



November 2024 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

November went out as fast as it arrived! In this often-busy time of year, try to stay calm, centered, and adhere to your weekly routine as much as possible. At Sunrise, we strive for consistency and continuity in the classroom environment to help keep the students grounded. Of course, change is inevitable and learning how to adapt is important. Planning for change and allowing your child to be part of the process (discussing any upcoming changes in routine or in their schedule) may help them better prepare for something different and/or new.



Speaking of change.....have you noticed our pumpkins in the raised garden box near the entrance to the school? This is a great lesson on the different stages of pumpkins as they decompose. The children learn that the pumpkins start out firm to the touch and feel solid. During this time the pumpkins are perfect for scooping out seeds or pounding golf tees into them.

Within days, the pumpkins begin to change – they are no longer firm to the touch and begin the first stage of decomposition. Once the pumpkins were soft and no longer used in the classrooms, they were moved to the garden box. The children often comment on how the shapes and colors are changing.

Time for Giving to the Franklin Food Pantry from December 2nd through December 16th

Our annual food drive collection for the Franklin Food Pantry begins when we return from Thanksgiving Break. The Food Pantry is located at 341 West Central Street and Sunrise is collecting necessary items as well as accepting monetary donations to support families in need for the pantry. Our Food Drive begins on Monday, December 2nd and ends on Monday, December 16th. Donations may be dropped off either with your child or be brought directly into the front room and placed into our collection bins. The older students will help sort and bag up our donations before these are brought into the pantry on December 17th.

Listed below are a few donation categories taken from their website as well as [the link with their specific current pantry needs](#). Sunrise appreciates your support in advance!

- Unopened, unexpired, non-perishable food
- Personal hygiene, Cleaning supplies, Pet food
- Items from The Pantry's Amazon Wish List
- Please consider placing your items in reusable shopping bags
- Plastic containers are preferred as many of the clients are elderly and walk to the pantry making heavy glass jars difficult to manage

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

Other Upcoming News & Events

Parent Conferences on Thursday, December 5th and Friday, December 6th

Next week parent/teacher conferences scheduled. Please be aware that there is an early dismissal on December 5th at 11:30am for all students (all students are to be picked up before lunch), and there is no school on Friday, December 6th. Please click on the appropriate link below to check your conference time. If you have not signed up already, please do so. Additionally, if you are not able to attend the conference, please notify the office and your child's teacher directly.

[Classroom A Conference Link](#)

[Classroom B Conference Link](#)

To help keep our conferences on schedule, we request that you arrive a few minutes before your conference time starts. For your convenience, childcare will be available during your conference time at no charge (in the front room with Ms. Jessica and/or Ms. Amanda).

Sunrise Amazon Wish List - Classroom Gift Idea

Many parents have already visited and purchased items from Sunrise's Amazon Wish List over the past few months. If you are interested in purchasing something for your child's classroom, please visit the Sunrise [Amazon Wish List](#) to view special requests for each classroom. Several new requested items have been added to the list!

Sunrise Teacher Favorites Binder – Teacher Gift Idea

With the upcoming holiday season, many parents like to get their child's teacher(s) something special. If you are looking for an idea for that special teacher – please check out the blue binder located on the table as you enter our program. It has a sheet for each teacher with their favorites filled in. You may take a picture of any of the sheets (or ask me to email you the staff file).

Upcoming Winter Wonderland event on Saturday, December 14th from 9am until noon.

Former Head of School, Karen Roeber, and I plan to hold a December Winter Wonderland themed event for students. You may have heard the phrase “two heads are better than one” – this definitely applies to Karen and me. This will be a 3-hour student only program on Saturday, December 14th from 9am – 12pm. The cost is \$50 per student. Sign up forms will be available during conferences or via email request. Please note that the **sign up deadline** for this event is Wednesday, December 11th as we will prepare based on the number of children attending.

The front room will have several stations set up with activities, crafts, cookie decorating, healthy snack station, and a corresponding book will be read by a volunteer and/or staff member at each station which highlights snow and the winter season!

Station 1. Blizzard by John Rocco – Sensory Table filled with “snow” and other fun materials

Station 2. Snowmen at Night by Caralyn Buehner – snowman building project

Station 3. The Snowy Day by Anna Milbourne and Elena Temporin – Snowflake Ornaments

Station 4. There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed Some Snow by Lucille Colandro – story with props and a Snowman Ornament

Station 5. The Snowy Nap by Jan Brett – Sugar Cookie Decorating Table

Station 6. A healthy fun snack available for the children to make/serve themselves

Sign-up forms for this event will be available at the Parent Conferences and in the office.



