety Illness Policy Reminder

To help keep our students, families, and staff healthy, I would like to remind the Sunrise Community about our illness policy.

Here is an excerpt from our Parent Handbook (page 13 and onward) on illnesses:

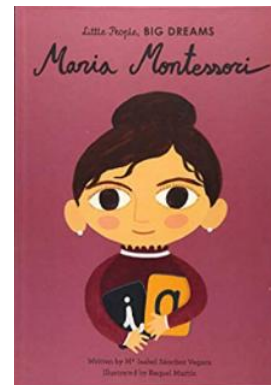
It is important that sick children remain out of school when they are ill or have not fully recovered from an illness. This decreases the likelihood that germs will spread. Look for the following signs or symptoms if you suspect your child is sick before bringing him/her to school. Also note the following applies to household members as well:

- Known exposure to someone who is either suspected of or confirmed with COVID-19
- A temperature of 100 degrees or more, even if your child "feels fine"
- Chills, fever, or any other signs of illness
- A new loss of smell, taste, unexplained headache, or muscle aches
- A persistent cough – germs spread quickly when children cough and cover their mouths with their hands and then touch materials
- A runny nose with thick yellow or green mucus
- Red, itchy eyes which may or may not appear to be conjunctivitis (viral or bacterial)
- If your child has vomited within the past 24 hours
- If your child has diarrhea or persistent loose stools within the past 24 hours
- If your child appears lethargic or is not acting in his/her normal manner and is overly tired.
- Any evidence of a viral or bacterial infection which may be contagious such as strep throat, chicken pox, fifth's disease, etc.

Please remember to notify the office via email or by phone if your child is sick (and state the illness) or if they will be absent for any reason.

## Montessori Education Week

Montessori schools around the world will celebrate the 115th Montessori Education Week from February 20 through February 26. This week happens to fall during our February School Vacation week. But don't worry, throughout February our curriculum will be enhanced through stories of peace and special activities in the classrooms.



### Keeping in touch

If you have any questions or comments, please know that you can reach us via email.



As the teachers are working with the children during the day, please note that a reply to your question may come after the afternoon dismissal or later.

If your message is urgent and you need to reach someone right away, please call the school at 508-541-8010.

### Head of School

Andrea Rossick:  
[Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Head Teacher

Laura Holland:  
[Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Head Teacher

Kristin Masefield:  
[Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & Marissa May  
[ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Website and Facebook

Throughout the year the school uses its website and Facebook page to inform parents of current events and to post pictures from recent events. Please take a look at [www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

Be sure to check out our “**Parent Corner**”. This page can be found on the menu tab of our website. Click on any of the hyperlinks to view the selected form or information page as a PDF.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**February 5:** Admissions Open House for 2022 - 2023 from 11am to 1pm.

**February 14:** Valentine's Day

**February 20 through 26:** Montessori Education Week - 115 years of innovative education

**February 21 through 25:** School Vacation Week -  
no class, no extended day.  
Enjoy the time with your family.



## Passive Fundraisers are just one of the many ways you can support Sunrise Montessori School!

### Amazon Smile

Shopping online is not only convenient, but it can provide a benefit to our school. When you shop at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile), Amazon will make a donation to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. on eligible purchases.



To register and begin shopping, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) on your web browser or activate in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. Select Sunrise Montessori School as your charitable organization **PRIOR** to shopping, and .5% of all eligible purchases will go back to our school. Add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier each time you shop. Or click on the QR code. Please tell your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. Every purchase helps.



### Box Tops for Education

For over 20 years, Box Tops for Education has given families an easy way to earn cash for their school, with products they already buy. You have seen and clipped those rectangular box tops. Now you can simply scan your store receipt with the Box Tops mobile app to identify participating products and instantly add cash to your school's earnings online. Go to [www.boxtops4education.com](https://www.boxtops4education.com) to learn more.



