

Dear Sunrise Community,

Spring Has Sprung!

It is wonderful to see the tulips and daffodils sprouting in front of our school already. The birds are singing, and the classrooms enjoy listening to their songs as we enter the playground in the mornings!



New Garden Box coming soon...

I am excited to announce that our school will be getting a new garden box right outside our door for the classrooms to plant herbs, flowers, or other plants. Riley Correia 's parents, Kyle and Rebecca, will be building this box for our program during the April vacation week, and I cannot wait to see it completed! Thank you, Rebecca and Kyle, for taking on this task to help our students learn more about planting and gardening.

Giving Tree and Donations

This month, we received a monetary donation from Kelby Feeherry, and we were able to purchase the following items from the Giving Tree List:

- Sew & Lacing Cylinder
- One World Puzzle Wooden Continent Puzzle
- Building Squigz
- 2 Stainless Steel Pitchers

We also received a special donation from Jacob Anderson for the playground – Bubble Wands. The children had so much fun using them! Thank you to both the Feeherry and Anderson families for their generosity!



Parent Teacher Conferences

This is a great time to meet with your child's teacher and review the Spring portion of the progress reports. For those of you who are new to our program, meetings are scheduled this year for 30-minute increments to review your child's overall progress. The Progress Reports, along with a detailed Narrative Report, will be sent via email a few days before the actual meeting.

(continued on next page)

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The conferences are scheduled on the afternoon of Thursday, April 29th from 12:30-2:15pm (this day is a half day for the students and the children are dismissed at 11:30am) and conferences are scheduled all day on Friday, April 30th from 8am-2:15pm (there is no school for children that day). Typically, Sunrise offers childcare in Classroom C area for the students to play in during the parent conferences, but this year's health and safety protocols make that impossible – we are not able to mix children from the different classrooms. However, you may bring your child with you during your scheduled conference if needed. He/she will remain in his/her own classroom. If you are unable to schedule a conference for any reason, please email your child's Head Teacher directly. Thank you!

For your convenience, a google sign-up link will be provided in a separate email by the end of the day on Friday, April 2nd. Each classroom will have their own link to choose a preferred time block. For the families with 2 children in attendance, you may choose two consecutive time blocks. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me!



Fun with Crazy Hair Day!



I think Ms. Kristin wins the prize for Crazy Hair Day!



Upcoming Sunrise Friday Spirit Days are as follows:

April 16th – Favorite Color Day. Students can wear their favorite color.

May 21st – Spring Has Sprung. Wear a spring outfit!

June (To be determined) – Tie Dye Day.

Other Upcoming News & Events

Session 3 Pizza Day begins, Friday, April 9th:

Our final pizza session for the year runs for 7 Fridays, therefore the cost is just \$35.00. Send in your pizza form by next week so we know how many pizzas to order. Thank you for participating in this program. The children enjoy having a special lunch on Fridays!

April School Vacation Week

Mark your calendars for school vacation week. As a reminder, there are no classes or extended day programs in session from **Monday, April 19 through Friday, April 23**. Enjoy the time off with your families. Our staff will be preparing the classrooms, switching out curriculum themes and preparing for the final weeks of the school year.

Weather

As the weather gets dryer and warmer, the sun will peek through the trees more during outside recess. We want to avoid sunburns on sensitive skin. Therefore, please apply sunscreen to your child before coming to school. The insects and bugs will also return to our playground, so consider applying bug sprays at home as well.

Sneakers for the Playground

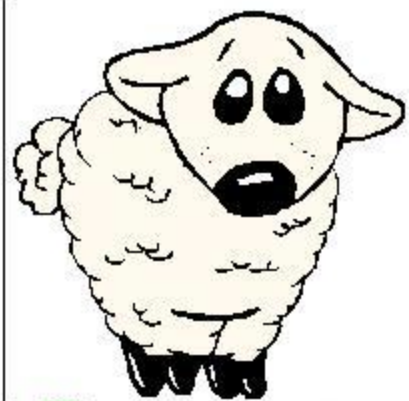
Due to safety reasons, children should wear sneakers on the playground now that the weather is warmer. Party shoes, sandals, etc... do not provide foot support for running and climbing while crocs allow wood chips to get under little feet.

Update cubby boxes

Has your child grown a few inches since September? Now might be a good time to send in larger clothes for your child. Please remember to label everything. We will send home smaller clothing.



