

Dear Sunrise Community,  
Winter means fun times on the playground at Sunrise!  
Thank you for remembering to send all your children's  
outdoor clothing and making sure their items are dry, too.



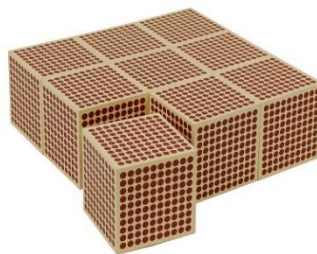
### Sunrise Giving Tree

The Giving Tree continues to be Sunrise's most successful donation program that both parents and extended family members may contribute to. For the families that are new to Sunrise, the Giving Tree is located on one of the walls in our front room near the entrance. The "tree" has leaves with Classroom Wish List items written on them; some of the items are from Montessori Services, Montessori & Such, Montessori Outlet, and other reputable companies. The Wish List items are available for families to purchase and donate to the classrooms at any time throughout the year. If anyone would like to purchase something for the school, you may view the list that accompanies this newsletter or visit our school website (Parent Corner page) anytime, then let me know what you are interested in purchasing, and I will order it for the school.

Thank you! This past month, we received a generous monetary donation from Alice & Calvin Camyre's family. With their donation, Sunrise was able to purchase the follow items for our school:



Botany cabinet



60 Thousand Cubes



Geometric Card Holder

*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

**Thank you** to Kelby Feeherry's family for the cleaning wipes and Lysol spray. Also, to Kelby's mom, Kelly, for helping me set up the new Think Lite Air Monitor that she previously donated. The monitor assesses our air quality throughout the school!

### January/February is Enrollment Time

This is a reminder that current families should complete the re-enrollment returning student application for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. If you have not completed the returning student application and you would like to ensure a space for your child for the 2021-2022 school year, please use this link to access the online Returning Students application. There is no application fee for current students.

<http://www.mysunrisemontessori.com/parent-corner.html>

If you have any questions about re-enrollment, please feel free to contact me via email anytime or if you prefer to speak directly with me, please call the school between 2:45-5:30pm.

### Open House Event for Prospective Parents

Our January Open House event was well attended, and we already had 14 new families apply to our programs for the 2021-2022 school year. Thank you to our Parent Representative, Marissa May, and her daughter Sophia, for attending our Open House. Marissa did an amazing job greeting prospective parents and answering any questions they had! Our next Open House will be held on February 6<sup>th</sup> from 11am - 1pm. After this date, the school will open up the remaining available spaces to applicants currently outside the Sunrise community!

**Valentine's Day in the Classrooms** – Even though Valentine's day occurs during the beginning of our school vacation week, we will still acknowledge and celebrate Valentine's Day in our classrooms on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> during the morning.

Traditionally the students bring either homemade or store-bought valentines to give to their classmates. The students take turns giving out their valentines, during the circle/group time, to ensure all valentines are distributed. The valentines should only be signed by the giver unless the child is able to read and write their classmate's names fairly independently.



**Classroom A** has 15 students and **Classroom B** has 9 students.

Also, by February 5<sup>th</sup>, please send in a recycled shoe box, large size recycled tissue box, or a sturdy bag, etc..., that we will decorate in class to hold your child's valentines. The children will bring their valentines home to enjoy reading at home with you! Please reach out to either Ms. Kristin or me for any further clarification if necessary.

**A reminder about inclement weather and snow** – Just a reminder that Sunrise Montessori School follows the Franklin Public School policy on delays/closings. Please also watch Channel 5 and check your email for updates.

If the Franklin Public Schools are closed, so is Sunrise Montessori School. Our Extended Day program also does not operate on days when the school is closed.

For a 1 hour delay, classes will begin at 9:30AM.

For a 1 ½ hour delay, classes will begin at 10:00AM.

For 2 hour delay classes will begin at 10:30AM.



In the event of any delay, there will be no Before School care available. In the event of an early dismissal due to inclement weather or power interruption, all students must be picked up by 12:00PM.

If the Franklin Public School announces any delay or closing, Andrea will email the Sunrise Community directly.

