



October 2019 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Autumn Changes

As we continue through the season of autumn, the classrooms learn about the anatomy of a pumpkin, the parts of a leaf, and the varieties of trees around our school grounds. The leaves continue to change and so does the temperature and weather. Please remember to dress your child accordingly and send in warm clothing for recess. We also request that you label all your child's outdoor clothing in order to help return any lost or misplaced items.

Sunrise Parent Association

Both Sara Allegretti and Kathi Shah continue to help build our Sunrise Family Community by meeting up with families at local playgrounds and/or a local community area. Once another meet-up is decided, they will reach out to the parent body with that information. Also, they are always available via email at

Parentrep@mysunrisemontessori.com

- The Small Hands Fundraiser that Sara organized totaled \$1,124.75 (orders from Sunrise parents, grandparents, and board members). This total gives Sunrise teachers \$168.71 to use towards classroom items.
- Kathi's Scholastic book order helped provide many new books for both the Children's House Classrooms A & B and our Toddler Time, too!

Thank you to the families who purchased from the Small Hand's catalog and from the Scholastic Book order! Also - thank you to both Sara and Kathi for their ongoing time and support with these fundraising events and community building events.

Sunrise's Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is a long-standing tradition of Sunrise. This tree is in our front room area, and it is seasonally decorated with colorful leaves filled with Classroom Wish List items chosen by the teachers. The Wish List items are available for families to purchase and donate to the classrooms at any time throughout the year. There are various items to choose from, and they are typically listed in the Montessori Services catalog. If anyone is interested in purchasing something for the school, you may come in and take any item(s) off the tree or you can view the list that is included in this newsletter.

Once you have chosen your donation item, please give me the item(s) with a check payable to Sunrise Montessori School. I am so excited that we will be placing our first Giving Tree order with the money generated from the Small Hands fundraiser – thank you again!



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

Thank you for attending Curriculum Night

We had a great turn out for Curriculum Night on October 17th. We hope you found the evening not only informative, but that the presentation provided an additional insight into your child's daily schedule.

Sunrise Annual Food Drive for the Franklin Food Pantry (November 1st – November 18th)

Our annual food drive begins on November 1st. We will be collecting non-perishable, food items and other needed items until November 18th. The Food Pantry's current list is white tuna, mayonnaise, salad dressings, canned pasta, crackers, cookies, coffee and toothpaste. The needed items for November are not listed as of yet, but I will provide an updated list once it comes out in November. They always need reusable bags (new or gently used) and it may be a great way to donate your items! Near the end of our food drive, the children will weigh all the donation items before I deliver them to the Food Pantry on Friday, November 22nd.

Sharing and remembering to be Thankful in November

Throughout the month of November, both classrooms will focus on being thankful for family and friends and giving to our local community. Before the Thanksgiving Break begins, the children will learn about the history of Thanksgiving, work on seasonal activities and/or make fun crafts as prepared throughout the classrooms. On the morning of Tuesday, November 26th, the children will enjoy a special snack they have prepared for each other as they sit together as a Sunrise Community!

New Sunrise Board Member Position Update

We are happy to announce there are two new parent board members on the Sunrise Montessori Board of Directors!

- Colleen Manning (Piper's mother) Colleen brings a vast experience of sales, marketing, budgeting, human resources, and so much more to our board!
- Ciera Maffei (Millie's mother) Ciera brings dedication and commitment to the Franklin community as she recently served on the Board of Health, and she works as a pediatric nurse practitioner.

The board is excited to welcome both of these parents as they bring a new, energetic outlook to the Sunrise Board of Directors.

Driveway Safety



The Moseley Complex continues to strive for parking lot and driveway safety among all businesses throughout the complex. As you may have noticed, there is a sign requesting everyone to slow down when entering the complex entrances. Please be mindful of the traffic flow and your speed as you enter the complex driveway - the speed is marked as 10mph throughout the entire complex. Thank you for your cooperation.

Upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences for December

On Thursday, December 5th (in the afternoon) and all day on Friday, December 6th are Parent/Teacher Conferences.

The conferences are scheduled for 20-minute blocks beginning on Thursday, December 5th at 12:30p.m. until 3:00 p.m. and all day on Friday, December 6th from 8:00a.m. until 3:00p.m.

A conference preference time sheet will be sent home next week. This conference sheet will have the 20-minute time blocks written out, and you will be able to choose 3 blocks in order of preference for conference times. Please return this sheet to your child's teacher as soon as possible to help scheduling go faster. Almost always, every parent gets one of their 3 preferred choices. If you have any questions regarding scheduling, please refer these questions directly to your child's teacher.

A reminder that on Thursday, December 5th there is **a half day of school only** and Classroom A morning students are to be picked up at their regularly scheduled time (11:30-11:45a.m.) and all Full day children and Classroom B Half day children are to be picked up by 12:00p.m. This is to ensure that the teachers can prepare for their first 12:30 conferences - thank you in advance!

