



January 2020 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

It has been a busy month at Sunrise!

Children's Museum of Easton

The students enjoyed a visit from The Children's Museum of Easton and their "Science on the Go" activities. Ms. Krissy presented the "Hibernation and Migration" unit of study to our school and the children learned words like brumation and estivation!

This tied in nicely with both Classroom A's & B's study of animals and birds in winter.



Montessori Schools of Massachusetts Annual Professional Development Conference

This past month, the Head Teachers and I attended the MSM Conference at Dean College. This conference had over 500 Montessori professionals from various Massachusetts schools in attendance. This conference is a great way for Sunrise staff members to connect with other Montessorians and to participate in great Montessori professional development workshops.

Montessori Education Week February 23rd-February 29th

Every year during the last week in February, the Montessori Community throughout the world celebrates the qualities of Montessori. This year is the 113th anniversary of Montessori Education. Sunrise will continue the tradition of delivering "Peace Roses" to many of the businesses within the Moseley Complex. The teachers form small groups of students and visit our Moseley neighbors throughout the week. Both Classroom A & B have a special poem the children recite as they deliver the roses. "May there be Peace before you, behind you, above you, below you. From your Heart, to your Lips, to Everyone"

2020-2021 Priority Enrollment

As you may know, the priority enrollment period for our current students, their siblings and alumni families is almost coming to an end. Thank you to the many families that have returned their child's enrollment application already. If you have not returned your child's application form and you plan to return to Sunrise, please email me or call the office. Open enrollment will begin soon.

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, Fundraisers & Events

Sunrise Open House Events for Prospective Families:

February 8th 11:00am-1:00pm

Please tell your friends, neighbors and co-workers about our upcoming open house events. If you know someone who may be interested in enrolling their child at Sunrise, please refer them and remind them to list your name on their admissions questionnaire. You are then eligible for a \$100.00 referral credit on your account after the new student enrolls and their place holding deposit is paid. See the Parent Handbook for details on this promotion.

Summer Program

This year we are doing things a little differently. Parents have often asked about the week immediately following the end of school. Good news! This year our Summer Program begins Monday, June 15th. We will offer 3 weeks of Summer Programming.

Week 1 runs June 15 - 19

Week 2 runs June 22 - 26

Week 3 runs June 29 - July 3

Both mornings and full day sessions will be offered. We'll get updated details out in early February.

Restaurant Fundraiser Event in February at Outback Steakhouse in Bellingham

Thank you to Zach's parents, Vera and Kevin Holmes, for organizing this month-long fundraiser! Every Thursday beginning on February 6th and ending on February 27th, when you show your flyer at the restaurant, our school will receive 20% back from your total order! Flyers will be sent home and extra ones will be available in the front entrance area of school. A flyer is also attached to this newsletter and will be available to download from the school's website.

Giving Tree Update

So far this school year, many Sunrise families have helped our school purchase \$860.33 worth of classroom materials. This is an amazing amount, and it is only January!

This month several items were chosen from the Giving Tree. Thank you to Augustus Semas's family for helping purchase the following classroom materials:

- Find Your Balance
- Child Size Masterpieces Starter Set
- Iron Fillings
- The Judy Clock
- Case with Iron Fillings

Big Y Community Bag Program Fundraiser Update: Sunrise will receive a check for \$30.00 – thank you, Sara Allegretti for setting up this fundraiser.

Box Tops Update: Sunrise received a check for \$79.32 – this helped to purchase a couple extra art supplies already. Thank you again, Sara Allegretti!

Scholastic Book Orders: Thank you, Kathi Shah, for your ongoing commitment to this program. Many parents continue to place orders from this program, and our school receives free items and books throughout the year!

New Sunrise Tote Bags

Our new bags are available to purchase! This 12" bag has reinforced straps and a pleated bottom for more room and stability. Pick one up for \$6.00 or buy 2 for \$10.00



Sunrise's Annual Spring Fair – Think Ahead!

This year marks Sunrise's 15th year in operation, and I want to make the Spring Fair our biggest fundraiser and most memorable event for the community.

Annual Spring Fair takes place on **Saturday, May 16th from 12-2:00pm**

The fair is a fun event, and it is open to Sunrise families and the general public. Sunrise rents a train for the children, a bounce house, and provides fun games for children (including face painting, outdoor mini games, etc....). We offer pizza from 360 Restaurant, donated baked goods and garden perennials for purchase. Also, there are the Raffle Basket and Silent Auction tables. Classroom Projects and a Summer Program Week will be included as part of the Silent Auction table.

For this event to be a success, we will need parent volunteers on various levels - before, during and after the event. Please let me know if you are interested in joining a committee.

