



March 2024 Newsletter

Happy Spring, Sunrise Community!

Seeing the hyacinths, daffodils, and tulips sprouting in front of our school is wonderful. The students enjoy pointing out the blossoms as they enter the school during the morning drop-off.

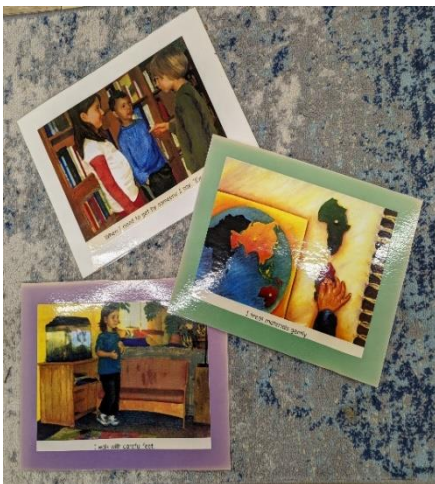


Grace & Courtesy - Peaceful Environment

Dr. Maria Montessori emphasized “Grace and Courtesy” throughout the environment. She felt without the presence of empathy and compassion within the child’s environment, that learning would not be able to take place. Montessori encouraged children to respect all living creatures and the world around them. This is also the philosophy of our program.

Our students learn and develop respect and awareness of their environment both indoors and outdoors. The teachers role model and help students to work through various social experiences while providing opportunities to practice and develop appropriate self-expression and learn the process of self-regulation and self-control. Tools and techniques such as allowing students to speak and actively listen to each other (and taking turns doing so) are just the first steps. Providing phrases for the students like, “I can see that you are frustrated, can you tell me more about this” or “Did you hear your friend’s message” helps build trust and allows the students to gain comfort while sharing their different emotions and when expressing their concerns to others. Also providing a quiet space in the environment, such as the Peace Corner, allows students a space to reflect and find calmness throughout the day.

Grace & Courtesy cards in classroom B



Peace Corner in classroom A



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

April Parent-Teacher Conference Sign-Up Links

Spring is our second portion of the Parent-Teacher conferences. Please follow the link below to sign up to meet with your child's classroom teachers:

[Classroom A Sunrise Montessori School Conference sign up - Google Sheets](#)

[Classroom B Sunrise Montessori School Conference sign up - Google Sheets](#)

For your convenience, Sunrise provides childcare at no charge during your scheduled parent conference time. Childcare is held in Classroom C (the front room area). If you plan to bring your child during the conference, please arrive a few minutes ahead of your scheduled time to help get your child settled and to keep our conferences running on time.

Family Potluck Event Friday, April 26th from 6 pm-7:30 pm

Please remember to RSVP for our annual family potluck. The event will feature a balloonist from Jonah's Twisters for the children to enjoy. Let us know what your family plans to bring by visiting the sign-up link [Family Potluck Sign-Up - Google Docs](#). We are so excited that the SAFE Coalition is allowing us to utilize their space for a community event.

Sunrise Annual Spring Fair Event on May 18th from Noon to 2pm

Spring means it's time to think ahead about our Annual Spring Fair, which is scheduled for Saturday, May 18th from 12-2 pm at the school. This event is held rain or shine.

For those families who attended last year's event, it will be very similar. The Spring Fair is the main fundraising event for our program. Proceeds from the event go towards program maintenance costs and ongoing staff professional development. Our Parent Reps, Marissa and Susannah, and both Sue and I have planned the themes and have been collecting donations.



This year's raffle items (for children and adults to partake in) include: 2 **Classroom-made projects**, 2 **Summer Program raffles**, 1 **Sunrise Apparel basket**, **All Fun & Games basket**, **Meditation & Yoga basket**, **#1 Sport's Fan basket**, **Pampered Parents basket**, **Pets are Family Too basket**, and a **Lemonade Stand basket**. Additionally, raffle items for adults only (18+ or 21+) include: a **Lucky Lottery Scratch Ticket Tree** and a **Beer/Wine & Snacks raffle basket**. Tickets for the raffle baskets will be available for purchase before the Spring Fair (*in case you can't attend but want to participate*) and at the Spring Fair. Cash or check only.

As the fair date comes closer, more details will be sent out about children's games and activities, bouncy house fun, pizza and more. There is no cost to attend or participate in children's activities or for food/beverages. You will not want to miss this fun – please mark your calendars and plan to invite the whole family. The event is also open to Sunrise alum families, newly accepted families for the upcoming year and community members!

To donate, please contact me at HeadofSchool@MySunriseMontessori.com or Susannah and Marissa at ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com. If you know of a business or organization that would like to contribute to our annual fair, solicitation letters are available by request. No amount is too small!

Chestnut Dental Visit Fun

Thank you to Chestnut Dental for visiting our school. Ms. Kelly did a great job discussing the importance of oral health in the classrooms!



