



September 2021 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

The school year is off to a great start, and the students are settling into their classroom routines!

Sunrise Parent Association

As you know, our Classroom B Parent Representative is Marissa May, and she has already reached out to the parent body regarding our first Sunrise Community Meet Up on Sunday, October 3rd at 10:30am at Fletcher Field (51 Peck St) in Franklin. Marissa may be reached at parentrep@mysunrisemontessori.com for questions about the first Meet Up this weekend.

I am excited to announce that the school now has a Parent Representative from Classroom A. Please welcome Susannah Barry (Ellie's mom). She will join Marissa in guiding the parent community with fundraising, meet ups, or any special events. She may also be reached at parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com

Thank you to both Marissa and Susannah for helping connect the Sunrise Parent Community together throughout our school year!

Sunrise Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is a longstanding tradition at Sunrise. Some of you may have noticed the Giving Tree displayed on the wall in our front room during Visiting Day. The tree is decorated with colorful leaves that are now filled with Classroom Wish List Items chosen by the teachers. The Wish List items are available for families to purchase and donate to your child's classrooms at any time throughout the year. There are various items to choose from, and these are typically listed in the Montessori Services catalog for viewing. If anyone is interested in purchasing something for the school, you may view the list that accompanies this newsletter or visit our school website (Parent Corner page) anytime. Once you have chosen your donation item, please send in the name of the item with a check for that amount, payable to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. Donation receipts are available upon request.

Classroom Communication Reports

Last week Ms. Laura and Ms. Kristin sent out their first set of communication reports. The reports provide you with updates on how your child(ren) is doing within the classroom environment. Two communication reports will be sent in October, on or around the 6th and the 20th. Just a reminder, please send an email confirmation back to your child's teacher after you receive your report. The teachers want to make sure you've received the report. They are happy to answer any questions you may have.

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

Harvest Festival – Saturday, October 2 from Noon-5pm

If you are looking for something fun to do this weekend (besides the Sunrise Meet Up on Sunday), you may want to consider checking out the Harvest Festival in downtown Franklin. Sunrise will have its booth set up as one of the many local businesses represented in town, and if you would like to stop by and check it out, we will be there! We are booth #110, located near the corner of West Central and Emmons Sts.

Curriculum Night – Thursday, October 7 at 6:30-7:30pm

Curriculum Night will be held for both Classroom A and B from 6:30-7:30pm within each classroom. The event is for parents only to attend (we are unable to provide childcare). This is a great opportunity to hear about the Montessori Approach to Education from the Head Teachers and learn more about what a typical day looks like in your child's classroom. If you plan to attend and/or if you have any questions, please send an RSVP directly to me at headofschool@mysunrisemontessori.com

Professional Development Day Friday, October 8 – No school

You may have noticed on the school calendar that on October 8 there will be no school for Sunrise students. This is an in-house teacher/staff workday. During these Professional Development Days, the teachers participate in a required two-hour staff meeting; they deep clean the classrooms, change curriculum materials and create lessons and materials for the upcoming weeks. These days are busy and support the success of our program.

Picture Day - Thursday, October 14 with Vicario Studios

For the past several years, Sunrise has both individual and classroom group portraits done by Mr. Paul Vicario. Paul's studio is located right next to our school in the Moseley Complex and the students often greet Mr. Vicario from the playground. You may choose to have your child participate in the individual and the classroom group photos, and an order form envelope from the studio will be sent home during the second week of October for you to place your order.



On the morning of the photos (around 9am), the students walk over to the studio (one classroom at a time) with their teachers until their photos are completed. This takes about 30-40 minutes per classroom. If you have any questions, please let me know!

Holidays in the Classroom

Here at Sunrise we recognize the importance of family traditions and honor various cultural celebrations throughout the year. During October in the Montessori Classroom, the students will be scrubbing pumpkins and gourds, cutting open a pumpkin to learn the parts of the pumpkin, making push-pin pumpkins or jack-o-lanterns, pumpkin pounding, reading fun seasonal stories and much more.