Spring Fair Committees are as follows:

- Sponsorship Donations – Chairperson Ms. Chandra, Andrea
- Collecting Raffle Basket Items, Gift Certificates and Silent Auction Donations – signed up so far is Sara Allegretti. Any parents who are willing to go out into the community to collect a couple donation items for our event (beginning now) would be great!
- Set-Up before event – need parents to sign up
- Clean-Up after event – need parents to sign up
- Baked goods and perennial garden plants – will need donations for both tables
- Train Driver – need two parents willing to drive the train during the event in shifts
- Bounce House Supervisor(s) – need one or two parents to help oversee the set-up and monitor safety for the bounce house.
- Looking for 2 or 3 fun mini-games for the event – the school has several games, including bean bag toss, ring toss, fishing, etc... If anyone has a great mini outdoor game or ideas for games that they would like to donate for the event, please let me know.

I will have donation letters and sponsorship packets available for any parent volunteers willing to help request donations of any kind from businesses. If you or someone you know has a business willing to donate at any level, please let me know, and I can provide you with the appropriate information.

The main costs for the Spring Fair event include the Train and Bounce House rental. My goal would be to have sponsors cover those two main costs and all other proceeds from the event would go directly to Sunrise's Facility/Classroom Upgrade Fund (this includes plans to paint both Classroom A & B areas, update floors, & provide classroom material replacements) and for Sunrise's Playground Fund (includes necessary wood chips, sand box maintenance, etc...).

If you have any questions, ideas or if you would like further information regarding the Spring Fair, please do not hesitate to reach out to me anytime. Once we get closer to the event, there will be more information provided about the logistics.

Special Thank you to our families:

Thank you to the following families for their generous snack donations this month:

Michaela and Griffin Greenwood, Angelina and Robert Bartolini, Piper Manning, Jules Mier, Beckett Shah, and to Jacob Anderson for the extra boxes of tissues!

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

Andrea Rossick:
Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teachers:

Sandhya Jain:
Sandhya.sunrisemontessori@gmail.com
Kristin Masefield:
Kristin3sunrisemontessori@gmail.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Sara Allegretti & Kathi Shah
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 “[Digital Backpack](#)”. This page can be found in the pulldown menu of the “Current Events” tab. Click on any of the hyperlinks to view the selected form or information page as a PDF.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 6, 13, 20 and 27: Visit Outback Steakhouse and support our school. Remember to take your flyer.

February 8: Admission Open House from 11:00am to 1:00pm

February 17 - 21: School vacation week. No classes, no extended day

February 23 - 29: Montessori Education Week

March 13: Professional Development Day. No classes, no extended day

Please Join Us Every Thursday
in February to Give Back to
the Sunrise Montessori School.

20% of your entire check will be
donated back to the school.

Please bring this flyer in to the
Outback Steakhouse Bellingham
and give to your server as you arrive!

275 N Main St
Bellingham, MA 02019-1300

508-966-9333



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Classroom A January Newsletter

This past month we learned about North America, roots and hibernation. We also celebrated Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and the Chinese New Year.

The month began with an amazing visit from the Easton Children's Museum. Their representatives brought silicon footprints of animals to show to the children, and they presented some interesting information on hibernation and migration. It was an informative visit, as it tied back to our study of hibernation and migration. The children enjoyed the presentation immensely. I hope you all saw their cutting and coloring works and also had an opportunity to listen to their current favorite song, 'Where is bear'?



We started our unit on North America this month. Each week we visited a new country and explored it in the best possible way. We discussed and sorted national flags, animals, birds, fruits, dresses and currencies for each country. My special focus this year has been to learn about an artist from every country we study. This month, we learned and read about **Ted Harrison**,



a Canadian artist. The children enjoyed looking at his artwork and finding some common links that all his pictures might display (*for example, all the people in his pictures don't have facial features but yet they all tell a story*). They used colorful paper to recreate their own version of his famous painting 'Inuksuk'.

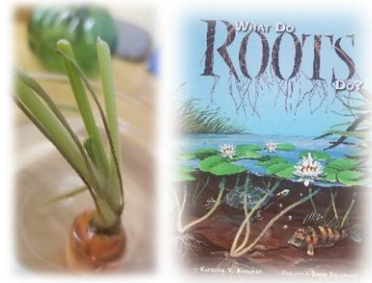


After that we visited Mexico. Here we focused on Frida Kahlo. We read some books about her, which inspired the children to make self-portraits in class. Millie's dad, Tyler, brought all the ingredients and equipment to make fresh corn tortillas and guacamole in a Molcajete (we followed it up the next day with the children making their own soft taco snacks). We are concluding our North American unit by studying about these United States of America, where the children will be making a splatter art to replicate

Jackson Pollack's art. These modern masterpieces will be transported with utmost care to their destination, your home, at the end of this month or early next week.

The children have been waiting eagerly to share their artwork with you... however, if you don't see all 3 artworks in your child's folder, it just means that this activity was not their choice. Which is absolutely ok.

In Science, we have been studying about the roots of a plant. We read this amazing book called *What Do Roots Do*. To explore the roots in a more meaningful way, we have been sorting out the roots that we eat. We also started an experiment to test the information provided about the importance of roots... I am happy (and relieved) to report that our spring onion grew tall roots and the carrot tops are almost ready to bloom as well.