### Recycle your printer ink cartridges

Do you have used printer ink cartridges hanging around at home? Don't throw those out – Sunrise has a collection box for printer cartridges. Each month we turn them in at Staples for credit towards office supplies.



### Restaurant Dine-In events

Throughout the year our fundraising coordinators will set up local restaurant dine-in events. Enjoy a great meal and the company of family and friends all while supporting local businesses and Sunrise Montessori School.



### Grocery Shopping / Giving Bags

Purchase a \$2.50 reusable community bag at any Big Y, Shaw's or Stop & Shop store, follow the directions on the attached Giving Tag and direct a \$1 donation to Sunrise Montessori School (must be completed within 7 days of purchase).



## Active Fundraisers

### Scholastic Books

Each month parents will receive flyers from Scholastic Books which offer titles for children of all ages. Points from your purchases accumulate for the school which are then redeemed for new books and materials for the classrooms.

### The Giving Tree

Check out the newly listed items on the tree, just inside the front door. Also listed through the school's website.

### Amazon Wish List for Sunrise

Did you know? Sunrise has a Wish List on Amazon. Be sure to check out the following link:  
<https://tinyurl.com/y3mpcpa3> New items are added each month.



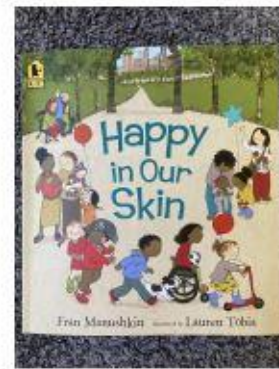
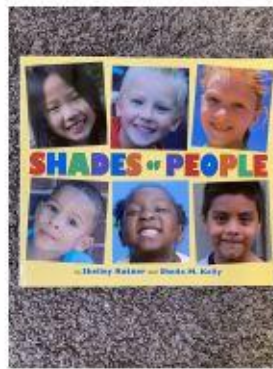
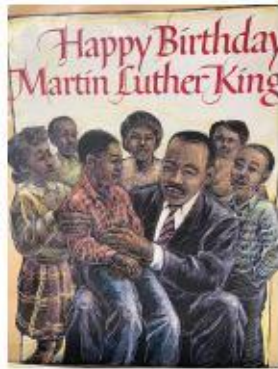


## Classroom A Newsletter January 2022

**Dear Classroom A Families,**

Happy New Year! We have had an exciting start to 2022! It was nice to see the classroom so busy after returning from vacation. We loved hearing what everyone was up to during the break. Our classroom started the new year by reviewing the classroom rules and expectations. Children enjoyed demonstrating lessons like “how to return the work to the shelf”, “walking around a rug”, and “how to excuse oneself” at morning circle in order to remind the class of all the things we know we can do!

Our class also learned about Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr and why we celebrate his birthday on the third Monday of January every year. We read the book *Happy Birthday Martin Luther King* by Jean Marzollo and learned that Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta, Georgia in the United States of America. We discussed how Martin Luther King, Jr. asked people to not fight with each other and believed there was a way to solve problems peacefully. We talked about how Martin Luther King, Jr. is celebrated because he helped to change laws that were unfair based on what people look like and the color of people’s skin.

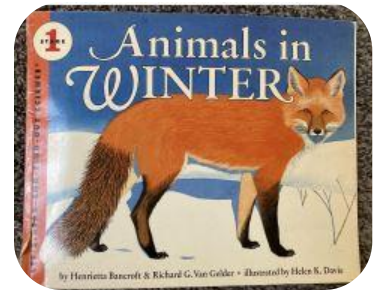


We also read the book *Shades of People* by Sheila M. Kelly and Shelley Rotner and *Happy in our Skin* by Fran Manushkin. We discussed how our skin is like wrapping paper, and you can’t tell what someone is like, or what’s in their heart by the color of their skin! The children were asked to look at one of their hands, and place it on the rug in front of them, while we took an overhead picture to see all the different shades of people in Classroom A! Thank you to Ms. Sue for helping us take this photo! This photo will be displayed in the peace area of our classroom the remainder of this year, to remind us all how we can carry out Martin Luther King Jr.’s dream for peace!