We discourage students from wearing any Halloween costumes or accessories during school for Halloween even though this holiday is celebrated by many families; it is a great event for families to participate in together at home and/or out in their community. We appreciate your understanding in advance!

Special Request

Our program uses a tremendous amount of the reusable, small plastic grocery bags for wet and soiled clothing. Bag availability is being phased out at many stores. If anyone has extra bags they aren't planning to recycle, please send them in during drop off or pick up. Thank you in advance! Thank you to Kelby Feeherry's parents for sending in a several boxes of small trash bags to use in the meantime.

Shaw's Community Bag Program

Sunrise has been selected by the local Shaws store at 255 East Central Street, Franklin as the benefiting non-profit organization for the month of October! Each time a shopper purchases the \$2.50 **GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS** Bag with the Giving Tag, they will have the power to direct a \$1 donation to a local non-profit of their choice within 7 days of their purchase.

If the customer does not direct the donation within 7 days, the donation will automatically be donated to the non-profit that each store's leadership has selected for the month - and in October, that is Sunrise.

You can always direct a \$1 per bag donation at any time of the year simply by completing the donation tag attached to each new bag. This program is also available at Stop & Shop and Big Y.

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.

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.

Head of School

Andrea Rossick:
Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Laura Holland:
Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Kristin Masefield:
Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & Marissa May
ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 1: Pizza Day

October 2: Harvest Fest in downtown Franklin. Stop by booth #110 anytime between Noon and 5PM

October 3: Sunrise Parent Meet Up - Fletcher Field, Franklin at 10:30AM. All are welcome.

October 7: Curriculum Night for parents from 6:30PM to 7:30PM

October 8: Teacher / Staff Professional Development Day; no school & no extended care program

October 11: Columbus Day holiday; no school & no extended care program

October 14: Picture Day

October 15: Pizza Day

October 22: Pizza Day

October 29: Pizza Day



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://www.amazon.com/smile), 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://www.smile.amazon.com) on your web browser or activate 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. Add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier each time you shop. Or click on the QR code. 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.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).



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

Check out the newly listed items on the tree, just inside the 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:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3mpcpa3> New items are added each month.

Giving Tree at Sunrise Montessori School, Inc.

The Giving Tree is a longstanding tradition at Sunrise. Some of you may have noticed the Giving Tree displayed on the wall in our front room during Visiting Day. The tree is decorated with colorful leaves that are now filled with Classroom Wish List Items chosen by the teachers. The Wish List items are available for families to purchase and donate to your child's classrooms at any time throughout the year. There are various items to choose from, and these are typically listed in the Montessori Services catalog for viewing. If anyone is interested in purchasing something for the school, you may view the list that accompanies this newsletter or visit our school website (Parent Corner page) anytime. Once you have chosen your donation item, please send in the name of the item with a check for that amount, payable to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. Donation receipts are available upon request.



#PL14 Dusting Activity \$18.95

#Q46 Carpet Sweeper \$32



#Q12 Small Crumb Set \$9.95

#SC609 Kids Watering Can \$9.95



#X209 Large Multi-Purpose Organizer \$7.95

#X208 Small Multi-Purpose Organizer \$5.95



#X720 Toast Rack \$9.95



#K101 Colored Plastic Basket Assortment (set of 5) \$26.95



#K40 Rectangular Plastic Baskets \$3.75 each (would like 2)



#A275 Crayon Rocks \$9.95 (would like 2)



#GC07 Work Rug Assortment (set of 12) \$147



#X100 Small Wooden Display Stand \$12.95



#B106 Clear Plastic Box \$4.75 each (would like 2)

#A310 Wood Handled Puncher \$4.50 each (would like 4)





Classroom A Newsletter September 2021

Hello Classroom A Families!

....Just like that, summer falls into September!