I can't wait to see how the children will react once they see those fresh carrot tops! We will continue to look at the roots through our microscope to enjoy its beauty even more.

We also started exploring the concept of Sink & Float on our science shelves; this work ties well with our new Sensorial work around the concept of Heavy & Light. The children have been using the pulley to experience heavy and light to categorize them.



In History, our class has been exploring the concept of Past & Present. Recently, I added another dimension (Future) to this work. This is an invitation to the child to draw their version of future cars/ people, phones etc... which has been received with extreme enthusiasm.

This month brought us Chinese New Year. Sarah's mom, Yu-Lu Ma, brought in hand made treasures from China and shared them with our class. She taught them how to write 1, 2 & 3 in Chinese, which was promptly applied by the children as they practiced on our Buddha Board. She demonstrated how ink was made in ancient China and she helped the children make their own ink by using the stones she brought with her. She also helped make fresh tofu dumplings which were enjoyed as a snack the following day.



We also talked about and sang songs related to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We celebrated that we are all the same and deserve the same respect even if we look different or that our skin color might not be the same.

As part of the Everyday Life Curriculum, the children have been preparing their own snacks by peeling and slicing eggs, making sandwiches and peeling cucumbers.



Finally, we love out-door recess and take every opportunity to get outside unless the weather is extremely harsh. We request that you continue to send winter gear for the children. Please note, we do keep some extra gear at school in case a child forgets theirs, but the supply of these items are limited. If your child does use these school owned items, we will send these home with your child to be washed and returned at your earliest convenience.

With winter colds and sniffles in the air, we appreciate every effort to minimize the spreading of germs in school. To that extent, Ms. Alka and I sanitize the classroom daily and on an ongoing basis. If your child is not feeling well, please keep him or her home where they will be more comfortable and less likely to spread illness.

As you can tell, it has been a fun-filled month in Classroom A, and I sincerely hope some of the excitement has trickled all the way home. We continue to be thankful for your donations and classroom participation and look forward to having a fantastic February in our classroom.

Regards,

Ms. Sandhya



Classroom B January Newsletter

Hello Classroom B families!

I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday season and enjoyed time traveling, having fun or just relaxing! I enjoyed my vacation with my family and friends, but was happy to get back to school and see your awesome children again! The month of January brings a new year and a lot of new things in the classroom! In addition, the month of January brings cold, winter days. During this month, I like to teach the children about the changes that occur outside with nature and the animals.

With help from the Easton Children's Museum, we learned about the



concepts of migration and hibernation. It was surprising to learn that some animals we thought hibernated actually stay active during the winter.

For example, it is a big misconception that bears hibernate. Bears are not true hibernators. They do enter a deep sleep called torpor, however. This means that although they are in a deep sleep, they are still able to wake up if startled as opposed to true hibernators that remain in a deep sleep all winter long. The children had so much fun with Ms. Krissy from the museum and learned a lot of wonderful information. Ms. Krissy set up two activities. In the first activity, the children were able to use rubber feet molds from various animals and make a foot print in play dough. Afterwards they could compare each print with another animal. In the second activity, the children were able to make a crayon rubbing of various animals and their tracks.



In addition, we began to learn about the continent of Antarctica. We learned about the landscape and animals, focusing specifically on penguins. It was exciting to discover that penguins are the only birds that don't fly in the air; they fly in the ocean! A bird is an animal that has feathers, a beak and lays eggs. The children learned about the different types of penguins that inhabit the continent, including the Emperor penguin, Adelie, Chinstrap, Gentoo and of course the Macaroni penguin!



For our outdoor learning, Tyler's mom, Ms. Sara, set up our playground with many materials from the Tinkergarden program. She set up pulley systems, hid nature treasures in ice, provided homemade binoculars and magnifying glasses for the children to use. The children had a wonderful time exploring the playground for pieces of nature to freeze, breaking the ice to reveal the nature treasure inside and using the pulley system on their own!



In January we learned about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He was a peacemaker and wanted all people to be treated fairly. We talked about how all people look different, but are the same on the inside!



In addition, we started learning about land and water forms. The children discovered that a lake is a body of water surrounded by land and an island is a piece of land surrounded by water.

For Art this month, we read a wonderful book called *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds. This story tells a narrative about a little girl who isn't quite sure where to begin when asked to make a picture in her art class. After some inspiration from her teacher, she discovers her artistic talent! I talked to the children about artists and what makes people an artist. I introduced the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh. The children were so surprised that he shared his first name with a little boy in our class! We looked at many of his famous paintings and talked about the meanings of a self-portrait, still life and landscapes paintings. The children had the opportunity to imitate Van Gogh by painting his *Starry Night* and *Sunflowers*. We learned a little bit about his life, and I was so surprised that some of the children remembered that his paintings didn't become famous until after he passed away.

We had another wonderful visit from Mason's Yaya (Ms. Tonya)! She came in to our classroom to make a fun Olaf craft with the children! We love when Yaya comes in! She is super fun!!!



Truly,

Ms. Kristin