



## October 2020 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

### Autumn Changes

As we continue through the season of autumn, the classrooms enjoy outdoor recess, and the students notice the change in temperature and weather. Please remember to dress your child accordingly and send in warm clothing for recess and appropriate outdoor footwear. We also request that you label all your child's outdoor clothing to help return any lost or misplaced items.

### Inclement Weather Delays and School Cancellation Policy

Sunrise typically follows the Franklin Public School's inclement weather policy. In the event of a delay, closing, or an early dismissal, I will email the parent body directly. You may also check the school's website [www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com) and Sunrise's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/sunrisemontessori](http://www.facebook.com/sunrisemontessori) for any weather announcements as well.



### Restocking your child's clothing cubby box

The teachers typically send a notice home if your child needs any clothing for their cubbies. However, with the changing weather, you may wish to consider sending in an extra long sleeve shirt or sweatshirt, socks, pants, etc... When you send in warmer clothing, we will send home any warm weather / light-weight clothing.

### Sunrise Annual Food Drive for the Franklin Food Panty for November

Sunrise typically holds an annual food drive every November to help community members in need. However due to the COVID situation, the pantry has suspended food drives. At this time monetary donations are being accepted. If you would like to donate directly to the Franklin Food Pantry and dedicate your donation in honor of Sunrise, please visit <https://www.franklinfoodpantry.org/give-help/donate-food>

### Sunrise Parent Association - Fundraiser Update

Thank you to Marissa May, our Parent Representative, for organizing the Small Hands Fundraiser. Thank you to all the families who purchased items from the Small Hands catalog. The Sunrise Community (parents, grandparents, staff, etc...) placed over \$750.00 in total orders. This participation raised over \$100.00 in catalog credit for Sunrise so that our teachers may order additional classroom materials.

*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](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

## Other Upcoming News & Events

### Daily Health Screening

Thank you for completing your child's daily health screening. The State of Massachusetts continues to require programs to ask parents/guardians to fill out a screening each day. Please make sure you complete the screening online **before** arriving at school or ask Sue to provide you a paper copy during drop off. Daily screenings only need to be completed on days your child attends school. Please bookmark the link to the screening on your device or find the link on our website's Parent Corner page.



### Music Class with Ms. Mary Jo

The classrooms enjoyed having music virtually with Mary Jo in our front room, with the help of our newly donated projector! If you would like to view our first music class, please visit: <https://youtu.be/7jXsp92Daow>

Mary Jo is happy to share her videos with our Sunrise community.



### Diane Edgecomb – American Leading Storyteller

Sunrise has enjoyed Diane's well-known stories over the past several years! Diane is offering a free Halloween storytelling video and a wonderful Native American Legend video (both are amazing). Hopefully, we can enjoy having Diane visit our program soon! In the meantime, please take an opportunity to view some of her storytelling. <https://livingmyth.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=cfc4b3e05154f2479d65bc942&id=0bad9a2b98&e=08ba316c8f>



### Special Thank you to families and donations

I wanted to take an opportunity to specially thank the following Sunrise families and students for their recent donations to our program:

- Riley Correia and family for picking up and delivering 22 pumpkins to our program; this was a huge time saver and help for us.
- Kelby Feeherry and family for the Lysol wipes and the amazing ThinkLite Smart Indoor Air Quality Monitor system. I am excited to get this monitor up and running in our program.
- Jacob Anderson and family for the Lysol wipes and tissues.

### Parent Meetup in Bellingham

Thank you to parents and children who joined us for our meetup on October 18th at the Rail Trail in Bellingham. We enjoyed the nice weather, reading the story walk book, *The Golden Acorn* and getting together.



### Parent / Teacher conferences

Conferences will take place at the beginning of December. Details will be available soon, and your child's teacher will contact you regarding a date/time. Please be aware that there is an early dismissal on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. All children should be picked up by 11:45am so that the teachers may prepare for conferences. Thank you for your cooperation.



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 / Head Teacher

Andrea Rossick:

[Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Head Teacher

Kristin Masefield:

[Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto:Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com)

### Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Marissa May

[ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com](mailto: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](http://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

Friday, October 30:	Halloween and seasonal activities in the classrooms
Tuesday, November 3:	Election Day; Professional Development Day; no classes, no extended day
Wednesday, November 11:	Veteran's Day holiday; no classes, no extended day
Thursday, November 12:	Picture Day. Details will be sent to all families shortly
Tuesday, November 24:	Thanksgiving Sharing in the classroom
Wednesday, Nov 25-27:	Thanksgiving Break; no classes, no extended day
Thursday, December 3:	Parent / Teacher conferences in the afternoon; early dismissal for all children
Friday, December 4:	Parent / Teacher conferences all day; no classes and no extended day program
Friday, December 18:	Last day of classes until Winter Break; Pot Luck Dinner TBD

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

### Amazon Smile

Shopping online is not only convenient, but it can provide a benefit to our school.

