



September 2023 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

The school year is off to a great start, and the students are settling more into their classroom routines! It is important to keep morning drop off routines both on time and consistent. Additionally, it is best to keep goodbyes brief (as difficult as it may be at times). A reminder that our drop off time is from 8:30-8:45am.



In the morning, some of the students have noticed the two white pumpkin gourds growing in the planting box. Last fall, the classrooms added their carved pumpkins and classroom gourds to observe the decomposition process and the gourds reseeded – how exciting!

Sunrise Parent Representatives

Sunrise has two Parent Representatives - Classroom A Parent Representative is Susannah Barry and Classroom B Parent Representative is Marissa May. Our Parent Representatives are members of the Board of Directors, and they also plan the Sunrise Community Meetups, organize the Scholastic Book Club, conduct our annual Small Hands fundraiser, assist in planning for the Spring Fair, and much more! Both Susannah and Marissa may be reached at parentrep@mysunrisemontessori.com Thank you to both Marissa and Susannah for helping connect the Sunrise Parent Community together throughout our school year!

Sunrise Board of Directors

Sunrise is excited to announce our newest board member, Lindsay Fiorito. Lindsay is a current parent, and her son, Jacob, attends Classroom B. Lindsay, thank you for taking time to volunteer and support the governing of our school.

Sunrise Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is a longstanding tradition at Sunrise. Some of you may have noticed the Giving Tree displayed on the wall in our front room during Visiting Day. The tree is decorated with colorful leaves that are filled with new Classroom Wish List Items. The Wish List items are available for families to purchase and donate to your child's classrooms at any time throughout the year. There are various items to choose from, and these are typically listed in the Montessori Services or the Montessori & Such catalogs for viewing. If anyone is interested in purchasing something for the school, you may view the list that accompanies this newsletter or visit our school website ([Parent Corner page](#)) anytime. Once you have chosen your donation item, please send in the name of the item with a check for that amount, payable to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. Donation receipts are available upon request.

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

Harvest Festival – Saturday, September 30 from Noon-5pm

If you are looking for something fun to do this weekend, you may want to consider checking out the Harvest Festival in downtown Franklin. Sunrise will have its booth set up as one of the many local businesses represented in town. See you there – we are booth #107 near the Rockland Trust.

Curriculum Night – Thursday, October 5 from 6:30-7:45pm

Curriculum Night will be held for both Classroom A and B from 6:30-7:45pm within each classroom. The event is for parents only to attend (we are unable to provide childcare). This is a wonderful opportunity to hear about the Montessori Approach to Education from the Head Teachers and to learn more about what a typical day looks like in your child's classroom. If you plan to attend and/or if you have any questions, please send an RSVP directly to me at headofschool@mysunrisemontessori.com This year, as a special incentive, all families who attend will be entered into a drawing for a gift card to a local coffee shop.

First Professional Development Day Friday, October 6 – No school/no Extended Day program

You may have noticed on the school calendar that on October 6, November 1, January 12, March 8, and April 5 there will be no school for Sunrise students. These are an in-house teacher/staff workdays. During these Professional Development Days, the teachers participate in team meetings, they deep clean the classrooms, change curriculum materials, and create lessons and materials for the upcoming weeks. These days are busy and support the success of our program.

Sunrise Amazon Wish List

If you like to shop online, this is a great way to support our classrooms. Classroom material items are added each month to purchase and ship directly to our program. If you are interested, please check out the following link:

[Sunrise-Amazon-Wishlist](#)

Thank you to Parker Heineke's family for our first Amazon Wish List order of the school year! Our school received the following materials for the classrooms:

- Montessori Lock and Key Set
- Hand Bells
- Shape and Color Sorting Block Puzzles

Professional Development Teacher Support

This year Sunrise formed a Teacher Professional Development fund. Our goal is to offset the expenses for teachers who participate in workshops, classes, seminars, and training throughout the year. For example, the American Montessori Society (AMS) holds large scale teacher training events throughout the country and their biggest event typically is in March each year. For staff who participate, the fund would cover their entrance fees (this was \$385 per participant in 2023), travel expenses, and lodging. If you would like to support this fund at any time, please provide cash or a check written out to Sunrise Montessori School Inc. In the memo line on the check, please write **Teacher Professional Development**. We appreciate your support in advance!