## Science

This month in Science we continue to learn about animals that hibernate and have also begun learning about the other ways animals prepare for the winter months by migrating and adapting! We read the book *Animals in Winter* by Henrietta Bancroft and Richard Van Gelder and discovered how animals adapt in the winter, how animals migrate and how animals hibernate!



The children were surprised to learn that some animals that hibernate do not sleep the entire time, but just do not move or breathe as much!

Our class has also been learning all about mammals! The children have been very interested in completing the parts of the horse 3-part matching cards, as well as tracing and labeling the parts of the horse using the horse puzzle. The study of the parts of the horse has inspired many children to trace and label various science puzzles as well. There has been an explosion of science to start the new year.



In Geography, we wrapped up the North America continent study! The children presented the remainder of the All About Me pages that were turned in and enjoyed asking questions and making comments and connections about each presentation.



The children will continue to learn the names of the countries of North America and work on the North American continent puzzle map throughout the remainder of the school year!



Next month we will be learning more land and water forms as well as introducing our next continent study of Australia! If anyone's family has traveled to Australia or would like to share artifacts or pictures, we encourage you to reach out to us as we would love to have you share anything you're comfortable with in class!



## Kindergarten Afternoon

This month in Kindergarten afternoon, we learned more about Martin Luther King, Jr. and his mission for peace. The children received a certificate after learning and sharing about the different ways they can help spread Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream and mission through kindness towards others and peaceful problem solving.

The Kindergarteners also took a closer look while learning about what animals do in winter! We read *The Mitten* by Jan Brett and created "What's in the Mitten" booklets by building "cvc" words using the movable alphabet. The Kindergarteners learned the difference between migration, hibernation, and adaptation. We read about bears and learned how they hibernate and what they do to survive in the winter. The Kindergarteners created a bear's den surrounded by snow using craft supplies and labeled it as "hibernation"! We also read about why animals like the monarch butterflies and certain birds migrate to warmer places. The Kindergarteners used paint to create a bird migration pattern that they have seen in the sky where they live! They labeled this as "migration"! We also learned about how different animals adapt in the winter in order to survive, and the Kindergarteners enjoyed painting a snowy landscape for a fox hunting for a mouse underneath the thick snow. The Kindergarteners also practiced their handwriting while labeling the scene "adaptation"!



At the end of the month, Kindergarteners had a blast learning all about magnets and the water cycle! Children were able to make predictions and observations about what objects they thought would be magnetic and what would not be. It was a blast!

Kindergarteners read a beautiful book called *We Are Water Protectors* by Carole Lindstrom and created a water cycle in a plastic bag, learning about condensation, evaporation, and precipitation! A demonstration bag was made to keep at school as well for further observations as the water cycle continues!



Wishing a very Happy Birthday to Vaayu and Emma, who celebrated birthdays this month!

Please look for an email with information about the upcoming Valentine's Day celebration on Monday, February 14th. As a reminder, with the weather continuing to bring snow and cold temps, please send your child to school with snow pants! If you have one set of snow pants for home and one set for school, please let us know if you'd prefer to leave your child's snow pants at school during the week.

Thank you!

Sincerely your teachers,

Ms. Laura, Ms. Alka and Ms. Samantha





## Classroom B Newsletter January 2022

Hello Classroom B Families!

We hope that you had a wonderful holiday season and a fun vacation! I wanted to again express my sincere gratitude to all of you for the beautiful winter bags filled with all of those wonderful goodies as well as the very generous gift card to Target! That is one of my favorite stores!!! I am so thankful for having such wonderful families as part of my teacher life! And of course, I want to express the gratitude I feel for having your precious children in our classroom! Each one of them brings something so special to the energy of the class and when one is absent, we all feel it. Your children are amazing!

