



March 2023 Newsletter

Happy Spring, Sunrise Community!

It is wonderful to see the hyacinths, daffodils, and tulips sprouting in front of our school. The birds are singing and beginning to nest in the arborvitaes near the door. The students enjoy pointing out the sparrows and listening to their songs as we enter the school during the morning drop-off.

Storyteller Diane Edgecomb Update

Storyteller Diane was previously scheduled to perform at the beginning of March. Due to illness, she was unable to come to Sunrise. However, she has rescheduled to perform on Thursday, April 6th at 9:30am. We are excited for her upcoming performance. For more information about Storyteller Diane, please visit <https://livingmyth.com/>

Restaurant Fundraiser at the Chateau in Franklin

Last month, Sunrise held its first restaurant fundraiser of the 2022-2023 school year, and we received \$195.89! Thank you, Chateau Restaurant! This amount was more than last year's restaurant fundraiser! These funds helped Sunrise to purchase new sand for the sandbox and a few new sandbox toys.

Thank you to the Sunrise families and friends and staff members who visited the Chateau and helped to make this event successful.

Promoting Peace and Kindness through Grace and Courtesy

Dr. Maria Montessori greatly emphasized "Grace and Courtesy" throughout the environment. She felt that without the presence of empathy and compassion within the child's environment, learning would not be able to take place. Montessori encouraged children to respect all living creatures and the world around them. This is also the philosophy of our program.

Our students learn and develop respect and awareness of their environment both indoors and outdoors. The teachers role model and help students to work through various social experiences while providing opportunities to practice and develop appropriate self-expression and learning the

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Classroom A siblings point out where the daffodils are coming up near our front entrance.

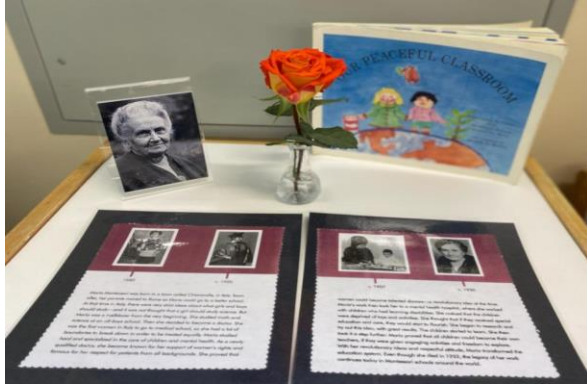


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Other Upcoming News & Events

process of self-regulation and self-control. Tools and techniques such as allowing students to speak and actively listen to each other (and taking turns doing so) is just the first step. Providing phrases to the students like, “I can see that you are frustrated, can you tell me more about this” or “Did you hear your friend’s message” helps build trust and allows the students to experience comfort while sharing their different emotions and when expressing their concerns to others.



These techniques may also be encouraged at home to help support our program goals as well as further your child’s social and emotional development. Consistency between school and home is vital to ensure your child’s success across all areas of development.

For additional information and to learn more about **Grace and Courtesy**, please visit the link below. You may wish to follow American Montessori Society (AMS) and join their email list for other various parenting topics.

[Montessori Parent: Grace and Courtesy Beyond Please and Thank You \(amshq.org\)](http://amshq.org)

Afterschool – Extended Day Program Science Fun

This month Ms. Samantha made **Green Slime** with the after-school students. This recipe was a bit different as it called for contact solution, baking soda, white glue, and food coloring! First, Ms. Samantha added the white glue and food coloring into a sandwich baggie. Then she added the baking soda to the mixture and closed the baggie. The students helped to knead the mixture until combined. Finally, the last step is to add the contact solution (this contains the special ingredient – Boric acid) and knead until mixed thoroughly to get the correct consistency. At the end, the children decided to add gems/letters for fun.



Upcoming Parent-Teacher Conference Sign Up Links

Spring is our second portion of the Parent-Teacher conferences. The conferences are scheduled on the afternoon of **Thursday, April 27th** from 12:30-2:55pm (**this day is a half day, and all students are dismissed at 11:30am**). Conferences are also scheduled during the full day on **Friday, April 28th** from 8am-2:55pm (there is no school for children that day).

