

February 2019 Newsletter

Early Spring

So far, so good - Mr. Groundhog is calling it right for an early spring. The children have been spending a lot more time outside. Boots have certainly been needed due to the playground mud, but the other snow gear has not been needed as much. Next week we hope to start planting the vegetable seeds for our Community Garden; with more sunlight added each day, our seeds should grow nicely. The children will enjoy watering and seeing the seedlings grow each day. In May, we plan to transport our plants to the Community Garden and with tender loving care, we hope to grow beautiful and delicious vegetables for the Franklin Food Pantry all summer long.

Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day will be here next Thursday, and you may send in your child's Valentine box as early as Monday. If you are in need of a box, please let us know, and we will provide you with one. The Valentine cards only need to have **your child's name** written on each card for their classmates. We also have music on that day so we are sure that Ms. Mary Jo Rett will sing a lot of favorite Valentine songs. It will be a fun day.



Enrollment

On Saturday, February 9th we will hold our next Admissions Open House from 11AM to 1PM. So far I've heard back from almost all of our current families. If you plan for your child to attend Sunrise for the 2019 - 2020 academic year, but haven't turned in your application yet, please do so as soon as you can. There is no charge to re-enroll your child. After next week we will open enrollment to families from outside of the current Sunrise community.

If you know someone who is interested in enrollment, please refer them and remind them to list your name on their admissions questionnaire. You will receive a \$100 credit on your account if they list you as a referring family, and they subsequently enroll.

A Year with Jan Brett

During our school vacation week, on Friday, February 22nd, we will host our next Jan Brett event from 10:00AM until 12:00PM. Our Jan Brett events have been fun and so special. I've received great feedback from both children and parents. Last time, the event was held at night, and the children wore their PJs. They were so cute. During the last story of the night they almost all fell asleep. We always plan different crafts and fun activities for the children to make and take home. This time we will create a fairy house, decorate rocket ships and mermaids and plant some turnip seeds and so much more. Please plan to join us. Thank you.



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

Other Upcoming Events & News

Uno's Fundraiser

On Martin Luther King, Jr Day – we had a Fundraiser at Uno's in Bellingham. Thank you to Vera and Kevin Holmes who planned this event for Sunrise. Many families attended on a very blustery and freezing, cold day; we even had three alum families who supported Sunrise as well. Vera and Kevin have set up another restaurant night at the Ninety Nine Restaurant in Franklin on Wednesday, April 10th. It should be a warm day by then so please mark your calendars to come. Thank you.

Montessori Education Week

Montessori schools around the world will celebrate the 112th Montessori Education Week from February 24 through March 2. Our curriculum will be enhanced through stories of peace and special activities in the classrooms. Traditionally our older students, accompanied by their teachers, will visit several of the businesses within the Hayward St complex to present "peace roses". Our neighbors always look forward to the visit from the children.

Looking Ahead

Mass Audubon Moose Hill

Last year, several families went to Moose Hill in Sharon to discover first-hand the process of maple sugaring. It was a chilly, but beautiful day, and the children got to see sap icicles hanging from the trees. This year Moose Hill will be coming to us on Monday, March 11th to show us the maple sugaring process. It will be a little different from being at Moose Hill – we will miss the sugar house, but it should still be enjoyable and delicious.

Annual Fair

This year our Annual Fair takes place on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 11:00AM – 1:00PM. Note the shift in the time. We are switching to an hour earlier than in previous years. The Silent Auction planning is underway with Sarah Allegretti, Soumya Iyengar, Yu-Lu Ma and Swetha Vanga collecting donation items from local businesses. If there is a business that you visit often, and you think they might want to donate to Sunrise's Silent Auction, please give them a donation letter which I have attached to this newsletter. It is always nice to add new businesses to our Silent Auction list each year.

In addition to our Silent Auction tables, we will have our raffle table, baked goods, plant table and pizza table. The children can enjoy games, a train ride and the bouncy house. It is a family fun day that is open to the public. All proceeds to benefit the playground and classrooms.

Summer Program

Our brochure has been sent to the printer and will be available soon. The program will also be featured on our website. This year we have added additional weeks to expand the options available to families.

The summer program begins the week of June 24 and runs through August 9. *There is no program during the first week of July due to the holiday*. The morning program runs Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 11:30am, and the full day program runs Monday through Friday from 8:30am - 2:30pm.

The summer program is open to all children between the ages of 3 and 6. Children do not need to be enrolled in our academic year program to attend the summer program so please help spread the word. Many children sign up for a week or two with a neighborhood friend. Please let the office know if you need extra brochures.

Annual Fund Drive

Our Annual Donation Fund continues to grow, and it is now over \$1000.00 We have been fortunate that current families, board members, teachers, alumni and matching employer donors have given towards this fund.

No matter how big or small your donation is – it is truly appreciated, and it helps to maintain the quality of education and supports Sunrise.



Box Tops 4 Education

Box Tops are fun to collect with your child and to place on the Box Top Paper that Nicole Hammerschlag provided for us. So far we have collected \$25.50 – Every box top is worth 10c. Thank you for supporting this program. Our goal is to reach \$250.00 by the end of the school year. I think that we can do it.

On-going fundraisers

Sunrise participates 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 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 ink cartridges hanging around at home? Don't throw those out – Sunrise has a collection box for cartridges next to the office. Each month we turn them in at Staples for credit towards office supplies.

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.

Wishing you a Happy Valentine's Day and a wonderful Winter Vacation!

Karen

Director

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Sunrise Parent Representative:

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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 "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.

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

Thursday, February 14 – Valentine's Day

February 18 through 22 – Winter Break; no classes, no extended day program

Friday, February 22 from 10:00AM – 12:00PM. Jan Brett's Story Time and Activities

February 24 through March 2 - Celebrating Montessori Education Week

Monday, March 11 – Mass Audubon - maple Ssugaring presentation from 9:30AM to 10:30AM

Friday, March 22 - Teacher Professional Day; no classes, no extended day program

Friday, April 5 - Parent / Teacher conferences all day; no extended day program

Monday, April 8 - Classes in morning; conferences in afternoon; no afternoon extended care

Wednesday, April 10 - Ninety Nine restaurant night from 4:00PM – 9:00PM