December whizzed by so quickly that we have decided to continue our studies from that month into January. However, we did change and add activities in the Practical Life area of the classroom.

### **Practical life:**

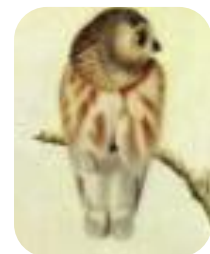
We introduced beginning weaving into our practical life work. The children practice weaving two types of ribbon into a slotted paper holder. We also started wood polishing. The children can choose a wooden object from the shelf and carefully polish the wood until it looks shiny again.



### **Science:**

We continued our study of birds, including their life cycle, how an embryo develops, the types of nests birds make and the names of common birds we see in our own backyards. We learned about John James Audubon, the man for which the National Audubon Society is named. He was born in what is now Haiti, raised in France and came to America when he was 18 years old. Audubon loved to go into the wilderness and collect bird eggs and observe the wild birds in their natural environment. He would then paint pictures of the birds he observed. He wanted to paint the birds so that they appeared as life like as possible. His goal was to paint a picture of every bird in America! We also learned about owls and discovered they are called “birds of prey”.

Owls are very good hunters and will eat mice, snakes, frogs, lizards and other creatures. We learned that owls are unable to move their eyes around in their sockets, but that they have very flexible muscles in their necks so that they can move their entire head to see around them. Although owls have great eyesight at night, they really rely on their great sense of hearing to locate their prey. Owls are pretty amazing birds!





We continued our studies on hibernation, adaptation and migration. A lot of the children really seem to understand which animals sleep for the winter and which animals adapt to their surroundings, including the chickadee, cardinals and the tufted titmouse.

We are studying the water cycle (the continuous movement of water on Earth) and are practicing saying words like condensation, precipitation, collection and evaporation. We learned that air is full of water vapor. The clouds in the sky hold liquid water. Condensation happens when the water vapor



in the air turns to liquid water in the form of clouds. When the water droplets combine in the clouds, they become heavy, thus producing precipitation. Depending on the temperature, precipitation can fall in the form of rain, snow, sleet or ice pellets. Once the precipitation occurs, it collects on the ground and in lakes, rivers and oceans. Most of the precipitation will soak into the ground and collect as underground water. Evaporation occurs when the warmth of the sun causes water from the oceans, lakes, rivers or soil in the ground to rise in the air and turn into water vapor, which is a gas. When the water cools down it collects as liquid and forms in the clouds! This is the water cycle!

We also learned how snowflakes form in the clouds, and that there are different types of snowflakes. Some are 6 sided or flat plated, while others are tube or needle shaped! How amazing our Earth is!

To conclude science for this month, we explored the concepts of magnetic and non magnetic. We learned magnets have a north pole and south pole at either end. Depending on the pole, magnets will either repel or attract.

### **Geography/History:**

In January we read about Martin Luther King, Jr.

We learned that he was born in Atlanta, Georgia and came from a very loving family. He loved to play football and sing in the choir at his church. As he grew older, he saw how some people we treated unfairly. He didn't understand this.

As he grew into an adult he worked very hard to speak out against the laws of inequality. His most famous speech expressed his dream that his children will grow up in a world where they are not judged by their skin, but by the way they act as good human beings.



Our geography focus this month was Puerto Rico! We have been learning how to speak Spanish with common words and phrases, for example, "Good morning" (*¡Buenos días!*), "my name is" (*me llamo* es), "how are you?" (*¿Cómo estás?*). In addition, we are learning the colors and numbers in Spanish!

On Friday, we had a special guest come into our class! G'oseni's mom, Ms. Sheila, brought some wonderful items from Puerto Rico to share with the children! She read us a wonderful story and shared some yummy treats with us! The children loved it! *Muchas gracias, Señora Sheila!!!*



With Peace and Gratitude,  
Ms. Kristin, Ms. Angela and Ms. Jessica