Please follow the appropriate link below to sign up and meet with your child’s classroom teachers:

[Classroom A Sunrise Montessori School Conference sign up - Google Sheets](#)

[Classroom B Sunrise Montessori School Conference sign up - Google Sheets](#)

For your convenience, Sunrise provides childcare at no charge during your scheduled parent conference time. Childcare will be in Classroom C (the front room area). If you plan to bring your child to the conference, please arrive a few minutes ahead of your scheduled time to help get your child settled and to keep our conferences running on time.

Upcoming event at Fairmount Fruit Farm – Saturday, April 1st 10am-2pm

Sunrise will set up a booth on the last day of the **Winter Farmer's Market at Fairmount Fruit Farm** – located at **887 Lincoln Street in Franklin**. The event is on Saturday, April 1st from 10am-2pm, and we are so excited to be out in the community promoting our program.

Our booth joins many other local vendors, and our school will sell adult and child sized Sunrise tee-shirts, adult hoodies, winter beanie hats, baseball caps, and our Sunrise tote bags. Please help get the word out and share the date and details with your family, friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

For more information about the Winter's Farmer Market and its list of vendors, please visit [Markets | Fairmount Fruit Farm](#)

FYI...Vendors are set up inside heated greenhouses.

A special thank you to Riley Correia's mother, Rebecca,

for inviting Sunrise to be part of this event. We hope to see some familiar faces at our booth.



Sunrise Spring Fair Event on May 13th

Spring means it is time to think ahead about our Annual Spring Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday, May 13th from 12-2pm at the school. It will be very similar to last year's Spring Fair – including the ever-popular bouncy house, raffle baskets, and more! The Spring Fair is our main fundraising event for our program. Proceeds from the event go towards program maintenance expenses and ongoing staff professional development.

Our Parent Reps, Marissa and Susannah, met with both Ms. Sue and me last month to discuss ideas and review plans. This year the Spring Fair will offer approximately 10 specific, themed raffle baskets (geared towards children, family fun and several that are for adults only – must be 18+ or 21+ to win), 2 raffle baskets for classroom made projects, and Summer Program raffle baskets as well. Next month, more specifics will be provided on how you may help support our event. As the fair date comes closer, more details will be sent out about children's games and activities, bouncy house fun, and food. You won't want to miss this fun – please mark your calendars and plan to invite the whole family!

Summer Program Information

Now that spring has arrived, it is time to start planning your summer childcare needs. As previously mentioned in last month's newsletter, Sunrise offers a four-week summer program with either half- or full-day options. Our program is only open to current students (even those students who are moving on to new schools this fall) and to newly enrolled students. You may choose to sign up for one week or all four weeks.



Accompanying this newsletter are the Summer Program details with the prices and the weekly themes, along with the registration form. Print out and complete the registration form and return it and the deposit to school no later than May 26th, 2023. Copies of the registration forms are also available in the office; please let me know if you would like one and I would be happy to send it home with your child.



Congratulations to the Hayek family. They welcomed a baby boy in March.

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.

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.

Head of School

Andrea Rossick:
Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Laura Holland:
Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Lynne Anselmo:
MsAnselmo@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & Marissa May
ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 1: Sunrise at the Fairmount Farm - 887 Lincoln Street, Franklin

April 6: Storyteller, Diane Edgecomb

April 7: Professional Development Day; no classes, no extended day program

April 17 -April 21: School Vacation Week – no classes, no extended day. Enjoy the time with your family.

April 27 & April 28: Parent / Teacher conferences. Sign up online. See page 2 of this newsletter.

May 13: Spring Fair. All alum, current, and new families enrolled for 2023-2024 are invited!

May 26: Application deadline for Summer Program sessions.

