



December 2024 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

The month of December is barely over, and another new year is approaching. Before we move onto the new year, here are a couple important highlights from the final month of 2024.

Thank you - from the Sunrise Team

On behalf of the Sunrise staff, a heartfelt thank you to all the Sunrise parents for the thoughtful gifts that each team member received before the holiday break. Thank you to our parent reps for organizing and a special thank you to Erica and Lindsay for delivering the gift bags to the staff!

Franklin Food Pantry

Sunrise collected approximately 75 pounds for the Food Pantry this year! Thank you to the families and staff members who helped make this donation possible for our community members.



December Donations to Sunrise

This month, we received many, many donations from the Sunrise Amazon Wish List. Thank you to the following families for making this possible: Mason Finnan, Lilly Stevenson, Colin Cugini, Addie & Isla Keough, and Reid Letourneau. The classrooms are enjoying our new materials...

- Wooden Musical Instrument Set
 - Human Body – Anatomy Set
 - Egg Shaker Set (two sets)
 - Diversity Doll set with basket
 - Potato Head Family Set
 - Wooden Number Tracing Board Activity
 - Magnetic Sticks – Blocks Building Set
 - *The Shortest Day* book
 - Sign Language Letter Flashcard Set
 - Russian Matryoshka Snowman and Nutcracker Nesting Dolls
- Teacher Reference book - *How to Talk so Kids will Listen* – a great book which is available for any parent to borrow as well!

Two monetary donations were received this past month. Thank you to Sunrise's former Head of School, Karen Roeber and her husband, Paul for their donation. Also, to Nora Cucino's family for their generosity towards the Winter Wonderland event.

Thank you to Arha Vallabhaneni's family for the yummy donut treat on the last day of school!

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

Student Re-enrollment Period for all Current Families runs January 2nd – January 21st

Once school is back in session on January 2nd, all Sunrise families will receive important re-enrollment information **via email**. This email will be accompanied by a letter providing the new tuition rates for the 2025 - 2026 academic year and options, along with a returning student application form. To secure your child's preschool or kindergarten space for September 2025, please complete the returning student application form and send it back **no later than January 21st** – there is no application fee for re-enrollment of current students. It is important to secure your child's space before the new student enrollment begins on January 25th. If you need an application for a younger child, please let me know as this form is slightly different and includes a questionnaire. After you receive the re-enrollment email, if you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sunrise Open House Events for New Prospective Families

Please help share the news to promote next year's enrollment by sharing our Open House Flyer with your coworkers, neighbors, family, and friends. The open house flyer is attached to this newsletter. Our Open House will be held on Saturday, January 25th from 11 am to 1 pm. (snow date is February 8th, if necessary) Sunrise Parent Representative(s) will be present for this event to help meet new families and provide a parent's perspective view!

Montessori Toddler Time Winter Session begins on January 7th

Sunrise is excited to hold its [Winter Montessori Toddler](#) time session. Toddler Time is held once per week, over a six-week session, on Tuesdays from 9:30-10:45am. The program currently has three participants signed up, and we have space for a fourth toddler. This class is set up in the front Classroom C area and I lead this program along with the caregivers. If you know of a family (not currently part of our Sunrise family) who may be interested in joining this session, please have them reach out to the school for details.

Important Reminders....Health and Safety Illness Policy

To help keep our students, families, and staff healthy, I would like to remind the Sunrise Community about our illness policy. It is important that sick children remain out of school when they are ill or have not fully recovered from an illness. This decreases the likelihood that germs will spread. Look for the following signs or symptoms if you suspect your child is sick before bringing him/her to school. Please refer to the Parent Handbook for more information about Sunrise's illness policies. Here is an excerpt taken from the Parent Handbook:

- A temperature of 100 degrees or more, even if your child "feels fine"
- Chills, fever, or any other signs of illness
- A new loss of smell, taste, unexplained headache, or muscle aches
- A persistent cough – germs spread quickly when children cough and cover their mouths with their hands and then touch materials
- A runny nose with thick yellow or green mucus
- Red, itchy eyes which may or may not appear to be conjunctivitis (viral or bacterial)

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- If your child has vomited within the past 24 hours
- If your child has diarrhea or persistent loose stools within the past 24 hours
- If your child appears lethargic or is not acting in his/her normal manner and is overly tired.
- Any evidence of a viral or bacterial infection which may be contagious such as strep throat, chicken pox, fifth's disease, etc.