On the conference days, childcare will be available for your child **only during your scheduled conference time**. There is NO CHARGE for childcare during the conference time. Childcare for the parent conferences will be held in Classroom C.

Please let us know on your conference time sheet if you plan to bring your child during the conference.

Classroom Wish List - Montessori Services Catalog

Earth Puzzle #C215 pg 70 - \$15.95

Magnetic Geoform #Y132 pg 46 - \$35.95

MicroBrite #SC369 pg 75 - \$14.95

Plants We Eat (Booklets and Cards) #D303C pg 29 - \$69.95

Writing Tray with Lid #LC12 pg 58 - \$76.00

Sand Timers (set of 3) #SC442 pg 68 - \$6.95

Thoughtful Living Series #R171 pg 99 - \$25.00

Judy Clock #SC430 pg 68 \$25.95

Case with Iron Fillings #SC212 pg 88 - \$2.00

Iron Fillings #SC947 pg 88 - \$7.95

Bar Magnets (set of 2) #SC950 pg 88 - \$14.95

Red Letter Alphabet Book #L710 pg 60 - \$20.00

Child Size Masterpieces #A119 pg 49 - \$48.00

Shells with Matching Cards #SC920 pg 100 - \$45.00

3 Part Trays #T630 (Left Control Tray) pg 6 - \$27.95

Grace & Courtesy (A Picture Guide) #R159 pg 15 - \$12.00

Porcelain Pitcher and Bowl Set #G230 pg 21 - \$20.00

Folding Cloths Set #V02 pg 22 - \$12.00

The Red/Blue Number Set #L713 pg 60 - \$30.00

Classification of Vertebrates #SC126 pg 86 - \$15.95

Volcanoes #EM43 #EM43 pg 91 - \$6.95

Rocks with Matching Cards #EM203 pg 92 - \$45.00



Special Thank you to our families:

I wanted to take an opportunity to specially thank several Sunrise parents, caregivers and children for their recent donations to the classrooms:

Snacks - Angelina & Robert Bartolini, Gus Semas and Tyler Allegretti

Sand Box Items - Mason Boday's caregiver

Mega Blocks – Jules Mier

Thank you for reading our newsletter!

Andrea Rossick,

Head of School



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

Lead Teachers:

Sandhya Jain:

Sandhya.sunrisemontessori@gmail.com

Kristin Masefield:

Kristin3sunrisemontessori@gmail.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Sara Allegretti & Kathi Shah

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 “**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

- **Thursday, October 31st** – Halloween Children may choose to wear a modified friendly costume to school. Of course, the classrooms will be scrubbing pumpkins and gourds in the practical life area, push-pinning jack-o-lanterns, reading seasonal books, etc...
- **Annual Food Drive Collection** - November 1st – November 18th
- **Tuesday, November 5th** – Professional Development Day – No school. This is when teachers work in their classrooms on curriculum development, meet as a team and do necessary cleaning.
- **Monday, November 11th** – Veteran’s Day – No school
- **Wednesday through Friday, November 27th-29th** – Thanksgiving Break – No School



Classroom A October Newsletter

Dear Classroom A families,

Let me begin by thanking you for participating in Curriculum Night. Your support is important in the pursuit of our Montessori philosophy. This month Classroom A has been learning about squashes, pumpkins, solar system, vertebrates/invertebrates and trees.

In Science and Geography, we have been exploring our Solar System. The children have been learning about the 8 planets. They have an opportunity to recreate the Solar System working on our hand-made felt 'Solar-System Work' and inside our sensory bin.



We have also been learning about vertebrates and invertebrates. Our very fun song about living things with backbones has been a big hit with our children. I hope that you have heard them humming it. We also have been learning the names of some common squashes that are seen in grocery stores. Eventually, we plan to cut/cook each of these squashes and try them in the classroom. The seeds will be put to good use as well.



We love taking our classroom outdoors as often as we can. In this spirit we used a beautiful day to learn about trees. The children sat on the roots of the pine tree in our playground, and we read 'The Busy Tree'. We took a moment to admire the branches, leaves and the trunk of our pine tree. They did tree trunk rubbing and participated in performing Tree Yoga Pose. We used the unique tree trunk art to decorate the classroom. I hope you saw the tree rubbed hearts that were sent to you. It reminds us how important those trees are, and how they support so many lives. We all

took turns hugging the tree to thank the nature for its beauty!
We have been busy identifying trees around our school and will soon start learning about the leaves!



The children have been busy decorating our classroom pumpkin, pumpkin painting and pumpkin washing. We cannot wait to carve our jack-o-lantern. The children also have been making and prepping snacks for themselves as well as for the whole classroom. They squeezed fresh oranges to make some orange juice! Those delicious orange rinds won't go to waste, and you will see them make an appearance again sometime this year! The children have been working very diligently to use those rinds productively for a very special project.