Afterschool – Extended Day Program Science Fun

This month the children practiced their auditory skills while having fun making a string telephone! When one person speaks into the cup, the sound of their voice creates a wave that vibrates across the string to the other cup where the other person can hear it. Great Listening!



Summer Program

Last month's newsletter provided information about the Summer Program. We have several students already enrolled! Details and the registration form are available on the table as you walk through our front door, or you may wish to download the registration form directly from our website:

<http://www.mysunrisemontessori.com/summer-2024.html>

Donation Thank You

A Sunrise alum family, the LaButti family, made a generous donation to our program and we recently purchased and installed two daisy flower chalkboards on our playground – everyone loves them!

Sunrise Apparel & Tote Bags for sale!

Dress in style! Show your support for our school!

Ask us about our Sunrise Apparel and tote bags.

- ❖ Hoodie sweatshirts
- ❖ Adult and children's t-shirts
- ❖ Baseball caps
- ❖ Winter beanies
- ❖ Tote bags



Thank you to Ms. Judy for bringing in birdseed and filling our feeder outside our front door.

The students love seeing the cardinals, sparrows, and chickadees visit throughout the day.

Also thank you to Dylan Alston's family for the yummy muffins for the teachers!

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.

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 5: Staff Professional Development Day. No classes, no Extended Day Program

April 15 – April 19: Vacation Week. No classes, no Extended Care. Enjoy the time off with your family.

April 26: Family Potluck Dinner from 6pm to 7:30pm. Held on the 2nd floor of our building at SAFE Coalition. Be sure to see the sign-up link in this newsletter. All families are invited.

April 29: Early release day for all students at 11:30AM. Please see the parent/teacher conference links.

April 30: Parent/teacher conferences all day. No classes.

Pizza Days for full day students: April 12 & 26 (no pizza on April 5 due to the Staff PDD)

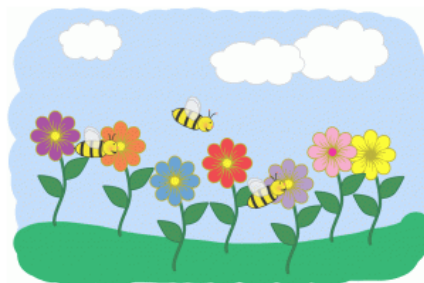
Sensation Station (please arrive to school on time – the children walk to this program promptly at 8:55am)

April 4, 11 and 25 **Classroom A**

April 3, 10 and 24 **Classroom B**

May 18: Annual Spring Fair from Noon to 2PM.

Rain or shine!



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 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).



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.

For Small Hands

Montessori items and activities for your child. Use the school code #573412 and Sunrise will receive a credit towards future material purchases through Montessori Services. For online orders, please visit forsmallhands.com or the eCatalog: forsmallhands.com/flip. You may also order via phone at (888) 513-3998.

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.

Thank you for supporting Sunrise Montessori School!

Please join us for our

Family Fun Spring Fair



We are celebrating our 19th year in Franklin and want to thank our current, alum and new families for their support of our programs!