Please notify the office via email or by phone if your child is sick (and state the illness) or if they will be absent **for any reason**. Sharing the nature of your child's illness with the office is imperative as some of our students have serious health challenges and these families must be notified of any contagious illness. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Outdoor Recess Clothing

Sunrise follows the Department of Early Education and Care's weather policy, and the students play outdoors as much as possible during the winter. Please remember to send the following items daily throughout the winter season: A hat, mittens or gloves, boots, a warm jacket, and snow pants or a snow suit (even if there is no snow). Snow gear provides protection from the frozen ground, wind and cold temperatures. Please label all your child's outdoor items to ensure that any misplaced items get returned to its owner. These items will be sent home daily and must be returned the next day.

Replenish Cubby Clothing

Remember to replenish your child's extra clothing at school as needed and as the seasons change. During the Winter, socks, pants and shirts can get wet, even if your child is wearing snowpants. Consider sending in a warm sweatshirt or shirt with long sleeves for their cubby.

Inclement Weather - School Delays and Cancellation Policy

Sunrise typically follows the Franklin Public School's inclement weather policy. In the event of a delay, our school will operate as such:

- FOR A 1 HOUR DELAY BOTH CLASSROOM A AND B WILL BEGIN AT 9:30A.M.
- FOR A 1 ½ HOUR DELAY BOTH CLASSROOM A AND B WILL BEGIN AT 10:00A.M.
- FOR A 2 HOUR DELAY BOTH CLASSROOM A AND B WILL BEGIN AT 10:30A.M.

IN THE EVENT OF ANY DELAY, BOTH MORNING AND FULL DAY STUDENTS MAY ATTEND.

IN THE EVENT OF ANY DELAY, THERE WILL BE NO BEFORE SCHOOL CARE AVAILABLE.

IF THE FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOL ANNOUNCES ANY DELAY OR CLOSING, I WILL EMAIL THE SUNRISE COMMUNITY DIRECTLY.

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

Co-Head Teachers

Emily Hill & Samantha Renaud:

Classroom-A@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Lynne Anselmo:

MsAnselmo@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Erica Cucino, Lindsay Fiorito, Ana Paquette & Manisha Thanneeru

ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Winter Break from December 19 through January 1, 2025

January 2: Welcome back; classes and extended day program resume

Think ahead to next school year's enrollment - Priority enrollment for the 2025 - 2026 school year for current students, younger siblings & alum families. Returning student re-enrollment forms will be sent to all current families via email the first week of January. Please complete your child's enrollment form no later than Tuesday, January 21st. There is no application fee for returning students, but we do need the completed forms for enrollment.

All new student applications (including younger siblings, Montessori Toddler Time participants and alum families) complete a separate application & questionnaire, which includes the application fee.

January 7: Montessori Toddler Time Winter session begins

January 17: Professional Development Day - no classes and no extended day

January 20: Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday - no classes and no extended day

January 21: Re-enrollment forms due from current families, younger siblings, Montessori Toddler Time participants and alum families

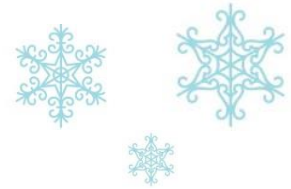
January 25: Admissions Open House for 2025 - 2026 from 11am to 1pm for new prospective families and open enrollment begins. During open enrollment we begin the process of reviewing applications from families outside of the Sunrise Community.

Sensation Station 9-10 am

Thursdays - January 9, 16, 23, 30 – Classroom A

Wednesdays - January 8, 15, 22, 29 – Classroom B

Pizza Dates for full day students: January 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 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 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



Price Chopper / Market32

Register your AdvantEdge card to benefit Sunrise Montessori School. Our school will earn points for educational products through the Tools for Schools program. Visit: <https://rewards.pricechopper.com/tools-for-schools/signup> to register. Be sure to select Sunrise Montessori School.