In Language, along with the Solar System, the children have been working on our felt Apple Tree poetry box. They were super excited about apple tasting, and the results of the tasting are here for you to see:



In Sensorial, we once again took our classroom outside.
We carried our beautiful color box #3 outdoors.
The box has color graded tablets.
The children then found fall leaves to match the color graded tablets! We are so thankful to get some nice days to be able to enjoy the nature and connect the classroom to the world around us.



We ended our week by celebrating Diwali (it's the most celebrated Hindu/Indian festival). Since culture is the backbone of our classroom, such presentations help us showcase and celebrate different festivals/traditions from around the world. I am very thankful to Ms. Alka for bringing



the children some home-made Diwali snacks. I love sharing the picture of India, shot from space, on the day of Diwali. The children also had an option to dress in Indian clothes/accessories.

We continued to enjoy music with Ms. Mary Jo and yoga with Ms. Alka.

Thank you for sharing some of your resources for my continent boxes. We love it when our little friends contribute to our geography curriculum. I hope you enjoyed these pictures and the insight into our very busy Classroom A.

**Best regards,
Ms. Sandhya**



Classroom B October Newsletter

Hello Classroom B families,

October has been an exciting month for the children! The leaves are changing colors and falling from the trees which makes playing in the playground extra fun! We have begun to talk about the types of leaves we are finding outside. For example, there are a lot of maple and oak leaves. The children have noticed that there is quite a difference between an oak and a maple leaf. As we get into the month of November, we will continue to learn about different types and parts of leaves as well as the life cycle of each tree. But for now, our focus in science is on pumpkins! We are learning about the parts of the pumpkin, like the stem, leaf, skin and rib. Inside the pumpkin, there are the seeds and the pulp. We will carve out our pumpkin and get to feel what the pulp and seeds are like!



Some other pumpkin work we have in our classroom is pumpkin pounding and pumpkin washing. The photo on the left shows what our pumpkin pounding work looks like. The children put on the safety glasses using a wooden hammer and pound the golf tee into the pumpkin. Some children have made designs while others just like to pound the tee in!

The second photo shows our pumpkin washing work. For this work, the child chooses a pumpkin that they would like to wash. They fill the small pitcher with water, pour it into the bowl and begin to scrub the face off of the pumpkin. I drew faces on each pumpkin for the children when I gave them the initial lesson. Now after they wash a pumpkin, they can draw their own face on it. This has been a class favorite so far!

In addition to pumpkins and leaves, we have also been learning about animals with and without backbones. The children are learning words like vertebrate and invertebrate. Vertebrate of course, meaning having a backbone while an invertebrate does not. The children have learned that vertebrates include animals like humans, dogs, fish, birds and whales, while invertebrates include animals like starfish, butterflies, crabs and spiders.



At the beginning of the month, the children practiced tweezing seeds out of a sunflower. Once all the seeds were out, I collected and counted some of them (If I counted all of them we might have ended up with a number in the thousands, too high for some preschoolers to count)! I put the seeds in a container so that the children could estimate how many seeds they thought were in the container. This was a fun

exercise to do! Some children guessed 4 while others guessed one thousand trillion! I wrote down all the numbers the children guessed and then we counted them by tens together, We looked at who came up with the closest guess and we recorded it on the whiteboard. As you can see in the

picture, the total number was 207. I put the seeds out on a shelf and a few of our older children actually took this to a rug and recounted all of the seeds on their own!

Finally, in Geography, we are continuing to learn that we live in a large universe and that our planet is Earth. We read the book, "Me on the Map" and learned words like continent, country, state and town. Most of the children were able to tell us what town they lived in or if they lived in Massachusetts or Rhode Island. The children have been using the puzzle map of the world and are continuing to learn the names of the continents. Next month, we will learn about our own continent, North America and then the United States.



We also learned a little bit about the holidays this month including Columbus Day, Diwali and Halloween. I like to give the children a little bit of information regarding the holidays and events that are occurring each month. It gives us a chance to learn about new cultures and people around the world. We learned that Christopher Columbus and Maria Montessori were both born in Italy, and that Columbus was an explorer who sailed across the sea! Also, for Diwali we learned that this is the festival of lights. We also learned names like Rama, Sita and Ganesh. For Halloween, we cut the top off our pumpkin and separated the pulp from the seeds! We turned it into a jack-o-lantern!

I just wanted to conclude by thanking everyone who was able to come to Curriculum Night. It's always exciting to share with parents the work that your children are doing or will be doing. As we all know, Montessori is an amazing method of education and to be able to show you the classroom and some materials firsthand is such a joy!



Truly,

Ms. Kristin