



February 2023 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

I continue to be amazed at the generosity of our parent body and the dedication of our parent representatives! The ongoing parent involvement and commitment to Sunrise makes our program special and helps our students succeed to their potential.

Thank you to Marissa and Susannah

Sunrise would like to thank both Classroom A's Parent Rep, Susannah and Classroom B's Parent Rep, Marissa for assisting with Sunrise's Open House events. As part of the admission process, prospective families are provided with parent representative contact information, and they may reach out directly to both Susannah and Marissa. Additionally, having a representative at our Open House event provided the prospective families with a parent's point of view of Sunrise.

Restaurant Night at The Chateau

Susannah and Marissa have organized Restaurant Night on Thursday, March 2nd at The Chateau Italian Kitchen & Bar in Franklin. The Chateau Restaurant is located at 466 King Street Franklin MA 02038 Thursday hours are from 11:30am-9pm

<https://www.chateaurestaurant.com/locations/franklin>

The fundraiser is valid for lunch, dinner, dine in or take out. Be sure to mention Sunrise Montessori fundraiser for your server/phone order to flag your check or add item "**fundraiser**" if ordering online. See the attached flyer at the end of this newsletter for all the details. This flyer may also be downloaded from the school's website: www.MySunriseMontessori.com Add it to your phone! See the **Current Events** page. Our school will receive 20% of all the eligible sales that day! Please feel free to let friends, family, co-workers, etc... know about this as well.

Storyteller performance

Sunrise welcomes Diane Edgecomb on Thursday, March 9th as she presents both Irish and Spring stories. Diane is an accomplished storyteller who has visited Sunrise many times.

The children love listening to her stories – stay tuned for updates and pictures in our March newsletter. For additional information about Diane Edgecomb, see her website: <https://livingmyth.com/>



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

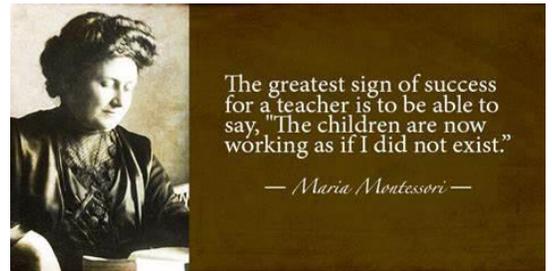
Other Upcoming News & Events

116 Years of Montessori Education

This year marks 116 years of Montessori Education. Each year in February, the Montessori Community throughout the world celebrates and honors the qualities of the Montessori Approach to Education and the teachings of Dr. Maria Montessori's philosophy.

This month, I would like to honor our two Montessori Head Teachers, Ms. Laura and Ms. Anselmo, their commitment to the Montessori Philosophy and their ongoing dedication to their students and classroom environments. They each spend a great amount of time in preparing, planning, and setting up their classroom environments and leading and guiding their teaching teams. Additionally, a special thank you to the Assistant teachers: Ms. Alka and Ms. Angela, the Transitional and Afterschool teachers: Ms. Samantha and Ms. Jessica, and of course our Intern teacher, Ms. Emily. Sunrise is fortunate to have a dedicated staff who value the Montessori philosophy and continuous commitment to the children in our program. Thank you to the Sunrise Teaching Teams!

A classic photo from the first Casa dei Bambini in Rome, Italy from the 1907 grand opening in the courtyard and a later photo of Maria Montessori outdoors with her students.



“Lead by example” - Andrea Rossick

Upcoming Montessori Professional Development

I am thrilled to announce the American Montessori Society (AMS) is holding its annual conference in Boston this year! This 3-day conference provides Montessorians with quality professional development workshops and typically hosts approximately 3,000 attendees. This year, Ms. Laura, Ms. Anselmo, and I will attend the conference beginning on the evening of March 16th. We plan to share our experiences with the rest of the teaching teams at our next staff meeting. A reminder that **Friday, March 17th** is a Professional Development Day and there is no school/no extended day program.

Think Ahead about Sunrise's Summer Program and Save the Dates!

Families have been inquiring about our Summer Program. This year we have 4 weeks scheduled. You may choose either the 5 morning or 5 full day option and you sign up is flexible, either week to week or for all 4 weeks. Ms. Laura will lead the summer program along with Ms. Jessica as her assistant teacher. The weeks are as follows:

- **Week 1 - June 19-20**
- **Week 2 - June 26-30**
- **Week 3 - July 10-14**
- **Week 4 - July 17-21**

There is no summer program during the week of July 3-7 due to the holiday.

During the summer schedule, Sunrise does not offer the before or aftercare extended day program.

Sunrise's Summer Program is open **only** to current students and accepted students for the 2023-2024 school year. This format fosters a relaxed and cohesive group as the children already know each other while getting to meet a few new friends. The weekly themes, rates, and details for signing up will be provided in a separate flyer in March.