AMERICAN MONTESSORI SOCIETY®
education that transforms lives

Classroom Student Communication Updates

On Visiting Day, all families received a folder that included information about Student Communication Updates and Parent Conferences. You will receive your first update the week of October 9th. Updates will provide you with information on how your child is doing within the classroom environment. Just a reminder, please send an email confirmation back to your child's teacher after you receive your report. The teachers want to make sure you have received the report and they are happy to answer any questions you may have. The updates are an excellent communication tool for parents and teachers to remain connected about your child throughout the school year.

Holidays in the Classroom – What to Expect

At Sunrise we recognize the importance of family traditions and honor various cultural celebrations throughout the year. During the fall season in the Montessori classroom, the students will be scrubbing pumpkins and gourds, cutting open a pumpkin to learn the parts of the pumpkin, making push-pin pumpkins or jack-o-lanterns, pumpkin pounding, reading fun seasonal stories and much more.

During the upcoming Halloween holiday, we discourage students from wearing any Halloween costumes or accessories during school hours for Halloween (even though this holiday is celebrated by many families); it is a great event for families to participate in together **at home and/or out in their community**. We appreciate your understanding in advance! The Classroom Newsletters provide the highlights of cultural events, seasonal activities, overview of holidays presented in the classroom and much more!

Outdoor Clothing

As the season changes, your child's outdoor clothing and footwear should as well. Please remember to send a jacket as appropriate for the season. The children should always wear appropriate closed shoes (no toes or heels exposed) for safety reasons.

Food Allergy Reminder

As a reminder, with current student allergies, please do not send in snack or lunch food items containing peanuts or tree nuts. However, if your child enjoys almonds, macadamia, and walnuts these are currently safe to have in our program.

Plan Ahead for Student Photo Day – Tuesday November 7 - with Vicario Studios

For the past several years, Sunrise schedules both individual and classroom group portraits with Vicario Studios. Paul Vicario's studio is located right next to our school in the Moseley Complex and the students often greet Mr. Vicario from the playground. You may choose to have your child participate in the individual and the classroom group photos, and an order form envelope from the studio will be sent home ahead of time for you to place your order.

On the morning of the photos (around 9am), the students walk over to the studio (one classroom at a time) with their teachers until their photos are completed. This takes about 30-40 minutes per classroom. If you have any questions or comments, please reach out to me.

Special Request

Our program uses a tremendous amount of reusable, small plastic grocery bags for wet and soiled clothing. Bag availability is being phased out at many stores. If anyone has extra bags they aren't planning to recycle, please send them in during drop off or pick up. Thank you in advance!

Extended Day Program

Just a reminder – the extended day option (morning or afternoon) is available to all students. Join in on the fun either on a set schedule or on an occasional basis.

Sunscreen and Bug repellent usage

If you would like your child to wear sunscreen and/or bug repellent for outdoor recess, please consider applying this to your child before coming to school. For full day students, you may request a Sunscreen/Bug Repellent form from the office (must be filled in and signed by a caregiver), send in the product for application, and your child's teacher will apply when appropriate in the afternoon. The Sunscreen/Bug Repellent form is also available for download from our website: <http://www.mysunrisemontessori.com/parent-corner.html>

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

September 30: Franklin Harvest Fest from Noon to 5pm Stop by the Sunrise booth #107 near the Rockland Trust. Tell friends, family, neighbors...anyone looking for information on preschool & kindergarten programs.

October 5: Curriculum Night. Please plan to arrive by 6:30pm. This event is for parents only.

October 6: Professional Development Day - no classes and no extended day program.

October 9: Columbus Day/Indigenous Peoples Day - no classes and no extended day program.

November 1: Professional Development Day - no classes and no extended day program.

November 7: Picture Day

November 10: Veteran's Day (observed) - no classes and no extended day program.

Pizza Days for full day students: October 13, 20, 27
(no pizza on October 6 due to the Professional Development Day)

Sensation Station Dates to remember

October 5, 12, 19 & 26 **Classroom A**

October 4, 11, 18 & 25 **Classroom B**

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

Tools For Schools

Shop at Price Chopper Market 32 with your enrolled AdvantEdge Card to help Sunrise earn new supplies and equipment. You may even donate your AdvantEdge Rewards points directly to the school! Follow the share links within the Tools for Schools page on <https://rewards.pricechopper.com/>



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 the 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

Labels 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 listed items on the tree, just inside the school's 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: [Sunrise-Amazon-Wishlist](#) New items are added each month.

