



## May 2021 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

The end of the school year is fast approaching! The classrooms have been busy preparing for the End of the Year Ceremony, making special gifts for Father's Day, finishing Classroom Fundraiser Projects, and of course, most of all they are so excited to be playing outdoors together during recess time. Spending recess together has completely changed the dynamics of our outdoor time. They have discovered new friendships!

Also, I would like to mention that starting Tuesday June 1<sup>st</sup>, Classroom A will now be dismissing at 2:30pm with Classroom B from the playground (weather permitting). Both Ms. Kristin and I will continue to bring the children directly to your cars to help keep the car line moving!



Everyone looked fabulous in their favorite spring outfits!

### Storyteller Diane Edgecomb

Thank you for the wonderful feedback that was sent after the performance last week. I especially liked the comment from one student who stated he now knows what he wants to be when he grows up – A Storyteller! It is so great to receive your feedback. The children had a blast during this performance!



### School Spirit Day – June 4<sup>th</sup>

Our final school Spirit Day will be Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> and it is Tie Dye Day - wear any combination of tie dye!

*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

### Classroom Projects

At the End of Year Ceremony, the classroom projects will be displayed on a table in the courtyard. This is our final fundraiser of the year, and you may choose to make a donation in any amount. While not required to win, donations towards the classroom projects will be accepted on that day. Each family's name will be placed in the classroom draw and a lucky winner will be drawn at the end of our ceremony. Good luck to all! Your children have worked hard on these projects and are proud of their accomplishments.



**Metal Inset**  
**"Get into Shape" Quilt**



**Framed "Heart Art"**  
**inspired by Kandinsky**

### End of the Year Ceremony Details

- **Please drop your child off** at the regular time for school (between 8:25am and 8:45am).
- **Arrive back at the school no later than 10am** and be sure to park in a lined spot (not along the circle). Additional parking is available in the top lot.
- **Go directly to the Courtyard area** (this is located in the center of the Moseley Complex - just look up for the flagpole). There is a grass area in the center where families will sit.
- **Who should attend** - Only 2 adults please and siblings, of course. Due to space, we don't have enough room for extended family. Thank you for your understanding.
- **What you should bring** - a folding chair to sit on or a blanket, if you prefer. Please let me know in advance if you need chairs. We do have a small, limited amount to lend, but aren't renting additional seating. The students will be sitting in their own classroom groups throughout the ceremony. Classroom A will be on the left and Classroom B will be on the right for the entire ceremony. **It is a sunny area**; be prepared, please. Sunblock or a hat on your child is essential.
- All adults should wear their masks during the ceremony\*. *As I write this, the Department of Early Education & Care has just issued updated recommendations based on decisions from the CDC and the State of Massachusetts. Many of the mandates from earlier in the year have been eliminated or switched from "required" to "recommended". Thank you for your understanding during this time - by next week we should have a clearer picture of what is still required vs what is now simply recommended.*
- Teachers and students will arrive on the courtyard at approximately 10:15am to begin the ceremony. The ceremony will last about 30-45minutes.
- There will be ample opportunity for that perfect photo as your child walks to his/her teachers to receive their certificate.
- Directly after the ceremony, you may wish to bring your chairs/blankets back to your vehicle and then proceed to the school to say farewell and collect any of your child's items. Bring along a sturdy bag to hold cubby items, slippers, blankets, papers, etc.....
- The students will head back with their classroom teachers as a group, and they will be dismissed from their classrooms. Please keep goodbyes brief (as hard as this will be). Dismissal is 11:30am and you should walk with your child to your car instead of the usual car-line dismissal. Please take care when walking through the parking lot with your child - hold their hand and be aware of any moving vehicles.

## Weather

During the last week of May we got our first real hint of hot, humid, summer weather. We want to avoid sunburns on sensitive skin. Therefore, please apply sunscreen to your child before coming to school. If your child has a hat or baseball-style cap that he/she likes to wear, this will also help with the sun on cloudless days. A "flappy-style" hat also will prevent the backs of necks from getting too much sun. The flying insects and bugs have also returned to our playground, so consider applying bug sprays at home as well.



## Sneakers for the Playground

Due to safety reasons, children should wear sneakers on the playground now that the weather is warmer. Party shoes, sandals, etc... do not provide foot support for running and climbing while crocs allow wood chips to get under little feet.

## 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.

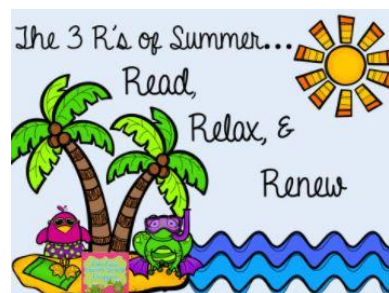
## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, May 31 - Memorial Day holiday; no classes, no extended day

Thursday/Friday, June 3 & 4 - finalizing our Father's Day gifts and learning about this important tradition in the classrooms.

Friday, June 4 - final pizza Friday and School Spirit Day -  
**Wear Tie-Dye!**

Thursday, June 10 - Last day of school, End of Year ceremony,  
Early Release at 11:30am





## 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://smile.amazon.com), 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://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.bboxtops4education.com](https://www.bboxtops4education.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

All of the leaves have been taken from the Giving Tree. Many thanks to everyone for their support!