When you shop at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), Amazon will make a donation to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. on eligible purchases.



To register and begin shopping, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser or activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. Select Sunrise Montessori School as your charitable organization **PRIOR** to shopping, and .5% of all eligible purchases will go back to our school. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier each time you shop.

Please tell your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. Every purchase helps.

### 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 your school's earnings online.

Go to [www.bboxtops4education.com](https://www.bboxtops4education.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.



## Active Fundraisers

### 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

Take a look at the preselected items on the Giving Tree. Use the link found on the [Parent Corner](#) page of our website. Many thanks to everyone for their support!





## Classroom A October Newsletter

It finally feels like Autumn outside. The cooler weather means more outdoor clothing is necessary. Please keep this in mind and send your child with a warm jacket, hats, and mittens/gloves. It is always a good idea to label your child's outdoor belongings to help them keep track of items within the classroom.

Our classroom has been buzzing with the energy, inquisitiveness, and enthusiasm of your children. The smaller class size gives ample opportunity for both Ms. Alka and myself to work with every child each day! I hope you enjoy reading about some of the main lessons that we have worked on this past month.

### Grace & Courtesy

This continues to be the backbone of the Montessori classroom. We have been working on what it means to be polite and respectful of our friends and teachers. The children are learning how to appropriately communicate and express their feelings as well. For example, telling a classmate when they do not like something is an essential part of communication. Other ongoing lessons our classroom practices are greeting one another, asking to join someone's activity, standing in line, walking in the classroom, hanging up coats and backpacks, sitting at group, and even choosing a work!

### Practical Life

October brought the opportunity to tweeze Indian corn kernels from the cob. This is quite tedious for some, however even the youngest child can use the wide strawberry huller for this job. Once all the corn was removed from the cobs, we recycled the cobs for our "Corn Cob" paintings you may have seen a few weeks ago. We then used the kernels for some of the pouring and scooping activities and even used them for a new gluing project in the art area.

Here are few other activities that were added to our shelves!



corn grinding



eggshell grinding



gourd washing



corn gluing

## Science

We learned about Plants and Animals. For this lesson, we read a book titled "Because of an Acorn". It tied in nicely to how plants and animals are distinctly reliant on each other, and how they are completely different. We also explored a traditional "Plant and Animal" Montessori sorting work to learn the characteristics of a plant and animal. One characteristic we discussed was that usually animals move around to find their own food, while plants are typically immobile and create their own food.



## Botany

In this area, we learned about the life cycle of a pumpkin, of course! We then enjoyed other activities such as pumpkin pounding, pumpkin painting, jack-o-lantern sponge painting, and lastly, we enjoyed carving our classroom pumpkin into a jack-o-lantern in honor of Halloween!



We also learned about the parts of a leaf. We discovered maple, oak, and grapevine leaves outside on our playground. Some children remembered that the margins are the edge of the leaf and the veins are the distinct lines throughout the leaf.



In this picture, Ms. Alka is holding the microscope as we view a small begonia leaf...very cool!



## Geography

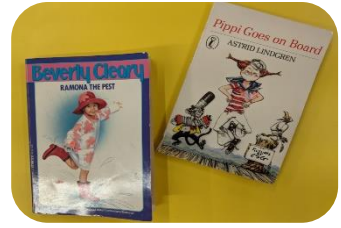
We started the Land and Water form activities with an emphasis on Lake and Island. We learned that a lake is a large body of water that is surrounded by land, and that an island is a piece of land that is completely surrounded by water. Using the map, some students identified the Great Lakes located in the United States and the island of Martha's Vineyard in Massachusetts. We will continue to learn about various land and water forms throughout the year.



Along with the lake and water work, other activities pictured below are the Continent stamp booklets and The World Map Push Pin work. Hopefully, you have heard your child sing the Continent Song (tune of One little, two little, three little Indians...) North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Europe, don't forget Australia, don't forget Antarctica. North America, South America, Asia, Africa, Europe... All of the Continents of the Earth.

### Afternoon Kindergarten Class

Classroom A students completed two different chapter books since September. The first one, "Pippi Longstocking" by Astrid Lindgren and the second, "Ramona the Pest" by Beverly Cleary. We just started our third book, "Pippi Goes on Board". Both kindergartners loved listening to the adventures of Pippi so much that they chose to hear another book in this series.



In addition to the daily chapter book reading, the students work on various activities such as picture/story writing, sight word bingo, race to 100 game, and Halloween Tic Tac Toe (a fun homemade game that my mother created and quilted for the classroom).

With Peace,  
Ms. Andrea and Ms. Alka





## Classroom B October Newsletter

Hello Families!

