



## September 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. The school year has begun and the children are settling in nicely.

At the beginning of the school year in a Montessori classroom, students (both new and returning) are introduced to lessons on how to work in a Montessori classroom environment. For example: how to carry a tray, how to walk on a line, and how to roll up a mat (to name just a few). For the children, this is also a time when they are developing social bonds and interacting with their classmates - some children are meeting new friends for the first time while others are renewing friendships from the previous year. Teachers will also focus on the Montessori lessons that are called the Grace and Courtesy lessons. Many of these lessons are done by role playing. The lessons teach the children how to share and interact with their classmates, teachers, visitors, respect of self and others, and concept of personal space. Once the classrooms have developed a routine, many of the Montessori lessons are introduced. As the year continues, the children will build upon these lessons, and they will be guided by their teachers to reach their highest potential in a Montessori classroom.



**Community Garden** - This was our best year ever for produce. Thank you to the following parents and children for watering the garden: John Hayden, Ethan Hammerschlag, the DiCrescenzo family, Colette Lelievre, Ela LeClerc, Anna Corrao, Charley O'Connell, Anika Shah and Micky Nappa. Because of your help, the Food Pantry received between 10 to 15 pounds of vegetables. They really appreciated the beautiful zucchini, tomatoes, finger eggplants and kale. Thank you so much.



**Paperwork** - Thank you to everyone for returning your child's enrollment paperwork to the office. Please remember that when your child is scheduled for his/her annual physical, provide an updated copy of the health form to the school, too. As I checked each child's immunization forms, I noticed that quite a few children have their upcoming physical in October.

**Sunrise Board of Directors - Open position** - running a school requires the input and expertise from many people. Sunrise is governed by a Board of Directors and is a non-profit 501c3 organization. Currently our BOD is comprised of founding members of the school, parents of former students and parents of current students. Presently there are 8 members on the board. We are actively seeking a Treasurer. If you have accounting skills, we need you. A description for this position and other opportunities may be found at the end of the newsletter and on our website.



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

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

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

## Upcoming Events

**Harvest Stroll** – Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – Sunrise Montessori School will participate in the Downtown Partnership Harvest Festival from 11am to 4pm. Our school is a proud member of this local organization. The event takes place in the center of Franklin, and many of the local businesses will set up tables and booths. Sunrise is usually located near the Black Box. The event is free and open to the public. The rain date is the following day (October 15th). Bring the family down and decorate craft pumpkins. For further information, see <http://www.franklindowntownpartnership.org/>

**Sunrise Parent Association Meeting** – The first meeting will be held at 6:30pm on Thursday, October 19th preceding the Curriculum Night presentation. Rachel Flum and Courtney Nappa are our Co-Parent Representatives this year, and they will be happy to answer any questions that you have. Throughout the year, there will be at least three Sunrise Parent Association meetings planned. All parents of Sunrise are encouraged to attend.

During this brief meeting parents will discuss upcoming field trips, events, fundraisers and any suggestions parents want to bring forward.

Sometimes events will be scheduled during school time, but there might be times that our school families will plan a social event just to be together. Our main goal is to build a wonderful community for our families at Sunrise Montessori School. You may contact Rachel or Courtney at: [Parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com)

**Curriculum Night** – Will be held on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 until 8:30pm. This is an important time to learn about some of the classroom Montessori materials that the teachers have selected for presentation. We will also touch upon the different levels of the Montessori materials to help to give a clearer picture of how a child progresses within the Montessori environment.



The teachers will present a variety of lessons, and at the end of the lessons you are welcome to ask questions. This event is open to all families, and we encourage you to bring along a friend, neighbor or coworker who would like to learn more about Montessori Education.

**Holidays are Coming** - There are several holidays approaching quickly this fall. Schools in Franklin observe Rosh Hashanah on September 21st and are closed. Yom Kippur begins at sunset on September 29th. Diwali is celebrated from October 19th until the 23rd. In December many families will celebrate Hannukah and Christmas.

As these holidays approach us, many families order special gifts from the Montessori Services Catalog for their children. This year Jacquelyn Gubka (parent of two children in classroom B) will distribute the Montessori Services catalogs to families just before the holiday rush begins. The catalog will have a letter attached to it explaining how this particular fundraiser works for the children and for the school. The items are beautiful, and I hope that you will enjoy ordering from this catalog. Thank you.

**Passive Fundraising** - I wanted to pass along some exciting news for the school. We now participate in the Amazon Smile program. AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.



Go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and sign in as you normally do on your desktop or mobile phone browser.

Go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity (look under Shopping Programs and Rentals) To select Sunrise as the charity you wish to support, type in Sunrise Montessori School in the search bar.

When you shop online, please keep Sunrise Montessori School in mind. Tell your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors....every eligible purchase helps our school. But remember, only purchases at smile.amazon.com (*not www.amazon.com or the mobile app*) support charity.

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

**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 **"Digital Backpack"**. This page can be found in the pulldown menu of the "Current Events" tab. Click on any of the hyperlinks to view the selected form or information page as a PDF. If the item isn't hyperlinked, it hasn't been uploaded yet.

## 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.

### Director

Karen Roeber: [Director@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Director@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Lead Teachers:

Andrea Koska: [Andrea@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Andrea@MySunriseMontessori.com)

Audrey Lietar: [Audrey@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Audrey@MySunriseMontessori.com)

Elizabeth Mason: [Elizabeth@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Elizabeth@MySunriseMontessori.com)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please note that all current events, news and the academic year calendar are also found on the school's website: [www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

Thursday, September 21st – Rosh Hashanah - no school - no extended day

Monday, October 9th – Columbus Day – no school and no extended day

Saturday, October 14th – Franklin Harvest Festival – 11:00am to 4:00 pm

Thursday, October 19th – Sunrise Parent Association Meeting at 6:30pm

Thursday, October 19th – Curriculum Night - 7:00pm to 8:30pm



## **Board and Committee Recruitment for Sunrise Montessori School, Inc.**

Please consider becoming a valued member of the Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. Board of Directors or a Committee member for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. Our School is actively recruiting individuals who possess leadership skills, and who are able to volunteer their time and expertise in a strategic governance role in our organization.

Our School's mission is to encourage students' curiosity and love for learning, to guide and develop their independent skills and to prepare a classroom that will meet the needs of all children, according to the philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori, a pioneer in the field of early childhood development.

For the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year, the Board of Directors is seeking to fill the following positions:

**Treasurer** – the ideal candidate will have a background in accounting and be familiar with developing budgets. Primary duties will include working closely with the Board President and School Director to prepare and to help implement an annual budget; the Treasurer will also work closely with the School's accountant to prepare the annual tax reports.

**Fundraising & Grant Committee** – the ideal candidate will have experience with fundraising, marketing or in a related area. Primary duties will be to work closely with the School's Director, Parent Representative and other Committee members throughout the year to identify potential fundraising activities or programs as well as research grants available to nonprofit organizations.

**Personnel Committee** – the ideal candidate will have a background in Human Resources or a similar area. Primary duties will be to work closely with the School's Director and other Personnel Committee members to review and provide input for the parent and employee handbooks, teacher contracts and other personnel issues throughout the year.

Full descriptions for these volunteer positions are available from the Sunrise BOD President, Paul Roeber. Please email him a letter of interest which includes your contact information, an overview of your financial or business experience or a current résumé.

Paul may be reached at: [President@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:President@MySunriseMontessori.com)