Extended Day – Afterschool February Fun - Rainbow Paper Experiment

The afterschool students participated in an outdoor lesson on how to make rainbow paper. First, they watched Ms. Jessica add a couple of drops of clear nail polish to a small bowl of water.

Then after a few seconds, Ms. Jessica dipped her paper heart (cut out of black construction paper) and set it aside to dry.

This process is called “thin film interference”.

Thin film interference occurs when light waves reflecting off the top and bottom surfaces of a thin film interfere with one another. Each child had the opportunity to make their own rainbow paper as pictured.

Thank you, Ms. Jessica and Ms. Samantha, for making afterschool fun!



Drop off and Pick up Schedule

To ensure your child is receiving the fullest our program has to offer, your child should arrive at school on time each day. Drop off is from 8:30-8:45am. When your child arrives late, they may miss an important part of the morning schedule – Group/Circle time (around 8:50am in both rooms).

Pick up time for the half day students is from 11:30-11:40am and for the full day students it is from 2:30-2:40pm. If you arrive late for your scheduled pick-up time, it may affect your child’s routine. Please be courteous and mindful of the scheduled drop off and pick up times – thank you!

Driveway Safety

As you know, we share driveway entrances and exits with the other Moseley Complex businesses. To help keep the car line moving efficiently and safely during drop off times, the staff will take your child from your car for you (you do not even need to get out of the car during the drop off time). Please do not allow your child to let themselves out of the car. A staff member or an adult must accompany the children to the school. If you prefer to walk your child to the school entrance, please park in the parking lot and walk with your child down to the entrance.

Playground Update and Reminder

You may have noticed newly added woodchips and fresh sand have been added to the outdoor playground space over the February break. We are fortunate to have a playground area that offers a variety of shade, sun, sand, and a hill to enjoy! However, every playground has its challenges during the changing seasons. The recent mixed weather brings soft ground, some icy spots, and sometimes mud along the fence line on parts of the playground. The children love playing outside together, and we make every attempt to be outdoors. This means packing/wearing waterproof boots, appropriate jackets, and hats daily. Also, please be prepared that your child's clothing may get dirty while playing outdoors. Although muddy or wet outdoor gear may seem like an inconvenience for parents and caregivers at pick up times, movement and exercise is an essential part of the children's outdoor play and development. Thank you for your understanding!

Dependent Care - Childcare Tax Forms

All families should have received an email last month from our bookkeeper regarding tax information requests. If you need a completed form for your tax documents, please reach out directly to Rebecca Reda for that information. If you have any questions about invoices or tax forms, you may contact either Rebecca at mysunrisebilling02038@gmail.com or me at headofschool@mysunrisemontessori.com

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

Andrea Rossick:
Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Laura Holland:
Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Lynne Anselmo:
MsAnselmo@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & 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

February 26 through March 4: Montessori Education Week

March 2: Restaurant Night at The Chateau, Franklin

March 9: Storyteller, Diane Edgecomb

March 17: Professional Development Day; no classes, no extended day program

Sensation Station dates to remember 10am-11am

March 7, 14, 21, 28 - **Classroom A**

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - **Classroom B**

Pizza Days for full day students: March 3, 10, 24, 31



Passive Fundraisers are just one of the many ways you can support Sunrise Montessori School!

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

Annual Spring Fair

Mark your calendars! Sunrise will host its annual Spring Fair on Saturday, May 13th. The Spring Fair is the main fundraiser of the year and is held rain or shine. There will be games and activities for the children and raffle baskets and chance drawings for the adults. Pizza and water will be provided by the school. Pick up a perennial plant for your garden as well. If you would like to help plan the spring fair, please contact your parent reps, Susannah and Marissa at: parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com

Mabels Labels

This on-going fundraiser provides great ideas for labeling your child's items. Check out: <http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/> and click on the school's name.

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

Check out the newly listed items on the tree, just inside the front door.

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/Sunrise-Amazon-Wishlist> New items are added each month.



Sponsored Fundraiser

A great way to raise money for local schools & non-profit organizations.
Our fundraisers are open to schools as a whole or individual sports
teams and clubs

Fundraiser: SUNRISE MONTESSORI SCHOOL

FUNDRAISER DATE: THURSDAY MARCH 2, 2023

LOCATION: FRANKLIN

How it Works:

1. On the Day/Date of your **scheduled** fundraiser visit your Chateau location for lunch, dinner, or take-out. Let your server or phone representative know that you are participating in the fundraiser and to "FLAG YOUR CHECK"
2. For online orders: Add item "Fundraiser" to your cart and enter the name of your organization as a special Instruction. Again, double check that the item "Fundraiser" has been added to your order.
3. After the event, we will contact you with your results. Your group will receive 20% of the total sales (before tax) from all the checks that were flagged for your fundraiser.



Click to place your
online order now!