### 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.

Dear Parents,

May brought such fun for our classroom. We enjoyed many great activities both indoors and outside!

### **Botany – Plants and Flowers**



As you may remember, last month we planted pea seeds in eggshells. We planted the seedlings into the decorated clay pots we made for Mother's Day. The children helped tend to the pots by watering and spritzing them daily.

Caring for our indoor plants occurs all year round! Taking care of our donated Money Trees is a weekly and fun Practical Life work. One child asked if any money would grow from these plants; I responded that wealth comes in all forms. The plants are providing oxygen for us to breathe.



### **Parts of the Flower Study**



As pictured, we used our beautiful Parts of a Flower puzzle, 3 Part Matching Flower Cards, and the Parts of a Flower definition booklet to aid our study. We learned that flowers have about 14 parts. The four main parts are the petal (all petals are called the corolla), sepal (the sepals together are called the calyx), stamen (includes the anther and filament), and pistil (includes the stigma, style, ovary). Also, the stem which includes the peduncle and the receptacle. Some children worked hard to complete the Parts of the flower booklets.

The afternoon kindergarteners spent about a week reading and learning about flowers. They also helped put in some of the vegetable plants in our new garden box outside the school.



### **Zoology – Insects**

Insects and flowers seem to go hand-in-hand in the month of May. First, we learned the characteristics of an insect. Insects have a three-part body (head, thorax, and an abdomen), have three pairs of legs, a pair of antennae, and eyes. Many insects like flies, moths, butterflies, bumble bees, and honeybees are pollinators flying from flower to flower collecting nectar. This fertilizes the flower, and the plant will then grow seeds and the fruit around the seeds.

We also learned the life cycle of the Ladybug (ladybird), the Butterfly, and the Honeybee. The metamorphosis of each begins with the Egg, the Larva (caterpillar), the Pupa (chrysalis), and the Adult.



We also learned the parts of the Katydid (bush crickets or long-horned grasshoppers), had fun sorting insects from non-insects, and color by number butterflies and dragonflies.



### **Art – Recycling Art Week**

We spent one week using our classroom trash (plastic and paper) to make art projects. The ideas were endless. Here are a few of the great masterpieces designed by the children!

This is a picture of one of the many glitter/colored water bottles that were made. Of course, there is a story behind how they came up with colored water at the art table without food coloring. One of our students came up with the idea of dipping her markers in the water to turn the water purple. Another student asked if we had any glitter to make it sparkle – why not!



Some students decided to use the paper towel rolls, dried beans, and the fabric squares to make musical instruments. What a great idea!



## Other Recycling Creations



## Sign Language – ASL

We spent some time learning a few of the common signs in American Sign Language. First, we learned how to sign the entire alphabet; some students are really getting the hang of it. Then the students created name tags by cutting out the signs/letters of their own name. Many of them can sign their own name already. We also learned the days of the week signs, other words like father (thumb of open hand touch forehead twice), mother (thumb of open hand tap chin twice), love (open hands cross on chest), hug (arms crossed hands clutching as if hugging yourself), hurt (index fingers tap together near location of pain), hot (clawed hand twists out and down from mouth), thank you (hand touches lips then moves forward), please (flat hand draws small circle on chest), and toilet/potty (thumb between index and middle finger – the letter “T” with hand waves sideways a few times). Practice these signs with your child, they will remember!

The K's worked a bit more on ASL in the afternoon as well. They did alphabet booklets, ASL worksheets of spelling and reading, and of course decorating their folders was fun, too!



## Yoga with Ms. Alka

We are so fortunate to have Ms. Alka teach us new Yoga poses weekly! She inspires many students to try new challenging positions and she also practices breathing as a daily group activity. Ms. Alka was also inspired by a student to use the Sensorial Red Length Rods as a Maze for practicing balance and calmness.





One special photo of this student making a painting for his new baby brother!

### Teacher Appreciation Week – Thank you to all the Sunrise Parents



Love, Peace, and Hope  
Ms. Andrea, Ms. Alka, & Ms. Jessica





## Classroom B Newsletter May 2021

Hello Classroom B Families!

It is so hard to believe that the end of the year is here. Despite this being an “off” year due to COVID, I have to say that the children have adapted so well to the changes that were made, and we have had an amazing year together! Classroom B has become like a little family with the children being more like siblings than peers! There has been something so magical about having such a small class and being able to go through these strange times together. It was a year I won't soon forget!

To wrap up the school year, we focused mostly on the ocean, the types of animals that inhabit the ocean and surrounding land and the beautiful coral reef off the coast of Australia. We learned that the Earth has 5 oceans - the Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Southern.

### **Practical Life:**

In practical life, the children enjoyed shell scrubbing! They were able to choose either a conch or quahog shell to scrub.



### **Cultural Studies: Geography/ Science**

We began our month learning about the parts of the flower and observed some beautiful flowers around our school!

We learned some words like, pistil, stamen, calyx and stem.