Sensation Station dates to remember 10am-11am

April 4, 11, 25 - **Classroom A**

April 5, 12, 26 - **Classroom B**

Pizza Days for full day students: April 14 (no pizza on April 7 due to the Professional Development Day)
(no pizza on April 21 due to the Vacation Week)
(no pizza on April 28 due to Parent-Teacher Conferences)

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 your 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 \$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

Annual Spring Fair

Mark your calendars! Sunrise will host its annual Spring Fair on Saturday, May 13th. The Spring Fair is the main fundraiser of the year and is held rain or shine. There will be games and activities for the children and raffle baskets and chance drawings for the adults. Pizza and water will be provided by the school. Pick up a perennial plant for your garden as well. If you would like to help plan the spring fair, please contact your parent reps, Susannah and Marissa at: parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com

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.

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.

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.

Sunrise Montessori School, Inc.

Summer Programs - 2023

June 19 - June 23

It's Summer - LEGO!



This week the children will get creative and messy during a week full of LEGOs and fun! We will be using LEGOs to make various art projects, explore using a LEGO sensory bin, and on the playground, we will make racetracks and go bowling with LEGOs. To cool off, the children will help to make their own “lego” ice popsicles and at the end of the week, will get to take home their very own LEGO creations!

June 26- June 30

Let's get Digging!



There is so much to discover in a garden! This week, the children will help to create a giant flower collage, complete art projects, go on a nature walk, and make their own “dirt in a cup” treat to enjoy! We will learn about how important the rain is for a garden to grow, and even get to run through a sprinkler to have some fun in the “rain”! Finally, the children will decorate, transplant, and take home their very own potted plant!

July 10-14

A Camping We Will Go



This week the children will experience some of the joys of going camping! We will make camp themed art projects, sing camping songs, “go fishing”, and make our very own tent! The children will also enjoy story time by the “campfire”, and we will have a delicious frozen s'mores snack at the end of the week!

July 17-21

Sailing the Seas



Get ready to set sail! This week, we will venture into the deep blue sea on our very own ship. The children will make ocean-themed art projects, play dress-up, explore with sand, make discoveries, and play-pretend as we sail off to sea! As the ocean waves splash against the ship, we will cool off and have some sprinkler fun! We will make our own sail boats and watch them race, and at the end of the week, the children will enjoy a beach-themed sweet treat!



Registration form for Summer Programs 2023

Child's name: _____

Address: _____

Parent/guardian name (s): _____

Preferred email: _____

Contact phone (mobile # or home #): _____

Session(s) selection is flexible. Sign up for one week or several. Please indicate your choice(s) with an "x"

	Morning session (\$225 per week) 8:30am to 11:30am	Full Day session (\$350 per week) 8:30am to 2:30pm
Week 1 June 19 - June 23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 2 June 26 - June 30	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
no session the week of July 3 - July 7		
Week 3 July 10 - July 14	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Week 4 July 17 - July 21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- A deposit of **\$100 per week selected** must accompany this registration form.
- Participants must be at least 3 years old by June 1, 2023.
- Each summer program week is limited to **20 participants** and will be filled on a **first come / first served basis**. *Participants are limited to current students and accepted students for the upcoming year.*
- Upon registration, additional paperwork and a confirmation of the selected week(s) will be sent to you.
- Final payment on the remaining balance is due no later than **Friday, May 26, 2023**.
- Invoices will be sent approximately 2 weeks before the due date.

Please call the office at 508.541.8010 to inquire about late registrations.

Please drop off completed form & deposit
at school or mail to:

Sunrise Montessori School, Attn: Summer Programs
PO Box 515
Franklin, MA 02038



Classroom A Newsletter March 2023

Dear Classroom A Families,

"The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind."
Maria Montessori, *Education and Peace*



We celebrated **Montessori Education Week** after returning from the February school vacation. As we read *Maria Montessori* by Isabel Sanchez Vegara, the children learned how Maria Montessori was born in Italy on the continent of Europe. Our class also enjoyed exploring the timeline of Maria Montessori's life. We read *Our Peaceful Classroom* by Aline Wolf and learned why our school is called a Montessori School. The children made connections between the materials we have in our classroom to those they recognized from the book. We learned how Maria Montessori designed these materials to help us learn! We reviewed how an important part of the Montessori Curriculum is the **Peace Curriculum** and discussed what it means to learn in a Montessori classroom and the different ways and places in our classroom that we can create peace. **Grace and Courtesy lessons** are taught each day and are reviewed as necessary during group meetings. We address conflicts within the classroom as they arise, and together, find peaceful solutions.