It has been a wonderful start to the school year and we are excited to be jumping into fall! We have been so excited to get to know each other in the classroom and we certainly have an amazing group of children in our classroom. Everyone is settling into the routines of the school day, working and playing together! At circle time each morning, we say good morning, talk about the calendar, learning the 7 days of the week and learning the 12 months of the year. We also enjoy discussing the weather and temperature each day.

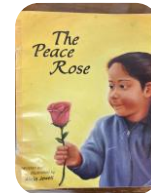


During the second circle, our class enjoyed doing Yoga with Ms. Alka! The children are learning lots of different yoga poses, breathing exercises, and singing songs together. They also review lessons and have discussions about what was taught at morning circle.



We began the school year by working together and learning the rules and expectations of the classroom at Sunrise Montessori School. We continue to learn and practice **Grace and Courtesy** lessons together and practice throughout the school day. Children who are returning Sunrise Montessori students have helped our new classmates learn and together we review practicing manner to show we care about one another.

An important part of the Montessori Curriculum is also the Peace Curriculum. We read *Our Peaceful Classroom* by Aline Wolf and learned why our school is called a Montessori School. We discussed what it means to learn in a Montessori classroom and the different ways and places in our classroom we can create peace. It was wonderful to celebrate the International Day of Peace on September 21st this month as well!



Our classroom read the book *I am Peace* by Susan Verde together at circle and then talked about the different ways that we can find peace in our classroom, and at home and in ourselves. We also learned about peaceful ways to solve problems or disagreements with each other in the classroom, through reading a beautiful book called *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Jewell. This book introduces the skills of conflict resolution and guides children on how to use these skills at home, on the playground, and in the classroom. Our Peace Rose is displayed on the Peace table of our classroom for children to access throughout the day.



We have also been busy this month learning about the changing seasons and talked about the Autumn Equinox on September 22nd! In **Science**, children have enjoyed sharing the different and exciting activities that happen during the fall. We learned about the parts of the apple and at circle time we explored what is inside! Children watched as the teacher cut an apple in half from the apple tree at Sunrise Montessori School, and together we dissected the half to find the seeds, stem, core, skin, flesh, and leaves.

The children have been exploring with the 3 part matching cards to learn the parts of the apple and creating a "parts of the apple" booklet. We also learned about what makes something living and nonliving, and read *I know it is Living and I Know it is Nonliving* by Sheila Rivera at circle time. We talked about how our classroom fish is an example of something that is living because it moves on its own, grows, breathes and eats! We also gave our class fish a name...meet Sparky!



In **Geography**, our classroom has been exploring where we live on the globe. We have one globe in the classroom with the continents depicted by different colors for each continent. North America is orange, South America is pink, Africa is green, Europe is red, Asia is yellow, Antarctica is white, and Australia is brown. We have learned a song to help us learn the names of all seven continents and children practice locating each continent using the continent puzzle map material.

We explored how the continents look on the globe, learning the name for its shape, sphere, and how the continents look when we see them on a map.

A great concrete way to show this concept is by recreating the Earth with green and blue play dough and then cutting it in half, displaying the hemispheres.

As a way to introduce the North America unit study heading into next month, our classroom will begin sharing "All About Me" to learn more about one another and where we are from and live. Stay tuned for more info next month!



Afternoon Kindergarten class

Every afternoon after lunch, the Kindergarten students work with their teachers on extensions of the lessons from the morning work cycle and access in more depth, the areas of the Montessori curriculum. This time is an opportunity for Kindergarten students to work on and explore topics of their own interests, work collaboratively with their peers, and apply the curriculum to topics like what it means to be part of a community. Each session begins with an opportunity for journal writing and reflection. We practice writing the date and answering a prompt. Afterwards, we begin a lesson in either Math, Language, Sensorial, Science, and Geography. The children enjoy listening to a teacher read aloud to conclude each session, answering comprehension questions throughout as well as having a discussion together at the end.



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This month, children were also excited to begin Pizza Fridays and storytelling with Gio the Giraffe. We look forward to everything we will accomplish and learn as a community together this year!

Sincerely your teachers,

Ms. Laura and Ms. Alka



Classroom B Newsletter September 2021

Hello Classroom B Families!