We also had the chance to release our butterflies! We learned about the painted lady butterfly and discovered that butterflies use a proboscis, which is like a straw, to drink nectar from flowers. When butterflies are not feeding, they can curl their proboscis up like a coil.



We also learned about dinosaurs and volcanos. Some of the dinosaurs we talked about included the Styracosaurus, Tuojiangosaurus, Amargasaurus, and the Parasaurolophus. We learned that the dinosaurs went extinct a long time ago, but that many animals today have been around since the dinosaurs, including crocodiles, horseshoe crabs, lobsters, snakes and bees!

We had a lot of fun learning about dinosaurs, and of course, we needed to learn about volcanoes, too! We discovered that there are different types of volcanoes, and they erupt when pressure inside the Earth builds up over time. Hot magma rises to the surface of the Earth and begins to crack the

rock above the magma. The lava flows through the single vent to the crater at the top. Depending on the type of eruption, the lava will erupt into the air or may just slowly flow down the side of the volcano.



This past month our class also focused on the continent of Australia, with particular emphasis on the Great Barrier Reef off the coast of Queensland in the northeastern part of the continent. It is the largest coral reef system in the world and can even be seen from outer space! The reef is home to so many amazing creatures that it would take us the whole year to learn about each one so we just kept our focus on the most common sea animals.

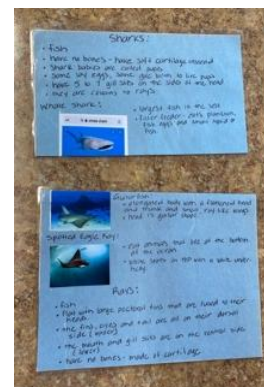
We began learning about whales and discovered there are two types of whales; toothed whales and ones that have baleen. Some of the toothed whales include the sperm whale, beluga and narwhal. Whales that have baleen include the humpback, minke and blue whale. Whales are mammals and breathe air through their blowholes. Whales that have baleen have two blowholes whereas toothed whales have only one.



After whales, we learned about dolphins and porpoises. Dolphins have longer noses, more curved dorsal fins and are generally larger than porpoises. Dolphins also have cone shaped teeth while porpoises have spade shaped teeth. Dolphins are also more social than porpoises.



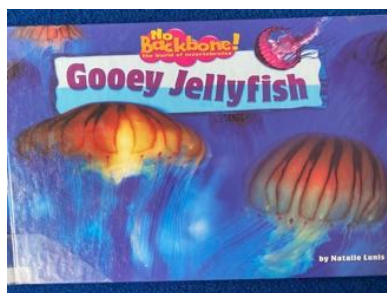
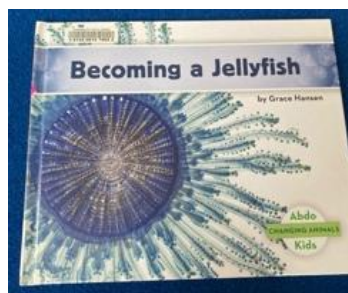
We also learned about sharks. Sharks are not mammals, but are fish so they have gills and do not breathe air. Some sharks lay eggs and some give birth to live babies. We learned about the whale and basking shark which are filter feeders and the great white and hammerhead, both which have teeth. Additionally, we talked about how sharks and rays are cousins, but that they also eat each other! We looked at some pictures of the sawfish, guitarfish and the spotted eagle ray.





When we think about oceans, shells always come to mind. We discovered that shells are either bivalve or univalve. Bivalve shells are connected by a hinge and univalve shells are a single colors or cap-shape shell. Some of the names of shells we have learned include conch, mussel, periwinkle, scallop and quahog.

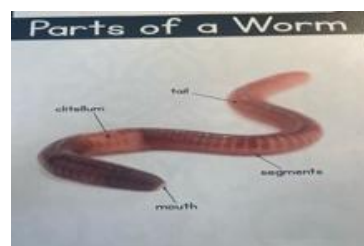
For our final focus on ocean creatures, we studied jellyfish! Jellyfish are amazing creatures and are not fish at all! Jellyfish have no heart, brains, ears, or bones. The largest jellyfish is bigger than a human and the smallest is the size of a grape. Jellyfish use tentacles to get food. Sometimes fish will swim right into the tentacles which kill or stun the fish. Then the jellyfish will use its tentacles to pull the food into its mouth! They are pretty amazing creatures!



Here are two fantastic books our class read about jellyfish. I highly recommend these books.

*Becoming a Jellyfish* by Grace Hansen and *Gooey Jellyfish* by Natalie Lunis.

Unrelated to oceans, but equally just as exciting, are earthworms! The children in Classroom B have been searching the playground for earthworms everyday and are fascinated by them! Earthworms are invertebrates that live in the soil, and they eat bacteria and fungi. Earthworms are so important for the soil because their poop contains fertilizer! Talking to the kindergarteners about worm poop was quite an experience!!! Let's just say we laughed a lot!



We have had such a wonderful year with your amazing children and are going to miss them all over the summer! We hope that you have a fun and safe summer, and we will see some of you in the fall, when hopefully things will be back to normal!

With peace and gratitude,

Ms. Kristin and Ms. Julie