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 #130331 and Sunrise will receive a credit towards future material purchases through Montessori Services. For online orders, please visit <https://www.forsmallhands.com/scp/130331>

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.

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!

Admissions Open House

January 25, 2025
from 11am to 1pm



MONTESSORI
PRESCHOOL &
KINDERGARTEN

Enrolling your child in a quality, early childhood program is an important decision.

Preschool is typically the first time when many children spend a few hours each day with adults and other children who are not from their own family.

We invite you to attend our admissions open house, explore the classrooms with your child, and speak with our Head of School, Teachers and Parent Representatives.

Sunrise Montessori School offers half and full day programs with extended day options.

Our school is a full member of both the American Montessori Society and the Montessori Schools of Massachusetts and adheres to standards of quality education which meet or exceed those recommended by NAEYC.

Applications for the 2025-2026 academic year are currently being accepted.

31 Hayward St., Suite J2 Franklin MA
www.MySunriseMontessori.com
508.541.8010



Classroom A Newsletter December 2024

Dear Classroom A families,

Happy Holidays, everyone! We have had a fantastic year so far, and we love having your children in our classroom. We are so grateful for each and every one of you! We hope you have a great Holiday season and a Happy New Year!

This month in **Cultural Studies** we discussed Winter holidays around the world. The children learned about Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and how different cultures celebrate Christmas.



Everyone participated in a Winter Solstice craft day. The children from both classrooms got together to read stories and do crafts. We talked about how the Winter Solstice marks the shortest day of the year and the first day of Winter.

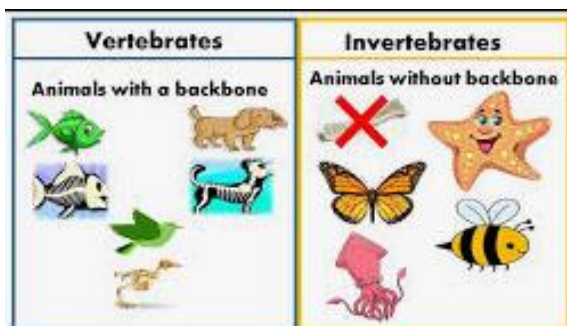
If your child's birthday is coming up, sign up for a birthday walk celebration here:

[Birthday Walk Sign Up](#)

We often enjoy having guest readers! If you would like to read a story to your child and their friends, please sign up here: [Guest reader sign up](#)



We love having families come into the classroom to talk to the children about any special holidays or traditions in your family's culture. If you would like to share your culture or traditions with the classroom, please reach out or sign up using the guest reader link above!



This month in the afternoon **Kindergarten** the children learned about vertebrate and invertebrate animals. The children are aware that animals which have a backbone are vertebrates, and the animals that do not have a backbone, are invertebrates.

It is getting colder! And the children love exploring the playground. Please send warm clothes for recess, such as hats, mittens, snow pants, scarves, and winter coats. Don't forget the warm, waterproof or resistant boots!

We try to go outside as much as possible, weather permitting. (When the temperature is above 15 degrees with the wind chill, we will be outside).

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Franklin Food Pantry this month!

Sincerely, your child's teachers,

Ms. Samantha, Ms. Emily, and Ms. Karen





Classroom B Newsletter December 2024

Dear Sunrise Parents,

As the year comes to a close, December brings a season of warmth, joy, and meaningful learning in our Montessori environment. Here are some highlights of our curriculum this month:

Cultural Studies

We've explored holiday traditions from around the world, helping the children appreciate diversity and the spirit of giving. Activities included stories, art projects, and discussions about festivals such as Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa.



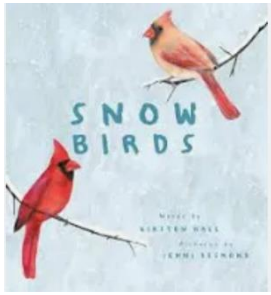
Practical Life

Seasonal activities, such as squeezing, sorting, scooping, pounding, rolling and folding provide opportunities to practice fine motor skills, concentration, order and independence.