Giving Tree Items through Montessori Services

The catalog may be found online at: <https://www.montessoriservices.com/>



Primary Aprons W29
(would like 4 of any color)
 \$15.95 each

Enamelware Hand Washing Set G235
 \$52.95



Opening and Closing Activity
PL77C \$26.95



Crayon Rocks A275 \$11.95 (16 pieces)
A278 \$32.00 (64 pieces)



Japanese Brush Painting
A352 \$45.50



Table Setting Activity PL62 \$69.95



Mini Metal Pail Q04 \$4.50 each
 (would like 4)



Teak Branch Boxes B410 \$8.50
 (would like 2)



Holidays Around the World books
 \$7.95 each

- Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur C367
- Thanksgiving C368
- Hanukkah C370
- Christmas C371
- Kwanzaa C369
- Chinese New Year C372
- Valentine's Day C373
- Easter C374
- Passover C375



Apple Serving Activity PL71
\$56.50



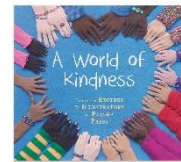
Spice Grinder D404 \$10.95



Citrus Squeezing Activity PL67
\$22.95



A World of Kindness R117
\$12.95 (paperback)



Continent Flag Sets

Africa 12 Flags	C710F	\$42.00
Asia 12 Flags	C712F	\$42.00
Australia & Oceania	C709F	\$28.00
Europe – Eastern	C707F	\$49.00
Europe – Western	C705F	\$59.50





Classroom A Newsletter September 2023

Dear Classroom A families,

It has been a wonderful start to the school year and we are excited to jump into fall! The children have been so excited to get to know each other in the classroom and we certainly have an amazing group of students. Everyone is settling into the routines of the school day, working and playing together! At circle time each morning, we say “good morning”, talk about the calendar, and learn the 7 days of the week and the months of the year. We also discuss the weather and temperature each day!

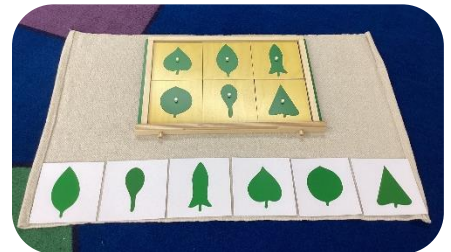
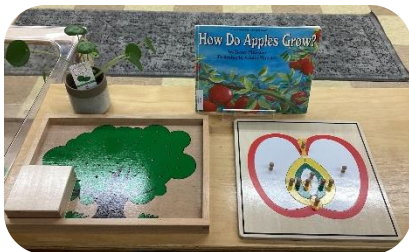


We began the school year by working together and learning the rules and expectations of the classroom. Our class continues to learn **Grace and Courtesy** lessons together and practice throughout the school day. The children who are returning Sunrise Montessori students have helped our new classmates learn and together we review practicing manners to show we care about one another.



An important part of the Montessori Curriculum is also the **Peace Curriculum**. We read the book *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Jewell together at circle and then talked about the different ways that we can find peace in our classroom, and home and in ourselves. Our Peace Rose is displayed on the Peace table of our classroom for children to access throughout the day. This tool introduces the skills of conflict resolution and guides children on how to use these skills at home, on the playground, and in the classroom.

We have also been busy this month learning about the changing seasons and we talked about the Autumnal Equinox on September 22nd! In **Science**, the children enjoyed sharing many of the different and exciting activities that happen during the fall. We explored the parts of the apple and at circle time we discovered what’s inside an apple! We also learned about the botany cabinet and the various shapes of different leaves.



In **Geography**, our classroom has been exploring where we live. Heading into next month, our classroom will begin sharing “All About Me” to learn more about one another and where we are from and where we live. Stay tuned for more info!

During **Kindergarten Class** we will be working on extensions of the lessons from the morning work cycle and access, in more depth, the areas of the Montessori curriculum. This time is also an opportunity for Kindergarten students to work on and explore topics of their own interests.

This month in Kindergarten, we practiced reading with books from the Primary Phonics series Mac and Tab and Al. We wrote about what we want to learn in Kindergarten and completed a sight word challenge!



This month, the children were also excited to begin Pizza Fridays and storytelling with Gio the Giraffe.

We had a blast during Sensation Station and look forward to everything we will accomplish and learn as a community together this year!

We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to Charlotte and William who both celebrated birthdays this month!