Our class read *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Jewell, which is a tool we use to teach children how to solve conflicts with words and not by fighting. Other tools found at the peace table in our classroom include, The Peace Rose, yoga cards, a rock fountain, a bell, and a finger maze book. We also practice guided meditations such as:

"I am a mountain and I'm rising higher. I have a snow cap peak and a soul of fire. I'm an eagle in flight. I'm a river in the trees, I am a child and my loving touched everything."

A teacher or a child will lead us in offering peace to one another each day by reciting:

"May there be peace before you, behind you, above you, below you, from your heart, to your lips, and to everyone."



The **Peace Curriculum** is an integral part of the Montessori Education Philosophy.

Our classroom strives to incorporate Maria Montessori's message for peace into the fabric of our everyday classroom routines.

"If we are among the men of good will who yearn for peace, we must lay the foundation for peace ourselves, by working for the social world of the child."- Maria Montessori, International Montessori Congress, 1937

In **Geography**, our class continues to learn about the continent of Africa and read about the savannah, rainforest, and desert. We read a book about the savannah, and the children enjoyed working on the biomes picture sorting work!

We also learned about the many holidays celebrated throughout the month as well! Our classroom celebrated Holi, Saint Patrick's Day, and Ramadan this month. We learned that Holi is a celebration of colors and a welcoming of Spring. It is celebrated with a bonfire on the last night of the lunar cycle following a day where people gather to enjoy sweets and snacks and throw powder or colored water with friends and family.

We read *Patrick: Patron Saint of Ireland* by Tomie dePaola and learned about the history of Saint Patrick, who was born in Britain, but who then moved to Ireland at age 16 to share his beliefs with the people there. We learned that the leaves on the three-leaf clover symbolize faith, love, and hope. The additional leaf on the four-leaf clover symbolizes good luck! Everyone enjoyed trying Irish soda bread and Kerrygold butter as a food tasting treat.

We are now learning about Ramadan, which takes place in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar when the first sliver of the crescent moon appears. Ramadan is a holy month celebrated by Muslims around the world. Ramadan is a quiet, reflective time of worship, prayer, helping others, and spending time with loved ones. Some families fast during Ramadan, not eating or drinking anything between sunrise and sunset. Fasting reminds Muslims to appreciate their blessings and to help those in need.



In **Science**, we learned about the Spring Equinox and talked about many of the signs of spring! We have also been learning about bats and finishing our study of mammals. The children have enjoyed coloring and labeling the parts of the Noctule bat!



Kindergarten Afternoon

The Kindergarteners are working hard during the afternoon work time! We have been using language cards, reviewing with the sandpaper numerals, practicing our handwriting skills, and working with the phonetic word box #3. The children can identify and read consonant-vowel-consonant words with the middle sounds "i".

Here, the Kindergarteners are receiving a lesson on the phonetic words box #3 and labeling the parts of the penguin.



As we enter the new season, the kindergarteners have enjoyed learning about signs of spring, and they completed their own duck booklet!

It has been a very busy month! As the year continues to rapidly progress, we want to ask families to please begin to send seasonal extra clothes to put in your child's cubby as the weather begins to change. At any time, if you would like to know what your child has in his/her extra clothes bin, please reach out to us, and we will let you know what they have/what they need. We are excited to talk to everyone at conferences next month! Let us know if you have any trouble signing up for a time slot.

We'd like to say Happy Birthday to Vian, Nokuthula, and Eva who celebrated birthdays this month!

Thank you!