Classroom A Newsletter February 2023

Dear Classroom A Families,

The month of February in our classroom was filled with many celebrations and learning about how we can spread kindness and love! Our classroom also celebrated Valentine's Day together and had a wonderful valentine exchange! We read books about friendship and kindness in celebration of Valentine's Day, and we practiced cutting valentine hearts in the art area. We worked with coloring, pin punching, and completing heart themed **Practical Life** during the month. Examples included hanging hearts with clothespins, sifting with colored rice, opening/closing heart shaped containers, and transferring colored hearts using tongs and spoons!

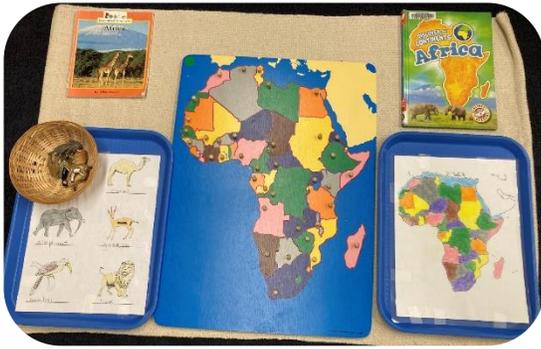
Our **Artist Study** this month was Wassily Kandinsky and we read *The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art* by Barb Rosenstock. The class learned about the secondary colors purple, green, and orange that are created by mixing the primary colors red, blue, and yellow. After learning about Kandinsky's "Squares with Concentric Circles," the children painted their own version for Valentine's Day using concentric hearts!



This month in **Science**, our class has been learning about mammals! On Groundhog's Day, we had a fun time coloring, cutting and gluing to create a fun groundhog pop-up project! The children enjoyed reading *About Mammals* by Cathryn and John Sill and discovered how mammals have fur or hair, are born alive, and that mammal mothers produce milk to feed their babies! The children worked on labeling the parts of the groundhog and completing the parts of the horse 3-part matching work.



In **Geography**, our classroom has just begun the Africa continent study! We started reading the continent book about Africa and will learn about the land and water forms of the continent, the people and animals who live there, and many fun facts about food, music, culture, and climate!



We are excited to begin this continent study together and invite families who have ever traveled there or have something they'd like to share with the class to reach out to us! We would love to include Classroom A parents / family community as we learn about the continent of Africa!

During **Kindergarten Afternoon**, the Kindergarteners have been working on building and writing CVC words using the movable alphabet! In celebration of Valentine's Day, we sorted CVC words with the "cookie jar" middle sounds. The Kindergarteners sorted the pictures by identifying vowel sounds, then wrote the words. They also learned about the penguin life cycle!



Early in the month, around Groundhog's Day, we learned about shadows and how shadows are created whenever there is sunlight. We had the opportunity to get outside on an unusually warm February afternoon and the Kindergarteners enjoyed creating their own shadow chalk art!



We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Brady, who celebrated his birthday this month!

Just as a reminder, if it is not raining or too cold, our class goes outside as much as we can during play time. Please make sure your child has appropriate boots for the occasional muddy conditions of the playground so everyone stays dry and comfortable for the duration of the play time!

Thank you!

Sincerely, your child's teachers,

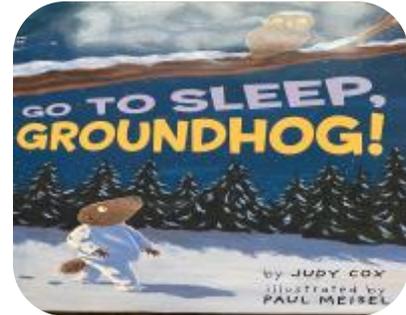
Ms. Laura, Ms. Alka and Ms. Samantha



Hello Classroom B Parents,

Happy February! This month flew by, in **Zoology** the children learned about “Groundhog Day”. They enjoyed watching Phil in anticipation to see if his shadow would appear. As it turns out, it did, which means six more weeks of winter.

The children learned how to label the different parts of a groundhog and enjoyed many different stories, such as *Go to sleep, Groundhog* by Judy Cox.



Our **Artist** of the month was Georges Seurat. We learned that he was an impressionist and was known for pointillism. Part of our art project for this month was teaching the children how to create a drawing using pointillism. We incorporated this into our Valentines art project. The children loved this art lesson. Here is a picture of the art that we explored.



The children had a great time celebrating and making their Valentine’s Day boxes. We enjoyed many stories throughout the month on kindness, friendships, manners and love. It was an exciting day for all.



In the **Geography/Cultural curriculum** our class has moved onto the next continent, Africa.

Materials were made and incorporated into our curriculum. The children enjoyed reading books about Africa and learning about the different animals found in both the rainforest and desert.



Kindergarten Corner: In Kindergarten the children continue to work on their reading, writing and comprehension skills. We went on a nature walk and then surprised the children with some creative shadow chalk art. They had a great time tracing the outlines of their shadows. It was such a beautiful day.

We look forward to celebrating **“Montessori Education Week”** with some exciting activities along with a timeline of Maria Montessori when we return from vacation.

Sparkle & shine!

Ms. Anselmo, Ms. Angela, Ms. Jess & Ms. Emily