March
In like a lion,
out like a lamb!



Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. has been selected by local Shaw's store leadership as the benefiting non-profit in the GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Bag Program!

For the month of April 2021, Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. will receive a \$1 donation from each purchase of the \$2.50 reusable GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Bag at the Shaw's store located at Shaw's 65 Main Street, Medway MA.



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

Head Teacher

Kristin Masefield:

Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Marissa May

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

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

- April 2:** Professional Development Day - no classes or extended day programs
Staff work day
- April 9:** Session 3 Pizza Day program begins
- April 16:** School Spirit Day - Wear your favorite color!
- Monday, April 19 through Friday, April 23:** School Vacation Week - no classes or extended day programs
- April 29:** Dismissal at 11:30AM for all children. Afternoon Parent / Teacher Conferences
- April 30:** Parent / Teacher Conferences all day - no classes



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.amazon.com/smile) 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](https://www.amazon.com/smile) 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 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.

March was filled with so many fun activities – both indoors and outdoors on the playground. Thank you for remembering to send appropriate outdoor clothing as the weather changes from day to day. Boots or sneakers are best for spring, and it might be a good idea to keep those hats and mittens/gloves packed for a couple more weeks.

Cultural Studies - Geography – Schweiz (Switzerland)

We continued our study of Europe this month with a special emphasis on Switzerland. Our study began with learning where the tiny country was located (just above Italy, the country we studied last month). We then learned that the Swiss flag has a white cross symbol with a red background (many students enjoyed coloring a flag). We spent a great deal of time learning to sing the days of the week in Swiss German (you may have heard your child singing this song from time to time “*Sunntig, Mantig, Tsiischtig, Mittwuch, Donschitg, Friitig, Samschtig*”). Also, everyone did a great job learning a few common words like friend – *Freundin*; teacher – *Lehrerin*; happy – *glücklich* as well as the names of the colors in Swiss German. Matea and Elena also shared several beautiful pictures from each of their own photo albums of their home in Switzerland. The finale was eating the amazing breads that Matea and Elena’s mother, Stefanie, baked fresh for our classroom. The children enjoyed the hot, beautifully braided breads with jam and there were no leftovers! Thank you, Stefanie, for helping us study Schweiz!



Ireland – St. Patrick’s Day, Irish Step Dancing, Leprechaun Fort, and finding coins too!

Our studies ventured over to the island of Ireland! First, we learned that the country is divided between the Republic of Ireland (officially Ireland) and Northern Ireland (which is part of the United Kingdom). We learned that the capital of Ireland is Dublin, and we painted the flag of Ireland with paint dabbers with the 3 colors: green, white, and orange. We discussed that the three colors of the flag were associated with religion - green symbolizes Roman Catholics, the orange represents the Protestants, and the white in the center signifies a lasting peace and hope for both of these religions.

We learned that Celtic music and Irish Step Dancing is very well known in Ireland. We enjoyed a short performance from the Riverdance collection (a 3-minute video on the school’s iPad). Many of the students began to clap and tap their feet along with the video performance. Some children also made their own Riverdance paper doll (as pictured below). Along with the Leprechaun Fort that was created on the playground (that was a separate email of photos that week) our class enjoyed Irish Soda bread (brought in from one of my favorite bakeries in Vernon, CT) and of course, the Leprechaun left little yellow envelopes with gold coins for each child on the playground (thank you, Miss Jessica, for this special playground hunt).



Spring Has Sprung in Classroom A

March is such a great month because it has two seasons. We said goodbye to winter officially on the 20th and hello to spring with this great book, *Good-bye, WINTER! Hello, SPRING!* Our classroom kicked off this season with learning about seeds! We are in the middle of a seed experiment and the children are the botanists. We are sprouting different types of seeds inside plastic baggies (peas, beans, and someone suggested popcorn seeds – why not, it is an experiment). For this experiment, first we took paper towels and spritzed them with water, placed the seeds on top of the paper towels, folded them in half and placed them inside the baggies.





We then hung the baggies up - one in each window in the classroom. The idea of the sealed plastic baggie is to act like a greenhouse. The children are noticing some water droplets forming inside the baggies. We are recording our observations daily and cannot wait until we see some growth.