We have had a wonderful start to the school year! The children are beginning to settle into the routine of the day and are transitioning well! They are getting to know each other's names and are starting to make connections with their classmates. Our class reviews the classroom and playground rules and everyone is learning how to choose a work, place it on a rug or table, clean it up and put it away. Our returning children from last year have been wonderful role models to our new friends in helping to show them the ropes!

We also learned why our school is called a Montessori school and that it is named after Maria Montessori. The children know that she was a doctor, but she loved children so much that she made special materials just for them to use. To help explain why our school is called a Montessori school, we read a wonderful book called, *Our Peaceful Classroom* by Aline Wolf. Our classroom also talked about how we handle and work through disagreements with our friends as we read another fantastic book called *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Jewell.



The photo on the far left shows the children what are classroom rules are. We hung this poster in our classroom "peace place". The photo shown next to this is how we sit at group time and use our whole body to listen. There are also the words to two

new songs that we have been singing daily. An important part of the Montessori curriculum is called Grace and Courtesy so in addition to the classroom rules, the children have also been learning how to push in their chairs, use walking feet, how to appropriately interrupt a child or teacher, how to say "Excuse me, I need to get by", etc.... The teachers reinforce and model these behaviors multiple times a day so that the children can "see as I do" and not just what I say.

In Geography this month, our class learned how we live in a great big galaxy called the Milky Way. In our solar system, our planet is Earth. Earth is the third closest planet to the Sun. We explored our two Montessori globes that sit on our Geography shelf. One globe is brown and blue. This shows the children that the Earth is made up of water and land. We also discussed that the Earth is made of air as well. On the second globe the land is colored. This is where we teach the children that the land masses are called continents. In Montessori, each continent is represented by a color. North America is orange; South America is pink; Europe is red; Africa is green; Asia is yellow; Australia is brown and Antarctica is white. As the year progresses, the children learn to associate each continent with its color.

Our classroom also has a puzzle map of the world, and as we were looking at the globe, we wondered how we could make the globe look like the puzzle. When we use the world puzzle map, Asia and Antarctica are split into two pieces, but in real life they are connected. A popular Montessori lesson is to build a small Earth out of play dough to show the Earth as a sphere, then cut the Earth in half and then flatten each half. This shows the children how a map is made.





In Science this month, we have been learning about apples! The children learned about the parts of the apple and its life cycle. We learned the names of a few of the different types of apples and even had a chance to do our annual apple tasting! We tasted three types of apples: golden delicious, red delicious and granny smith. We voted on the favorite apple, and there was a tie between the red delicious and the golden delicious! We concluded the month with one of the children's favorite activities - apple polishing!



In addition to apples, we learned about the concept of living and non living and what it means to be alive. After sorting different objects into each category the children learned why a vacuum isn't alive even though it can move! Now that we understand what it means to be living, we have introduced the concept of animals being either vertebrates or invertebrates. Again, we sorted the animals into groups of those animals that have a backbone and those that do not. During the course of the year the children will learn about the classification of animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish).

We acknowledged the Universal Day of Peace on September 21 by learning about some wonderful peace makers like, Mother Teresa, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr. and of course, Maria Montessori. We talked about how each of these individuals were peace makers, and what they did to bring more peace to the world. We even discussed how we can be peacemakers in our classroom, and how we can be peaceful inside of ourselves. The children looked at some symbols of peace including a peace dove carrying an olive branch and the peace sign. A wonderful book about how we can be peacemakers in our own little world complimented our curriculum.

When I asked about how we could be more peaceful, the children had some really great answers. Some said that we should not hit each other, we should pick up trash when we see it, we should help someone who is hurt, and I suggested that they could help mom and dad by cleaning up their toys or helping prepare dinner and helping with chores around the house!



September was a fun month, but the children are really looking forward to all the fun that comes with Halloween!! It will be here before we know it!

With Peace and Gratitude!

Ms. Kristin