We can definitely feel the change of the season when we go out to the playground to play! The air is much chillier, and the leaves are changing color and are falling fast!

### Grace and Courtesy

Ms. Julie and I continue to remind the children of the rules of our classroom and how we take out our work, use it respectfully, clean it up and place it back on the shelf. Children at this age need typically constant reminders to help them with so many things! The older children are a big help in reminding their younger friends of the rules of our classroom!

### Practical Life

Since this month is all about pumpkins, we have added pumpkin pounding and pumpkin washing to this area of our classroom. The children love to be able to pound the golf tees into the pumpkin and make different designs. In addition, they enjoy drawing a face on one of the little pumpkins in black marker and then scrubbing the pumpkin clean! This work has many steps and takes a lot of concentration. It is amazing to observe a child complete this work from beginning to end with such satisfaction!



### Science

In Science, we learned about the parts of the tree. The roots of the tree are important because they bring water to the tree and hold the tree in its place. Leaves are also an important part of the tree. They consist of the stem, ribs and veins. Leaves provide food and air to the tree to keep it healthy. Speaking of leaves, we learned about the life cycle of the maple and oak trees. The children enjoyed collecting all the acorns and leaves that have fallen on the playground. We have even put some in our art area to create nature masterpieces!! We also used some of the beautiful leaves to do crayon rubbing! We learned that the types of trees that lose their leaves are called deciduous trees, like the maple and oak tree. Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall and bloom again in the spring.



We learned about the parts of the pumpkin and the lifecycle of the pumpkin. We even had a chance to carve a pumpkin and pull out the seeds!



In addition, the Kindergarten children taught the younger children many facts about bats and spiders! The children learned that bats are mammals, not birds. Not all bats eat insects. Fruit bats eat fruit. Bats are not blind, but they see black and white in the dark. Bats use echolocation to help them find food in the dark.

Spiders are arachnids and do not have a backbone, but they do have an exoskeleton which is a hard shell on the outside of their bodies that can't grow with the spider; that's why spiders molt, to shed their exoskeleton. The Kindergarten children had the opportunity to watch a video of a tarantula molting! They loved it! (I was a little creeped out by it to tell the truth!) The children also learned that some spiders have 8 eyes, but very few spiders have good eyesight.

### **Geography**

This month our class learned about North America. North America is the orange continent on the Montessori globe. We are learning that the continent of North America includes many countries and regions. Of course, the larger countries are Canada, the United States and Greenland. However, there are also Mexico, the Caribbean Countries and Central America. We are focusing on the US and have learned to identify the flag of our country and animals that are native to the US, including the bald eagle, raccoon, buffalo, moose and beaver. We will continue to learn about North America and the United States as we move into November.

### **Peace Curriculum**

As you know, we have a peace corner in our classroom where our friends go to enjoy being peaceful. We also have a table where one child at a time can practice silence. There is a sand timer which the child can turn over and practice sitting quietly for 1 minute. You would be amazed at how sitting for even 1 minute can feel like forever! We also practice this at our group time. Maria Montessori referred to this as the silence game. We all sit with our eyes closed and listen to our own thoughts in our minds and the sounds around us. It amazes me that each child is able to sit silently for so long!

In addition to the peace activities we have in the classroom, we have also incorporated into our peace curriculum a word of the month. For the month of September, the word was responsibility. We talked about what that means and how we can be responsible in our classroom and at home.

For this month, our word was peace. We discuss how we can be more peaceful within ourselves and how we can make our world peaceful. To tie the peace curriculum together, every Friday we practice our candle peace walk. This practice is a way for us to end our week together and wish each other a peaceful weekend.

We use our battery candle (no open flame) with our special lotus flower candle holder. I play our special candle walk music, we turn out the lights and sit quietly. We sing "Make new Friends but keep the old". I begin by holding the candle and walking slowly around the rug. I gently place the candle in front of a child. Then he/she gently picks up the candle and places it in front of another child. We do this until we have all had a chance to walk around the rug with the candle. We conclude our candle walk by saying together, *"May there be peace before you, behind you, above you, below you, from your heart to your lips, to everyone"*.



## Music

The children were so excited to see Ms. MaryJo's youtube video she made for music class! She taught the children about the famous composer Johann Sebastian Bach. I think what the children remembered most about him was that he had 20 children!



## Afternoon Kindergarten

The Kindergarteners worked really hard this month learning about bats and spiders. They have been writing in their journals, playing beginning sound games and listening to a chapter book by Beverly Cleary called, *Runaway Ralph*. We are learning the names of the characters and recalling the events that are happening in the book. So far, the children seem to like the story and to record the events in their journals.

We have had a fantastic October and are looking forward to all of the fun things to come in November!

Warmly,

Ms. Kristin and Ms. Julie