Science – The Reptile Family

March included the study of reptiles. We discussed that reptiles are turtles, lizards, snakes, crocodiles, alligators, and of course, DINOSAURS! We learned about turtles first. We used our parts of the turtle puzzle and nomenclature cards for learning the “parts of” a turtle, along with making a timeline of how a turtle is hatched. We also did a sequencing activity of how an alligator is born. The children loved choosing their own reptile activities with the turtle push pin work and coloring and cutting out spiral snakes in the art area.



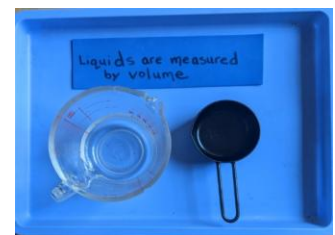
Physical Science

We ended this month with stuff that really matters...Matter! We took an in-depth study of two of the three states of matter - Liquids and Solids.

Day 1: We learned that liquids do not have a specific shape, they take the shape of its container. We used different sized vessels for this experiment. We poured the same amount of water into each vessel (one at a time) and then examined the water level in each vessel. The students loved predicting where the water level would be for each vessel.



Day 2: We learned that liquids are measured by volume. We used my grandmother’s trusty glass measuring cup to help teach how to correctly measure a ½ cup of water. We then poured that same amount of liquid into the other ½ cup measuring cup used typically for dry measure. The children thought for sure that the black measuring cup would overflow, but it did not – it was perfect!



Day 3: We explored four different types of liquids. First, the children named some liquids that they knew like milk, soda, and juice. Each child then had the opportunity to use their olfactory, sight, and tactile senses to guess what the liquids were. In this experiment, we learned that liquids smell, feel, look, pour differently, and that they are made up of molecules (the liquids in the picture are water, oil, apple cider vinegar, and maple syrup). We discovered that the maple syrup poured the slowest, the oil was a bit faster, and we couldn’t tell the difference in speed with the vinegar or the water.



Day 4: We learned that mixing two different liquids together is called a solution. The students were asked to predict, form a hypothesis (an educated guess), and observe before they could take turns giving the answer about the solubility of two different solutions (meaning can they mix or not mix together). In the jar on the left we mixed colored water and vinegar. We had mixed hypotheses from the group. The answer was the vinegar and water solution are soluble. The jar on the right was filled with colored water and oil. Again we gave our predictions, and the outcome was that oil and water are insoluble!



Day 5: We introduced another form of matter – solids! We did a second solubility experiment with water and two different types of solids: salt and peppercorns. We discovered that the salt mixed with the water, meaning it is soluble. We then learned that the peppercorns were insoluble with the water.



Day 6: This was the final presentation of working with liquids and solids. We learned that liquids have different viscosities (thickness) and that the liquid remained in layers in the jar. We discovered that corn syrup has a higher viscosity than the water, vinegar, and oil. Then we added objects made of wood, cork, metal, plastic, glass, rock etc... into the jar one at a time to watch them either sink or float on the different layers of liquids. We saw that the cork and wooden clothespin floats on top of the oil; the plastic Lego is on the bottom of the oil, but floating on top the water. The metal, rock, and glass bead all traveled through the layers at different speeds, but eventually sunk to the bottom of the corn syrup.

Afternoon Kindergarten

The kindergarten students continue to enjoy reading during the first part of the class. We read a few more *Amelia Bedelia* stories this past month, *Adventures of Little Bear* short story series, and we have just begun reading *Cricket in Times Square*, a chapter book by, George Selden.



Each week the K's continue to work on their number rolls (one of the girls recently reached over 600) and their writing work which is related to our daily readings. We continue to use picture/story paper for writing with an emphasis on letter placement, sentence structure, capitalization, and content (I model the writing for them to copy).



Also, we just started our study of clocks and telling time.

The K's learned about the hour and minute hand this past week, and they are practicing how to read the hour on the clock. We will move onto the minute hand and telling time in half hour increments, etc...!

Lastly, here is our fun photo of Crazy Hair Day!

Thank you for taking the time to read our Classroom A Newsletter with Peace, Love, and new Beginnings in Spring!
Ms. Andrea & Ms. Alka





Classroom B Newsletter March 2021

Hello Classroom B Families!

Happy Spring! We are so happy that it is finally here! As much fun as we had playing in the snow, we are all ready for warm weather!

We began our month celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday which was on March 2nd. Dr. Seuss's real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel, and he was born in Springfield, MA. He was a children's author, cartoonist and filmmaker. He died in California in 1991. We spent the week reading Dr. Seuss's most famous stories.