When: Saturday May 18, 2024

Where: 31 Hayward St., Franklin

Rain or shine

Time: 12:00-2:00 pm

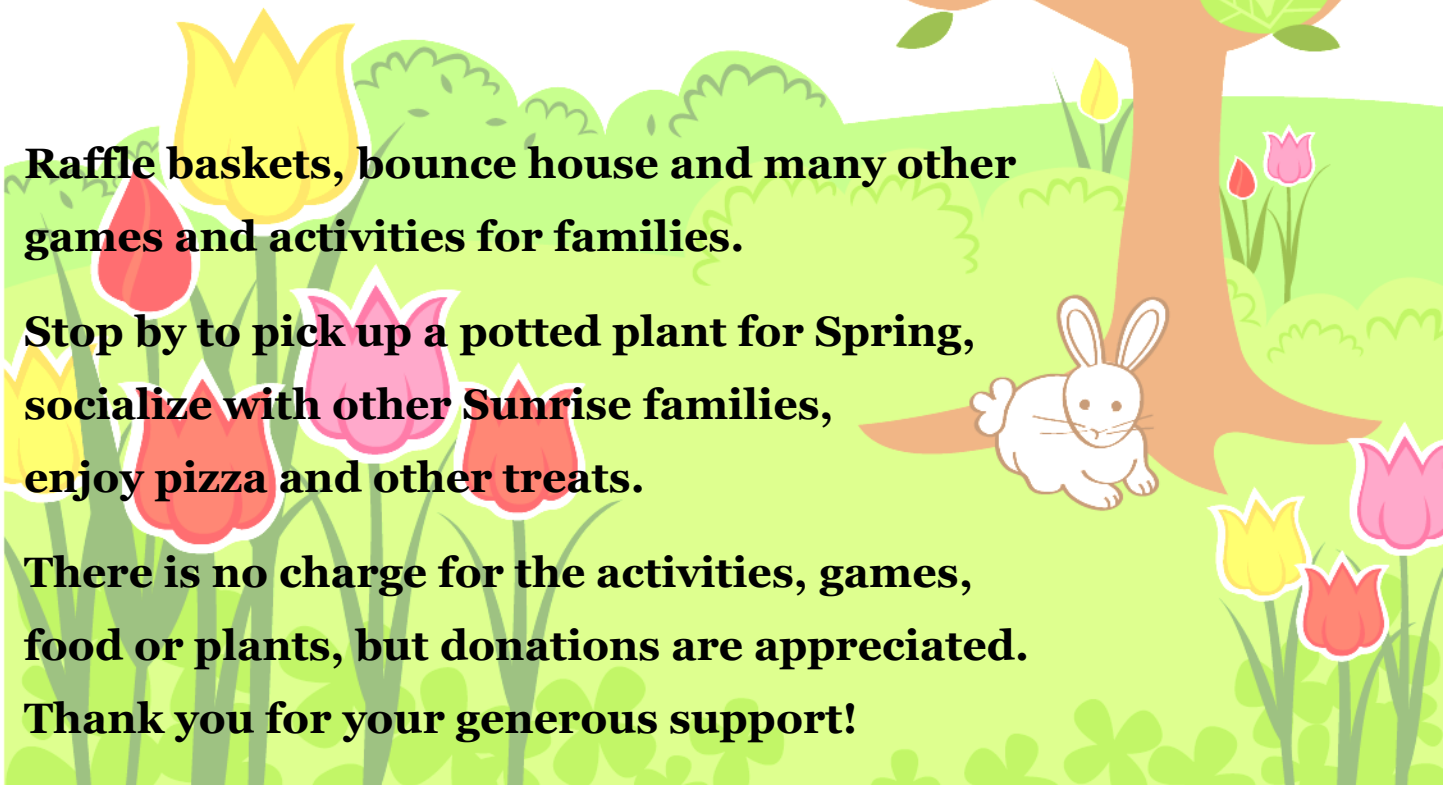


Raffle baskets, bounce house and many other games and activities for families.

Stop by to pick up a potted plant for Spring, socialize with other Sunrise families, enjoy pizza and other treats.

There is no charge for the activities, games, food or plants, but donations are appreciated.

Thank you for your generous support!





Classroom A Newsletter March 2024

Dear Classroom A families,

We celebrated **Montessori Education Week** after returning from the vacation. The children learned how Maria Montessori was born in Italy, on the continent of Europe, and enjoyed exploring the timeline of Maria Montessori's life. We read *Our Peaceful Classroom* by Aline Wolf and learned why our school is called a Montessori School. Children made connections between the materials we have in our classroom to those they recognized from the book. We learned how Maria Montessori designed these to help us learn! We reviewed how an important part of the Montessori Curriculum is the **Peace Curriculum**. We discussed what it means to learn in a Montessori classroom and the different ways and places in our classroom that we can create peace. **Grace and Courtesy** lessons are taught each day and are reviewed as necessary during group meetings. We address conflicts within the classroom as they arise, and together, find peaceful solutions.

Our class read *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Jewell, which is a tool we use to teach children how to solve conflicts with words and not fighting. Other tools found at the peace table in our classroom include the peace rose, yoga cards, a rock fountain, a bell, and a labyrinth. We also practice guided meditations such as "Breathe in like a flower and out like a shower," as well as a teacher or a child will lead us in offering peace to one another each day by reciting:

"May there be peace before you, behind you, above you, below you, from your heart to your lips, and to everyone."



"The child is both a hope and a promise for mankind"

Maria Montessori, *Education and Peace*

The Peace Curriculum is an integral part of the Montessori Education Philosophy. Our classroom strives to incorporate Maria Montessori's message for peace into the fabrics of our everyday classroom routines.

"If we are among the men of good will who yearn for peace, we must lay the foundation for peace ourselves, by working for the social world of the child."

Maria Montessori, *International Montessori Congress, 1937*

In **Geography**, our class continues to learn about the continent of South America, and we are learning about the animals that are found in the rainforest.





We also learned about the many holidays celebrated throughout the month as well! Our classroom celebrated Saint Patrick's Day, and Ramadan this month. We read *Patrick: Patron Saint of Ireland* by Tomie dePaola and learned about the history of Saint Patrick, who was born in Britain, but then moved to Ireland at age 16 to share his beliefs with the people there. We learned that the leaves on the three-leaf clover symbolize faith, love, and hope. The additional leaf on the four-leaf clover symbolizes good luck!

