



## September 2016 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Welcome back. It has been nice to meet and to get to know so many wonderful families at the beginning of our new school year. The children are adjusting well to the school's environment, and the teachers are very happy with their classrooms.



We have had nice weather, too – so the children have had a lot of fun getting to know the playground. It is during their playground time that they really get to practice so many age appropriate skills – such as sharing, taking turns, being patient with a friend, listening to each other, and asking to play with something or someone. It is also an excellent time to practice both gross and fine skills such as running, balancing, sliding, grabbing onto the equipment bars, building sand castles and using the sand toys. Their little selves are learning so much, and it is no wonder they are very tired at the end of the day. Every child is a treasure to have, and we thank you for sharing them with us.

**Community Garden:** This year the garden really did well. We had a lot of cherry tomatoes, peppers and squash. The Food Pantry was very thankful to receive the produce from Sunrise. One of the requirements of the Franklin Community Garden is volunteering for two hours to cleanup at the end of the summer. I worked the two hours last weekend, but the most interesting thing about working with other gardeners is that it isn't only a time of working, but sharing gardening skills. I learned a lot, and I hope some of what I learned will be useful to us for our next year's garden. Thank you to all the children who watered the garden this summer: Lillian Zhou, Jackson Gilman, Micky Nappa, Nora Clement, Anika Shah, Daniel Wong, Lauren D'Attilio, Weston and Ella Moorehead, Trace Reasonover and Aayush Jain. Without your help the garden wouldn't have grown as well. Thank you.

### Upcoming Events

**Harvest Stroll** – Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunrise Montessori School will participate in the Downtown Partnership Harvest Stroll from 4 – 7:00 pm. This event takes place in the center of Franklin, and many of the local businesses will set up tables and booths. The event is free and open to the public. This year we will invite the children to decorate craft pumpkins and black cats. This event is held rain or shine. I am hoping for pleasant, sunny weather.

**Franklin Preschool Fair** - Due to the renovations at the Franklin library, the preschool fair will take place at the Bellingham Library on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 until 7:00pm. If you have friends who are interested in sending their child to preschool, and they would like to see a variety of area preschools, this is a good resource for them. See the library website at: <http://www.bellinghamlibrary.org> for directions. This is a free event sponsored by the Franklin MOMS club.

*Offering quality Montessori preschool, pre-k transitional and kindergarten programs since 2005.*

31 Hayward St., PO Box 515, Franklin, MA 02038  
[www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

**Curriculum Night** – Will be held on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 until 8:30pm. This is an important time to learn about some of the classroom Montessori materials that the teachers have selected for presentation. We will also touch upon the different levels of the Montessori materials to help to give a clearer picture of how a child progresses within the Montessori environment.



The teachers will present a variety of lessons, and at the end of the lessons you are welcome to ask questions. This event is open to all families, and we encourage you to bring along a friend, neighbor or coworker who would like to learn more about Montessori Education.

**Sunrise Parent Association Meeting** – Our first meeting will be at 6:30pm on Curriculum Night. Rebecca Baril is our Parent Representative this year, and she will be happy to answer any questions that you have. During this brief meeting we will discuss field trips, events, fundraisers and any suggestions that you might have. Throughout the year, we plan a Sunrise Parent Association Meeting for the fall, winter, and the springtime. All parents of Sunrise are encouraged to attend. You can contact Rebecca at: [Parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com)

**Story Teller for Halloween** – On Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> we have invited storyteller, Diane Edgecomb, to entertain the children with Halloween stories beginning at 10:00am. Sunrise has welcomed her on multiple occasions in previous years and she does a fantastic job. The children are always engaged by her presentations. See her website: <http://livingmyth.com> for additional information and her bio. After the presentation the children will put on their Halloween costumes and gather for the Halloween Parade. The Halloween Parade will begin around 11:00am, and all parents are welcome to watch the parade along the playground fence. The children parade from inside the school to the outside playground for a photo opportunity. Please bring your camera because the children love to show off their costumes. Please note that all enrolled children are welcome to attend the presentation and Halloween parade even if they do not normally attend classes on Mondays.

**October - A busy month** – aside from Halloween – Sunrise begins a lot of new programs in October. The Spanish and Music Programs will begin once again, alternating each week. In addition, the bi-weekly reports will begin to go out every other week. Bi-weekly reports provide parents with additional insight–the teachers will tell you who your child is working with and what they are working on in the classroom. Our Pizza Program will also begin on Thursdays. Within a week or two, I will provide you with the details of our pizza program and sign-up sheets. This is also the month when Parent Read-Alouds begin. The children love hearing their favorite book and excitedly wait to find out whose parent or grandparent is coming in! Daily snacks are provided by the school, but anyone who would like to send in fresh fruits or vegetables for their child's classroom is welcome to sign up. The snack sign up list will be available shortly.

Please stay safe and healthy,

Sincerely,

*Karen Roeber & the Teachers*



## Curriculum News

### Classroom A

Hello to all the new and returning families! All the children are making a nice transition into our classroom. It is nice to see the returning children help the new children become familiar with the classroom routines and schedule. During the past two weeks we have been spending a lot of time on Grace and Courtesy – learning how to greet each other, get a teacher’s attention, how to choose a cork activity, clean up, and then return the work to the shelf so a classmate may use it. We also are learning how to work with other and respecting each other’s work space within the classroom. It has been a nice start to the school year.

*Andrea, Alka and Sandhya*

### Classroom B

We are thrilled to be back for a new school year at Sunrise Montessori! The beginning of the school year always emphasizes Grace and Courtesy lessons, including learning the three classroom rules: talking in a low voice, hands to ourselves and walking feet. The children have also practiced how to walk on the line, how to watch a lesson and getting a teacher’s attention. The teachers will begin to open the classroom shelves gradually in the next few weeks.

Currently the children are being introduced to Practical Life, the foundation of the Montessori environment, which includes areas of scooping, squeezing, twisting, grasp and control, rolling and folding, stringing, and care of the environment and self. This area helps children develop order, coordination, concentration and independence. As the year progresses the children will learn more of the advanced Practical Life skills including pouring activities with water, cleaning wet spills and using the Zipper and Button frames.

Thank you to the parents who have signed up for volunteering in our classroom including parent Read-Aloud, snacks and special trades and skills. If you haven’t signed up and are interested, please tell a teacher.

The teachers will be contacting parents to begin volunteering in October once the children are settled with the daily routine. Looking forward to a wonderful school year!

*Elizabeth, Kara and Farida*

### 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.

**Director,** Karen Roeber: [Director@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Director@MySunriseMontessori.com)

**Lead Teachers:** Andrea Koska: [Andrea@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Andrea@MySunriseMontessori.com)

Elizabeth Mason: [Elizabeth@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Elizabeth@MySunriseMontessori.com)

Kara Stegeman: [Kara@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Kara@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please note that all current events, news and the academic year calendar are also found on the school’s website:  
[www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Rosh Hashanah - no school - no extended day

Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – Pizza Program Begins

Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 – 7:00pm Harvest Stroll – in Franklin

Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Day – no school and no extended day

Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> – Yom Kippur – no school and no extended day

Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> – Franklin Preschool Fair at Bellingham Library – 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> - Sunrise Parent Association meeting and Curriculum Night; beginning at 6:30pm

Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> – 10:00am – Story Teller, Diane Edgecomb. 11:00am - Halloween Parade.