Admissions Open House – January 25, 2025

11am to 1pm

Mark your calendars! The Admissions Open House is a great way for families to learn about our programs and the Montessori Approach to Early Childhood Education. Help to spread the word – tell your friends & colleagues.

Current families who refer a new family whose child enrolls for the upcoming 2025 – 2026 school year receive a referral credit.

See the Parent Handbook for details.



Outdoor Recess Weather Policy

Sunrise follows the Department of Early Education and Care's weather policy. If the temperature is at least 15 degrees or higher and it is not raining/sleeting, the children play outdoors. The wind chill factor determines our outdoor play and the length of time we spend outdoors. This also means if the wind chill factor is below 15 degrees, we are not able to play outdoors at all.

However, temperatures vary throughout the day, and we request that you send the following items daily: Hat, mittens or gloves, warm footwear, and a warm jacket. Please label all your child's outdoor items to ensure that any misplaced items get returned to its owner. Once the snow is here, please send in either snow pants or a snowsuit for your child to wear in the snow.

When the snow season is in full gear, your child's snow gear will be sent home each day to ensure their items get dried. We are not able to leave snow gear items at school as most of the children will be wearing their snow gear home from the playground. We appreciate your cooperation with this in advance.

Dependent Care Forms

Rebecca Reda, Sunrise's bookkeeper, prepares the dependent care forms for tax filing purposes.

Please remember to reach out directly to Rebecca at MySunriseBilling02038@gmail.com if you have not already requested a dependent care form. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Next Pizza Session

Begins January 3rd and runs through March 28th for students who eat lunch at school. The final pizza date for the current session is December 13th.

New Pizza forms will be available at the Parent Conferences.

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

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.

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

Co-Head Teachers

Emily Hill & Samantha Renaud:
Classroom-A@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Lynne Anselmo:
MsAnselmo@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Erica Cucino, Lindsay Fiorito, Ana Paquette & Manisha Thanneeru
ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 5: Early release day 11:30am for Parent Conferences in the afternoon

December 6: Parent Conferences all day; no classes; childcare provided during conference time

December 7: Sunrise Marketing Booth at the Fairmount Fruit Farm Winter Market 10am-2pm

December 14: Winter Wonderland Themed Event 9am-12pm Students Only

December 17: Food Pantry Collection delivery

December 18: Last Day of Classes

Winter Break from December 19 through January 1, 2025

January 2: Welcome back; classes and extended day program resume

Think ahead to next school year's enrollment - Priority enrollment for the 2025 - 2026 school year for current students, younger siblings & alum families. Returning student re-enrollment forms and new student sibling applications will be sent out to all current families in the first week of January. More details will be sent out next month.

January 17: Professional Development Day - no classes and no extended day

January 20: Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday - no classes and no extended day

January 24: Re-enrollment forms due from current families, younger siblings, and alum families

January 25: Admissions Open House for 2025 - 2026 from 11am to 1pm for new prospective families and open enrollment begins. During open enrollment we begin the process of reviewing applications from families outside of the Sunrise Community.

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

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 the school's earnings online. Go to 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 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



Price Chopper / Market32

Register your AdvantEdge card to benefit Sunrise Montessori School. Our school will earn points for educational products through the Tools for Schools program. Visit: <https://rewards.pricechopper.com/tools-for-schools/signup> to register. Be sure to select Sunrise Montessori School.

Mabels Labels

This on-going fundraiser provides great ideas for labeling your child's items. Check out: <http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/> and click on the school's name.

For Small Hands

Montessori items and activities for your child. Use the school code #130331 and Sunrise will receive a credit towards future material purchases through Montessori Services. For online orders, please visit <https://www.forsmallhands.com/scp/130331>

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.

Amazon Wish List for Sunrise

Did you know? Sunrise has a Wish List on Amazon. Be sure to check out the following link: [Sunrise-Amazon-Wishlist](#) New items are added each month.

Thank you for supporting Sunrise Montessori School!



Classroom A Newsletter November 2024

Dear Classroom A families,

We are very busy as we get into the holiday season. The year is already going by so fast! The children are forming positive relationships with each other. As a part of our **Grace and Courtesy** curriculum the children participated in Sharing Day. They made a “hand turkey” for their friends in Classroom B to exchange on Sharing Day. On Sharing Day both classrooms sat together to enjoy apple sauce, cornbread and other treats. We learned about being thankful for what we have. As a class we decorated turkey feathers and wrote “I am thankful for...” on each feather. The children also had the opportunity to say something they were thankful for.