We continue to learn about Ramadan, which takes place in the ninth month of the Islamic calendar when the first sliver of the crescent moon appears. Ramadan is a holy month celebrated by Muslims around the world. Ramadan is a quiet, reflective time of worship, prayer, helping others, and spending time with loved ones. Some families fast during Ramadan, not eating or drinking anything between sunrise and sunset. Fasting reminds Muslims to appreciate their blessings and to help those in need.



Thank you to Amar's mom for reading a story in our classroom and teaching us all about Ramadan. Also, thank you to her family for donating a Ramadan coloring poster and craft for our classroom!

In **Science**, we learned about the Spring Equinox and talked about all of the signs of spring!



We have also been learning about Rocks and Minerals. The children have enjoyed excavating, identifying, and sorting rocks and minerals!





In **Kindergarten**, we are learning about the many different changes that this new season brings. Luca and I went for a nature walk and made many discoveries. We observed and documented the changes. After our observation, we went inside to discuss, write down what we saw, and made colorful illustrations of what we observed. Luca really enjoyed this beautiful sunny day and the observation lesson!

As previously mentioned in last month's newsletter, the full-day conferences that are scheduled on Tuesday, April 30th will need to be rescheduled (just for Classroom A). Please click on the conference link to choose a time that works for you! Thank you in advance.

[Classroom A Parent Conference Sign Up](#)

Sincerely your teachers,

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



Classroom B Newsletter March 2024

Hello Classroom B Parents,

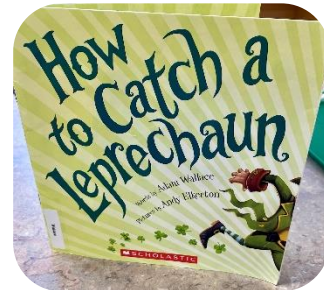
Happy Spring Classroom B Families! Spring, such an unpredictable season in New England, has sprung at Sunrise. The days are brighter, the sun is warmer, the wind is stronger and the children are full of Spring energy. This month we have been exploring the many different changes in our outside environment. We read books on this upcoming season called Spring and went on a nature walk exploring the changes.



In **Cultural Studies** the children are exploring Europe this month. We also had a great time learning about St. Patrick's Day. We read stories and made art projects. The children learned that the first St. Patrick's Day parade was held in America. Corned beef and cabbage was an American innovation and a Shamrock was considered a sacred plant. We learned so many fascinating things about Ireland and colored in the flag of Ireland. The children especially enjoyed the story, *How to Catch a Leprechaun*.



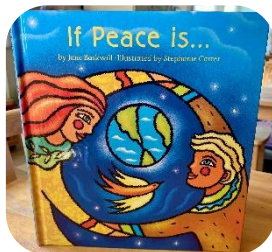
The children celebrated **Montessori Education Week** after returning from February vacation. We read stories about Maria Montessori and learned that she was born in Italy on the continent of Europe. The children enjoyed exploring the timeline of Maria Montessori's life.



We read *If Peace is...* and *Our peaceful environment*.

We learned why our school is called a Montessori School.

The children made a great connection between the materials we have in our classroom and with those they recognized from the book. We also heard how Maria Montessori designed these materials to help us learn and grow.



An important part of the Montessori environment is **Peace Education**. We learn different ways and places in our environment where we can create peace. **Grace and Courtesy** lessons are given each day and the leader of the day gets to choose which Grace and Courtesy card we will discuss for that day. We also learned Europe is an amazing continent which is known for the poets and musicians, artists and scientists, sculptures, and discoverers. The children worked on the world map. They colored and pin-pushed the continent of Europe which will be added to their continent booklets.



In **Science** the children are learning about the life cycle of a frog. The class enjoyed seeing and holding all five life stage models in the growth of this amazing amphibian, including a grown frog figurine.

The 5 life stages comprise egg (frog spawn), tadpole, tadpole without gills, tadpole with legs, and frog.

Our **Famous Artist of the Month** was Andy Warhol. He was an American visual artist, film director, producer, and leading figure in the pop art movement. He was especially known for recreating Campbell's Soup art; he reinvented it as a work of art. Warhol can be credited with converging the world of high art and supermarket branding, propelling the pop-art movement forward and possibly even boosting the sales of canned soup. The children enjoyed recreating this and making a connection to this art.



Kindergarten

In Kindergarten we are learning about the many different changes that this new season brings. Luca and I went for a nature walk and made many discoveries. We observed and documented the changes. After our observation we went inside to discuss, write down what we saw and made colorful illustrations of what we observed. Luca really enjoyed this beautiful sunny day and the observation lesson.

March has been a very busy month! As the year continues to quickly move forward, we ask that you send in **seasonal extra clothes** to put in your child's cubby as the weather begins to change.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at conferences next month!

March Birthdays

Happy birthday to Dylan and Aathini
We wish you an exciting year ahead 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