Sincerely your teachers,

Ms. Laura, Ms. Samantha, and Ms. Karen

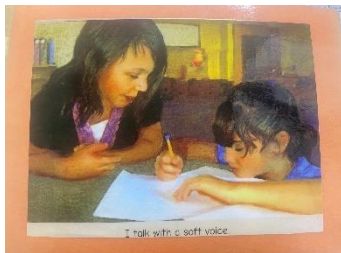


Classroom B Newsletter September 2023

Hello Classroom B Parents,

Happy September, Happy Fall! The school year is off to a great start. As we welcome back our returning students and our new students, we wanted to share with you what we are learning this month. The month of September is filled with many transitions. Our mornings begin with greeting one another, then moving onto circle time. We are learning how to adapt to the environment as well as one another.

During circle time we learn about **Grace and Courtesy**. These lessons are given daily. Grace and Courtesy lessons are an essential part of our environment as they teach the children what it means to be polite and how to appropriately communicate one's feelings.



Grace and Courtesy

The teachers role model these lessons then invite the children to role model as well. A leader is chosen each day. Being a leader is a wonderful way to help the children gain confidence and model how to set a good example.

Group lessons are given each day in the morning and afternoon on how to properly use the materials. How to socially interact and how to move peacefully within our environment.

The month of September has been very busy as we focused our attention on body management along with social and emotional skills. The second and third year students are doing an amazing job helping the new students make a smooth transition in the classroom both socially and emotionally.



Checking in on a friend



Bubble time



Parallel play
in the
sandbox

The Label Game

The label game helps the children to identify their name. This is also the process for how the children explore the classroom environment and select their work. It is not only a wonderful way to learn the spelling of their name and of their classmates, but it also allows them to learn to focus and be patient as they wait for their turn.

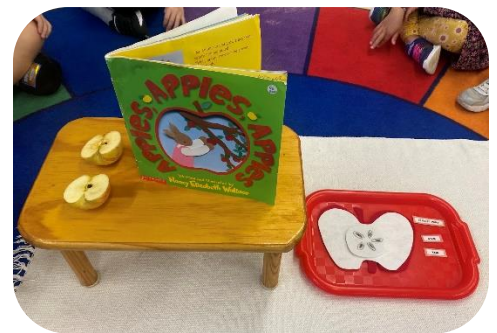


In **Cultural Studies** we learned about Rosh Hashanah, which is the Jewish New Year. The biblical name for this holiday is Yom Teruah. It is the first of the Jewish High Holy Days, as specified by Leviticus 23:23, that occurs in the late summer/early autumn of the Northern Hemisphere. A special thank you to Jacob's parents for sharing this special day by sending in a book, special honey and apples for all the children.



In the **Botany Area** the children are learning about the life cycle of an apple tree, the different types of apples, different colors and taste. The stages of the apple tree life cycle are - seed, seedling, tree, bud, flower and fruit.

The children enjoyed a botany lesson on the apple. We cut the apple in half and revealed the beautiful star pattern inside where the seeds are stored. The children were so excited by this discovery. Each child was able to explore, examine, smell and taste the fresh cut apples. We incorporated many new lessons into the environment to enhance their learning and knowledge of the apples and trees.



Lunchtime

The children are doing a great job in learning how to prepare for lunch independently. They are taking this time to eat, unwind and reflect on their day.

Ms. Emily and Ms. Jessica rotate reading stories before the lunch to help the children transition from playtime to lunchtime smoothly. After lunch the children clean up with help from the teachers then head over to their rest mats for a brief rest time to prepare for the afternoon work cycle. Please keep in mind when packing your child's lunch to include healthy foods like fresh fruits, veggies, protein, etc... that will provide them with energy to get through the busy day.

NOTE : NO PEANUTS PLEASE WE HAVE A PEANUT ALLERGY

Kindergarten Class

In the Kindergarten program we are learning about the human body. Our focus this month is on learning about our Kindergarteners. We are making a booklet called "All about me". This booklet includes social, emotional and physical connections about ourselves. We are also learning to further develop the daily activities we work with in our environment. In the reading area we are working on phonetic words, reading, writing and comprehension. We are off to a great start in our Kindergarten program!

Sensation Station

The children had a BLAST at Sensation Station. This is a wonderful place to help the children release energy and build their gross motor skills. The pictures of many happy faces say it all.



Happiest of birthdays to our **September Friends ~ G'oseni, Cameron, Deniz, Brenna, Katie**
We wish you all a year full of special wishes!

"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of Responsibility and the wings of Independence." Maria Montessori

Love, learn & grow!

Ms. Anselmo, Ms. Emily and Ms. Jessica