## **Montessori Education Week February 21-27<sup>th</sup>**

In 2021 Montessori schools around the world will celebrate the 114 year of Montessori Education! This week acknowledges the work of Dr. Maria Montessori and her philosophy of teaching. In prior years at Sunrise, the students would deliver Peace Roses to the offices within the Moseley Complex to honor this week, but due to current COVID circumstances, we will not be participating in this activity. This year I am asking all Sunrise parents, board members, staff, and teachers to help celebrate Montessori Education Week. I would like to update our Sunrise Montessori Testimonial Wall on our website page [www.mysunrisemontessori.com](http://www.mysunrisemontessori.com) in the About Us tab and add testimonials to our Sunrise Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/sunrisemontessori/](http://www.facebook.com/sunrisemontessori/) Additionally, I will submit our responses to the Montessori Opportunities website [http://www.montessori-opportunities.com/montessori\\_education\\_week](http://www.montessori-opportunities.com/montessori_education_week) that promotes Montessori education globally.

Please consider the following in your testimonial responses:

- What do you value about your child's Montessori Education
- How does your child/family benefit from Montessori Education
- Why did you choose Montessori Education for your child/ren?

## **Scholastic Orders**

The scholastic book orders are due on Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>. Marissa provided an informative email on how our school benefits from ordering through scholastic and how you can connect to our Class Page at <http://orders.scholastic.com/KNYN8>

## **Sunrise's first Restaurant Fundraiser at The Chateau**

You all should have received Marissa's email regarding the fundraiser at The Chateau in Franklin on Thursday, February 18. Restaurant fundraisers are a great way to enjoy good food (even take out) and give a percentage of that meal directly to our school. Marissa will provide more details regarding how much of a percentage Sunrise will receive (usually 10-20%) and any other pertinent information.

## **Upcoming Sunrise Friday Spirit Days are as follows:**

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Mismatch Day. Students can wear mismatched clothes (socks, shoes, etc...)

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Crazy Hair Day. Need I say more!

April 16<sup>th</sup> – Favorite Color Day. Students can wear their favorite color.

May 21<sup>st</sup> – Spring Has Sprung. Wear a spring outfit!

June (To be determined) – Tie Dye Day.

## **Daily Health Screening Reminder**

Please continue to complete the daily health screening each day your child attends school. As part of our health and safety plan, the Department of Early Education & Care (DEEC) requires our program to maintain these screenings daily. We appreciate your diligence in this matter.

### Special Thank you to our families:

I wanted to take an opportunity to specially thank our Sunrise families and community members for their donations and support of our school and extend a Special Thank You to our Parent Representative, Marissa May for all that you do for our school!

Thanks for reading our newsletter!

Andrea Rossick,  
Head of School



### 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 / Head Teacher

Andrea Rossick:

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

#### Head Teacher

Kristin Masefield:

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

#### Sunrise Parent Representatives:

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

Friday, February 5:	Pizza Friday
Saturday, February 6:	Admissions Open House from 11am to 1pm. Open to the public.
Monday, February 8:	Open enrollment for available spaces in 2021-2022.
Friday, February 12:	Pizza Friday
Monday, February 15-Friday, February 19:	School Vacation Week – Enjoy the time off!
Thursday, February 18:	Restaurant Night at the Chateau
Sunday, February 21-Saturday, February 27:	Montessori Education Week – celebrating 114 years!
Friday, February 26:	Pizza Friday and <b>School Spirit Day - Mismatch Day</b> . Students can wear mismatched clothes (socks, shoes, etc...) if they choose to.
Friday, March 5:	Professional Development Day for staff – no classes; no extended day
Friday, March 12:	Pizza Friday

## 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 activated 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. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier each time you shop.

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

Take a look at the preselected items on the Giving Tree. Use the link found on the [Parent Corner](#) page of our website. Many thanks to everyone for their support!

### New – Amazon Wish List for Sunrise

We have recently added a Wish List on Amazon. Be sure to check out the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3mpcpa3> New items will be added each month.



## Classroom A Newsletter January 2021

**Diversity** best describes our classroom! Our new friends added even more culture and enrichment to our classroom family.

Sisters, Matea and Elena, moved here from Switzerland; they speak Swiss German, and they continue to improve their English skills.