Practical Life:

The children continue to enjoy flower arranging! You and your child can sign up to bring in flowers for the class [through this link](#). We are also focusing on cleaning up after ourselves. The children are learning to sweep up their crumbs after snack and lunch.

Sensorial:

This month in Sensorial the children are working with bells. The children learned to read music by the color dots that are on the music sheet. All of the bells are color coded that match the note color on the music sheet. The children are discovering how to use the bells to play the song “Little Bo peep”. This is quite an accomplishment – it brings together auditory, visual and hand coordination.

Math:

This month the children were introduced to Addition Towers. In this photo the children have equation cards. For example, $4+3=$ the child will grab 4 yellow Legos and build a tower placing the yellow tower above 4. Next the child will grab 3 green Legos and build a second tower placing the green tower above 3. The child will count the Lego blocks all together. Once the child counts all the Legos, they will find the number 7 card to place next to the equation card.



Language:

This month the focus is on time sequencing. For example, the work we have out is a boy making a cake. There are 4 cards and each card has an illustration of the boy doing different steps to make a cake. The children will determine what comes first when making a cake. The children will line up the cards in the proper sequence of the boy making the cake.



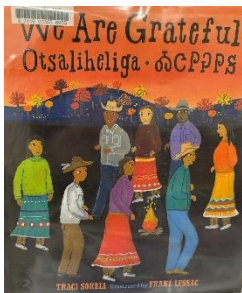
Science:

This month we continued our study of the fall season. We talked about parts of a tree with three part matching cards. The children learned a tree has a trunk, roots, leaves and branches. We also learned about the life cycle of a turkey. The children used puzzle cards to discuss the life cycle of a turkey – how it starts as an egg and matures to a pout, then a juvenile and finally a full grown turkey.



Cultural Studies:

This month, the children learned about Diwali. Diwali is the Hindu festival of lights, celebrating good over evil and light over darkness.



November is Native American Heritage month. We learned about Native Americans through a book titled *We Are Grateful. Otsaliheliga*. Otsaliheliga is a word meaning grateful. This book taught us many words from the Cherokee language.

Kindergarten Corner

The Kindergarteners learned to make applesauce for Sharing Day. The children peeled and cut the apples. They added the apples and cinnamon to a crockpot for the applesauce to be cooked overnight. The next day the applesauce was served during Sharing Day for all the children to enjoy! An applesauce photo was included in a separate Sharing Day email by Andrea.

The Kindergarteners explored the parts of a tree in depth. We took a trip to the playground and were able to name all the parts of the tree. They also made a booklet about the parts of a tree.



Just a reminder as it has been very cold this month; please dress your children appropriately for the weather with hats, gloves or mittens, winter coats and appropriate shoes.



Happy birthday to Cooper and Ezekiel!

If your child's birthday is coming up, sign up for a birthday walk celebration here: [Birthday Walk Sign Up](#)

We often enjoy having guest readers! If you would like to read a story to your child and their friends please sign up here: [Guest reader sign up](#)

Sincerely, your child's teachers,

Ms. Samantha, Ms. Emily, and Ms. Karen



Classroom B Newsletter November 2024

Dear Sunrise Parents,

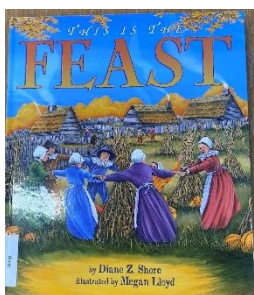
Hello November! As the seasons change and the air grows crisp, we are excited to welcome November in our Montessori environment. This month we'll focus on gratitude, exploration, and building skills that encourage independence and collaboration.

Cultural Studies

This month, the children learned about the first Thanksgiving. We explored Native American cultures and discussed gratitude. The class will engage in storytelling, hands-on activities, and group discussions that encourage empathy and respect for different traditions.

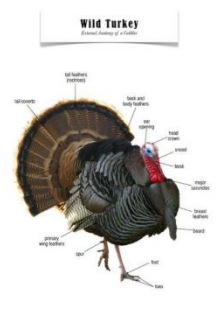


As part of our **Grace and Courtesy** curriculum and in preparation for another celebration this month, our class was very interested in learning about pumpkin pounding in **Practical Life**, Pilgrims and Native Americans, and Plymouth Rock. Everyone had fun making Native American corn for our friends in Classroom A for Sharing Day. It was a fun project, and the children enjoyed making these and painting their corn.