Math & Language

The children worked on counting and early literacy skills, while continuing their journey with numbers and phonics. The use of Montessori materials like the beads and sandpaper letters make learning engaging and hands-on. Many seasonal activities were made to enhance their learning and knowledge in these areas. The children enjoyed working on counting the marshmallows according to the numbers on the mugs. An enjoyable lesson for all!





Winter Science

This month in the Science area the children learned about the winter season, exploring topics like weather changes, snowbirds, animals in winter, and the lifecycle of evergreen trees. Next month we will explore this area more in depth when we focus on “What are animal tracks?”



Winter Solstice Celebration

Our class had a great time celebrating and learning about the winter solstice which officially marks the start of a new season. Winter solstice, in the Northern Hemisphere, marks the shortest day and longest night of the year. We read stories and enjoyed our snacks.



Both classes participated in holiday arts and crafts stations throughout the school and played games. The children had so much fun getting together. It has been a fun-filled month. We look forward to celebrating the holidays with our family and friends as we start our holiday vacation.

Parent Tip of the Month: Grace and Courtesy

This holiday season is a wonderful time to practice and reinforce grace and courtesy at home. Encourage your child to use polite phrases like *please* and *thank you* during gift exchanges and family gatherings. Simple gestures, like holding the door or waiting their turn, help them understand the importance of kindness and respect in everyday interactions.

Kindergarten Area

The children are moving along nicely working on their Math, Language and handwriting skills. We made candy cane ornaments and learned how to write the word “candy cane”. It has been a fun-filled and busy month for the afternoon Kindergarten.

Important Dates

December 19 - January 1: Winter Break (No School)
Class resumes on January 2, 2025



A special thank you to Ms. Lindsay, (Jacob's mom) for coming in to share their wonderful traditions with our class.



Happiest of birthdays to our **December Friends!**
Adalyn Keough & Luciano Lapriore



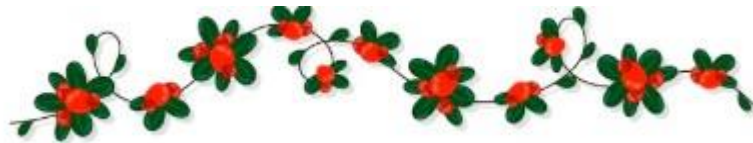
Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm. We wish you a joyful holiday season and look forward to more wonderful learning moments in the new year!

“The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of Independence.”

Maria Montessori

Love, learn & grow!

Ms. Lynne Anselmo, Ms. Marianne and Ms. Jessica





December 2024 Extended Day Newsletter

In **Science** we learned about air pressure with the rising water experiment (pictured below). Air pressure is the force exerted by the weight of air molecules pressing down on a surface. For the experiment, we placed a candle (with a little playdough to hold it up) on a rimmed plate and poured colored water onto the plate. Then we lit the candle and placed a glass jar over it. As the air heated up inside the jar, the molecules moved faster, and the air expanded and created high air pressure inside the jar. There was also pressure outside the glass. This reaction created a need for balance, so some air escaped from under the glass. When the flame went out, the air temperature inside the jar cooled, and the pressure decreased. The air pressure outside the jar pushed on the water, causing it to rise up into the glass. The students observed and predicted what would happen throughout the experiment and were fascinated with the outcome!

In **Art** this month, the students got into the spirit with some holiday crafts. Some examples are a Menorah and a wreath (pictured below). We hope everyone has a Happy, Healthy, and Fun Winter Break and we look forward to seeing you all in the New Year 2025!

Ms. Jessica and Ms. Amanda



Air Pressure Activity



Menorah Craft Activity



Wreath Craft

The morning and afternoon Extended Day Programs offer a safe, fun and welcoming environment where children are offered age-appropriate activities which promote learning opportunities and social interaction with staff and classmates. This program is held in the front classroom of the school and on the playground.