Sincerely, your child's teachers,

Ms. Laura, Ms. Alka and Ms. Samantha



Classroom B Newsletter March 2023

Hello Classroom B Parents,

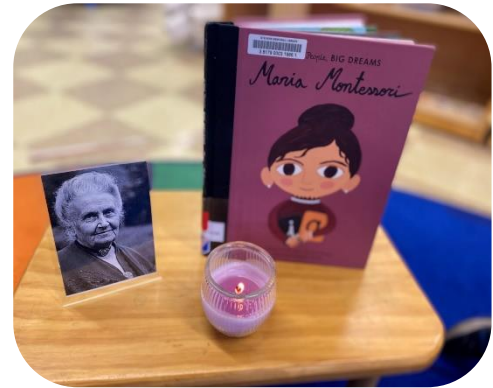
Happy March! The month of March was a special month as we celebrated “Montessori Education Week”. This month the children learned about Maria Montessori and enjoyed many lessons. A lesson presentation of her life “timeline” was given and the children truly enjoyed it. We read books and focused on our “peace curriculum” which is a huge part of our environment here at Sunrise.

Dr. Maria Montessori was an amazing woman who developed and practiced a philosophy that fosters rigorous, self-motivated growth for children and adolescents in all areas of their development, with a goal of nurturing each child's natural desire for knowledge, understanding, and respect.

In our “**Peace Education**” curriculum, each day the children practice **Grace and Courtesy** lessons. These lessons are chosen by the leader who then picks a lesson for the day.

Together we role/model individually, then as a group.

This is a great way to help each child feel comfortable talking in front of their peers and helps everyone learn peaceful and respectful ways to navigate throughout the day.



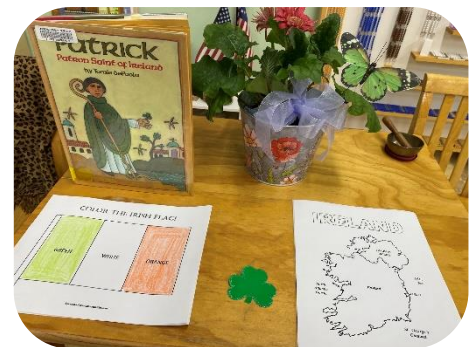
Each day the leader picks a word that symbolizes peace, for example words like kindness, love, friendship, and respect. We then take turns describing what the peaceful word of the day means to each of us. This is a very special lesson that we do each day which brings awareness and reflection to each of us.

On March 8th we celebrated Holi, the festival of colors, which is a Hindu tradition. Our class read books, completed art projects, painted, and enjoyed learning about this wonderful holiday.



In the **Cultural Area** of our environment the children explored the continent of Europe, where Maria Montessori was born. They traced the continent of Europe, then pin pushed it out and made booklets.

We also learned about the flag of Italy, then made our own flag of Italy and a portrait of Maria Montessori.



On March 17th the children learned about St. Patrick, who was Catholic, and what his message meant to his followers. Our class read books, colored the flag of Ireland, joined classroom A and tried some traditional favorites: Irish soda bread and delicious butter. We learned about the significance of the “shamrock” and enjoyed many activities.



Kindergarten Corner

The Kindergarteners are doing fantastic! Lessons have been given on plant studies throughout the year. The children observed the plants and when the plants were ready, we moved forward and replanted the roots. The children learned how to propagate plants and enjoyed replanting them on a sunny, beautiful, spring day.



The Kindergarteners are also working hard on writing their numbers both in sequential order and out of order. In the **Language Area** they have moved onto Box #3 - phonetic words. It has been an exciting month of learning during the Kindergarten afternoon, and we are thrilled with the children’s curiosity, growth and development.

In other news “Wonder Woman” joined us for the day on March 27th. We were thrilled to have her superpowers that set off “an explosion” in our **Math Area**.

Way to go, Wonder Woman... the bead cabinet was *on fire*!

Sparkle & shine!

Ms. Anselmo, Ms. Angela, Ms. Jess & Ms. Emily