Twin brothers, Ayan and Riyan, speak the Indian language of Gujarati at home, and they are also learning English. Vian, the brother of an alumni student, is fitting right into our classroom family (he has visited our school many times in the past with his parents to pick up his older brother Reyansh). Of course, the rest of the class continues to build friendships and help their new classmates learn about the routines and schedules throughout the school day!



### Shades of People

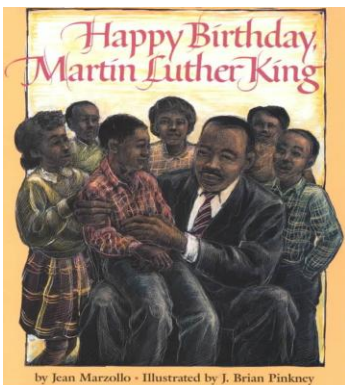
**Although we are different,  
we are the same at heart.**

**Our skin is the covering  
that tells us apart.**

**Our hands are for helping  
Friends in need.**

**And our classroom is learning  
how to grow and succeed!**

We read two great books, *The Skin You Live In*, by Michael Tyler and *Shades of People* by Shelley Rotner and Sheila Kelly. Both books provide a clear description of how we are all the same and different, and I highly recommend these books for this age group. My favorite group activity (pictured above) helps children to see the many different shades of skin, hair color, eye color, and their individuality and uniqueness. I hope that your children enjoyed showing you the Shades of People poem with the class photo that each child created this past week. It was a lot of fun!



**Martin Luther King Jr.** Our class learned a brief history about Martin Luther King Jr. and why we honor his birthday every January! Our class read this book with a special emphasis on how Martin helped to change laws that were unfair to others. He helped change the unfair rules so children could go to school together even if they looked different from one another. We learned that he loved to help people, and that he met with many groups of people to make the world a better place!

## Mammals

We learned about another group of vertebrates and their characteristics – Mammals! Mammals are warm blooded and have lungs for breathing; they feed their babies milk, and they have fur or hair on their bodies. Some fun activities we explored for the mammal work were; The Parts of the Horse cards (my favorite animal), The Parts of a Hamster cards (by student request), and the Farm Table pictured on the right!



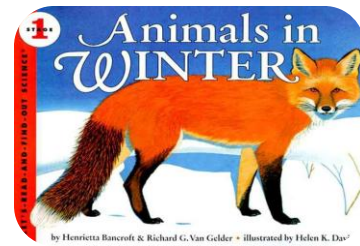
## Mammals in the Winter



Hibernation work



Animal tracks work



Active and inactive animals

We learned which animals typically hibernate such as the bear, chipmunk, groundhog, and bats (some children remembered that bats are mammals). Animals that hibernate store or eat excess food to gain fat for the winter months. Their bodies (mainly their heart rate) slow down to keep the body from using up energy and stored fat.

Animals that remain active during the winter season are beavers, tree squirrels, skunk, deer, and rabbits. These animals, we learned, must forage for food all winter long. Deer usually eat twigs, stems, and other grasses available. Rabbits often dig below the snow to find grasses and other plant life they may eat during the winter.

Aisy inspired us to read and discuss life of a beaver after she shared a couple photos of a beaver cutting down trees! We discussed how they cut down the trees to make lodges to live in and to create dams and pools of water to trap food and to give protection against predators such as coyotes!



## Sensorial: Geometry

This past month, we had “explosions of learning” from the Sensorial Area of the classroom. We had various lessons on box #1 Rectangle Box, box #2 Blue Triangles, box #3 Triangle Box, box #4 Small Hexagonal Box, and box #5 Large Hexagonal Box. All the boxes can be called “Constructive Triangle” work because it introduces the concept of visual images that may be combined to form different shapes. These boxes can be used at various developmental ages, and I hope that you enjoy the photos of the class working with these amazing boxes the past couple of weeks! See the pictures on the next page.....



**The geometry fun also was found in the Language and Practical Life areas too!**



### **Afternoon Kindergarten**

The Geometry fun spilled over into the afternoon with the kindergarteners! We had so much fun in the morning work cycle time that we had to continue our geometry study. This group took a more in-depth approach to the #3 Triangle Box. First, we learned that equilateral triangles can be made up of different shaped triangles.