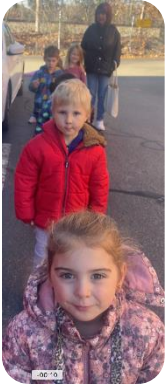
On Sharing Day we read Thanksgiving day books and we joined Classroom A on the rug to exchange sharing day gifts and a group snack. Our classroom sang a song for Classroom A that we worked on learning all month called *Mr. Turkey*. The children did a beautiful job singing.

This month in **Science**, our classroom began learning about turkeys not only because of the Thanksgiving holiday, but also because turkeys are an animal that lives in North America! We learned the different parts of a turkey, labeled these parts, sang songs and read great stories.



Math Area

The children continued their counting and number recognition using variations and extensions. These lessons continue to strengthen their understanding of numbers, quantity, and sequencing. They enjoyed working together filling the pie with “whip cream” (cotton balls).



Art & Nature

Through leaf art rubbing and nature walks, we continue to connect with the beauty of fall and explore how the natural world changes around us.

Everyday Living Area

New lessons that focus on independence and responsibility continue to be introduced. These include lessons on pouring, scooping, squeezing, sweeping, pounding and twisting. These works help the children develop fine motor skills, concentration and a sense of accomplishment. The children loved using their pincer grip to create a turkey in the pictures below.



Parent Tip of the Month

Encourage your child to express gratitude at home by sharing things they are thankful for during mealtimes or bedtime. Small moments of reflection help build mindfulness and a positive outlook.

This month in **Geography**, the children are diving into a fascinating exploration of North America. Through maps, stories, and hands-on materials, the children are learning about the geography, cultures, and diverse landscapes of this continent. A key focus has been on the animals that call North America home, from majestic bison and grizzly bears to playful raccoons and colorful birds.

The children are engaging in activities that connect geography with zoology, such as matching animals to their habitats and creating artwork inspired by the wildlife. These lessons help foster an appreciation for the natural world while building their knowledge of geography and science.



We look forward to sharing more of their discoveries with you as the year continues!

Kindergarten Area

This month, our kindergarten students have been diving into addition, using hands-on materials like golden beads and colored beads. These activities make abstract concepts tangible, helping the Kindergarteners develop a strong understanding of combining numbers while fostering their love for math.

We have also been exploring the wonders of nature through outdoor walks and observations. The children collected acorns and other natural treasures, which we've used for adding equations. These activities connect math, science, and creativity, inspiring curiosity and a deeper connection to the world around them.



Thank you for your continued support as we guide your children on their learning journey!



A special thank you to Mrs. Karen Roeber, one of the co-founders of our school, who came in to read a story and lead another great activity with all the children. Everyone had a blast!

Happiest of birthdays to our **November Friends!**
Estelle & Ms. Lynne Anselmo

We wish you a year full of special wishes!



“The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of Independence.”

Maria Montessori

Love, learn & grow!

Ms. Lynne Anselmo, Ms. Marianne and Ms. Jessica



November 2024 Extended Day Newsletter

In **Science** this month we did the “Magic Milk” experiment. This experiment taught us about surface tension and molecules. Surface tension allows a liquid's surface to resist external forces. Molecules are a tiny team of building blocks called atoms that stick together to make something bigger. We used whole milk in a clear dish, added drops of food coloring, dipped a cotton swab in dish soap, and then dipped the cotton swab in the milk. The reaction caused the soap molecules to bind to the milk fat molecules, disrupting the surface tension of the milk and created colorful swirls.

Projects and Crafts: This month we explored a theme which focused on emotions and kindness. A couple examples are emotion handprints and a group project of a kindness tree. Another theme was birds where we created various types of birds out of different materials like a paper plate cardinal and a turkey out of a paper tube. And some Thanksgiving crafts as well.

As always, we have fun in together in the Extended Day session and our program is expanding - we now have up to 15 students participating on an average day. As a reminder, please send in an afterschool snack (labeled for the Extended Day (or afterschool)).

Ms. Jessica and Ms. Amanda



The morning and afternoon Extended Day Programs offer a safe, fun and welcoming environment where children are offered age-appropriate activities which promote learning opportunities and social interaction with staff and classmates. This program is held in the front classroom of the school and on the playground.