Practical Life:



We have been learning about teeth as many of our children have been losing them so quickly! Since we learned about teeth, we introduced teeth brushing in our practical life area. We used a model mouth of teeth! We first began using a plastic brush that one of our kindergarteners let us borrow, then we added a real toothbrush so that the children could practice brushing in a circular motion.



We also introduced weaving while we were learning about Lithuania. I glued four sticks together and attached yarn. The children were able to use strips of streamers to weave through the yarn to make a pattern.



Cultural studies:

In Geography, we continued our study of Europe, specifically focusing on the countries of Lithuania and Ireland. We learned that Lithuania is a small country in Europe that is shaped like a heart. The people enjoy nature and a peaceful life. Lithuania is comprised of many lakes and forests as well as a beautiful countryside and grand sand dunes.





Of course we learned about the country of Ireland because of St. Patrick's Day. We learned that St. Patrick's Day is celebrated because it is the feast day of St. Patrick in commemoration of the arrival of Christianity in Ireland. We talked about shamrocks, leprechauns and wearing green. The day before St. Patrick's Day the children built a trap to see if they could catch the leprechaun. When they came into school



the next day, they were so surprised to see that our classroom was a mess! Some chairs were knocked over, the rugs were spread all over the floor and some of the work was in the wrong place. We also discovered that the Leprechaun left his little footprints all over the classroom. His footprints led right to the trap, but when we opened the trap, he wasn't there! He did leave us a note and a bowl of shamrock necklaces! The children were so excited!! It was a fun day!

Toward the end of the month, we talked about the holidays of Passover, Palm Sunday and Holi. The children learned that Jewish people celebrate Passover in recognition of their freedom from slavery in Egypt. It is typical during a Passover meal to have a Seder plate which contains food of particular significance. A Seder plate may contain vegetables like carrots or celery, lettuce, meat, a combination of apples with nuts and cinnamon and an egg.

Palm Sunday is celebrated by Christians. This day occurs the week before Easter and celebrates Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem.

Holi is the festival of colors that is celebrated by Hindus to welcome Spring. During this celebration, people throw brightly colored powder at each other! Of course, we couldn't do that at school but we did throw small pieces of brightly colored streamers at each other! We had so much fun!



In addition, we are continuing to learn about land and water forms. We have already learned about lake and island, and this month we focused on what a cape and bay are. As the year progresses, we will continue to learn about the land and water forms.

Science:

We began our study of reptiles and amphibians. For reptiles, we learned about both land and sea turtles. The children heard about the parts of the turtle as well as its life cycle. For amphibians, we focused primarily on frogs and toads. Again, we learned the parts of the frog and its lifecycle. We discovered that both reptiles and amphibians are cold blooded and lay eggs. However, amphibians usually begin their life in the water and then live on land. Did you know there are also differences between frogs and toads? Frogs have smooth, moist skin, a narrow body and longer hind legs. Toads have rough, dry bumpy skin, a wider body and will run or take smaller hops as opposed to jumps. We incorporated some yoga into our day doing poses like the "cobra" and "turtle". We also learned how to do the "snake breath".



We also learned about clouds and rainbows this month. Some of the different types are cumulus, stratus and cirrus clouds. Cumulus clouds are often described as puffy and fluffy looking. Stratus clouds appear like a blanket over the sky. We often see these types of clouds on dreary and overcast days. Cirrus clouds are the thin, wispy clouds that streak across the sky.

We discovered that rainbows occur when sunlight passes through rain drops. The white light bends and shows the colors of the rainbow. When you see a rainbow, you will always see the red color on the top. If there are two rainbows, the rainbow on top will end with the color red. It's like a mirror image!

As I mentioned above, we learned about our teeth. The teeth in our mouths have specific jobs. The front teeth, called the incisors, help to bite food. The four canine teeth we have are for tearing up the food. The molars, which are located in the back of the mouth, are used to grind up food so that it is easier to swallow. In addition to our teeth, we learned about our skeletal system and our 5 senses.

Kindergarten:

As always, kindergarten is an extension of the curriculum that we do in the classroom. Here are some photos of our Kindergarteners doing their work.



Spring definitely came in like a lion and hopefully it will go out like a lamb!

With Peace and Gratitude,

Ms. Kristin and Ms. Julie