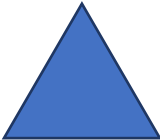
The box contains one large gray equilateral triangle, 2 green right-angled scalene triangles, 3 yellow obtuse-angled isosceles triangles, and 4 small red equilateral triangles. After we discussed the different shaped triangles, we then created a Constructive Triangle Book of the four different triangle representations from the box.



**Winter Wonderland School Spirit**



**With Peace!**  
**Ms. Andrea & Ms. Alka**





## Classroom B January 2021 Newsletter

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 baskets 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 am so grateful for having your precious children in the 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. Ask your child/ren about learning how to arrange flowers in a vase. They can select the vase they want and arrange the fake flowers the way they choose. When they are satisfied with their arrangement, they can place the vase anywhere in the classroom. You might find them trying this at home!

In addition, we have added wood polishing and cinnamon pounding with a mortar and pestle.

Our peace word for the month of January is cooperation. We have been talking about what it means to cooperate with each other and work together. As a result, we decided that for the last 15 minutes of the day, everyone can focus on an area in the classroom to tidy up. One or two friends will clean up the painting table and paint brushes. Another friend will reroll all of the rugs, sweep the floor or empty the water from the practical life work. When we all work together, we can accomplish so much more!

### **Science**

We continued our study of birds including their life cycle, how an embryo develops, 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 whom the National Audubon Society is named. He was born in 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 the birds he observed. He wanted to paint the birds so that they appeared as life-like as possible. He strived to paint every bird in America! We have also learned about owls, and discovered that they are called "birds of prey". Owls are very good hunters and will eat mice, snakes, frogs, lizards and other creatures. The children thought it was interesting to read that owls are unable to move their eyes around in their sockets, but that these birds 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. Many 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 learned about the water cycle (the continuous movement of water on earth) and practiced saying words like, condensation, precipitation, collection and evaporation. Our class discussed the fact that 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 in collects as liquid and forms in the clouds! This is the water cycle! If your child excitedly talks to you about clouds, rain, water and more, it is because this was such a fascinating topic for them. 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 this month, we also explored the concepts of sink and float and 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

At the beginning of January our class learned about Martin Luther King, Jr. He was born in Atlanta, GA 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 color, but by the way they act as good human beings.



Our country focus this month was Mexico, chosen by one of our Kindergarten students! The class has been learning how to speak a few Spanish phrases, for example, "Good morning" (*Buenos días*), "my name is" (*me llamo es*), "how are you?" (*cómo estás*). The children will respond with either fantastic! (*fantástico*), good (*bueno*), ok (*asi asi*), or not good (*no bueno*). We have a lot of fun seeing how each friend responds! In addition, we are learning how to say the months of the year and the days of the week in Spanish. We also count the numbers in Spanish while we review our calendar each day. Some of the information we learned about Mexico is the type of food that is popular in the country, what the Mexican flag looks like and of course, we know that Mexico is a country in the continent of North America!

We learned about the life of Mexican artist, Frida Kahlo, and had the opportunity to paint or color in some of her self-portraits. On Friday, we had our Mexican fiesta! We danced to Mexican music with our maracas and ate guacamole, salsa and tortilla chips! We had so much fun!



## Music

We are so lucky to be able to experience music class with Ms. MaryJo Rett every Friday via her YouTube videos! She not only has the children up and singing and dancing, but she also teaches us about famous composers and instruments. This past Friday, we listened to music from Mozart, and her special guest, Mr. Rett, taught us about a few stringed instruments, including the acoustic guitar, mandolin and ukulele.

## Kindergarten

In addition to digging deeper into the concepts above, we have also explored larger numbers and how to build them. We are learning how we can use different types of triangles to make other shapes like parallelograms, trapezoid and rhombus.

The children are learning the phonograms TH, CH, PH, SH, OO, and EE.

Each Kindergartener had the chance to share with us their special interests! We learned about Simone Biles's life and some gymnastics moves! Another friend taught us all about Karate and some punching and kicking sequences! Finally, another friend shared with us his love of rocks and crystals! The children were all so respectful as they listened to what their peers were teaching. We had so much fun!!! Thank you for bringing in things from home and sharing them with us!!!

Warmly,

Ms. Kristin and Ms. Julie

