



September 2020 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

The school year is off to a great start despite the mandated changes from the State that were made to programs in Massachusetts! Our teaching staff is reconnecting with each other and Julie, Classroom B's new assistant teacher, fits right in at Sunrise. The students in both classrooms are busy at work, and it is nice to have the children back to school again!

Sunrise Parent Association

As most of you know, our Parent Representative this year is Marissa May from Classroom B. Marissa has already reached out to our parent body regarding current fundraisers and our upcoming Curriculum Night next week on Thursday, October 8th. Please reach out to Marissa or me with any questions or thoughts. Marissa can be reached via email at Parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com

- Small Hands fundraiser – this fundraiser brought in hundreds of dollars to our classrooms in the past. If you need an additional catalog or an order form, please let me know. The items in the Small Hands catalog correlate with our activities in the classroom. The orders for this fundraiser are due to Marissa or the school by October 19th.
- Scholastic fundraiser – this ongoing fundraiser helps our school receive points to order books for the classrooms or the school library.
- Box Tops – this is also an ongoing fundraiser and our school received just under \$200 last year.

Sunrise's Giving Tree

The Giving Tree is a longstanding tradition at Sunrise. I hope you all had a chance to see the Giving Tree displayed in our front room during Visiting Day. The tree is decorated with colorful leaves filled with Classroom Wish List items chosen by the teachers. The Wish List items are available for families to purchase and donate to the 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 payable to Sunrise Montessori School. I am happy to announce that we already have received our first Giving Tree monetary donation from Gail Campellone and family (the Bartolini's Nana). Thank you, Gail!

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

Classroom Biweeklies – Communication Reports

As you know, Ms. Kristin and I sent out the first set of communication reports last week. These reports will be sent out every other week until Progress reports come out in December. As a reminder, please send a confirmation email back to your child's teacher for each report. You may choose to send along comments or questions as well. The next biweekly will be sent on Friday, October 9th.

Music Class with Ms. Mary Jo

This year due to the State restrictions for adults in the classroom, we are providing music class with Ms. Mary Jo via videos! Mary Jo will provide Sunrise with weekly videos that both Ms. Kristin and I will take full advantage of in our front room area. Once we get started with the videos, we will provide more details in our individual classroom newsletters. We are so happy to be able to continue having music with our favorite music teacher! The children absolutely adore her.

Daily Health Screening

Thank you to each family for completing your child's daily health screening. This is one of the changes that the State requires programs to do each day. Please make sure you complete the screening 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.

Special Thank you to families and donations

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

- Emma LaButti for Cleaning Wipes
- Kelby Feeherry for Face Masks
- Riley Correia for books for our library
- Jen Rossick (my sister-in-law) for her donation of cleaning supplies
- Mr. Paul Vicario from Vicario Studios (next door to Sunrise) for donating a projector for our Music video class with Ms. Mary Jo and for his ongoing donation of specialty papers we use for various projects.



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.



- AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you will find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com.
- **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.
- Use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

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.



Active Fundraisers

Scholastic Books

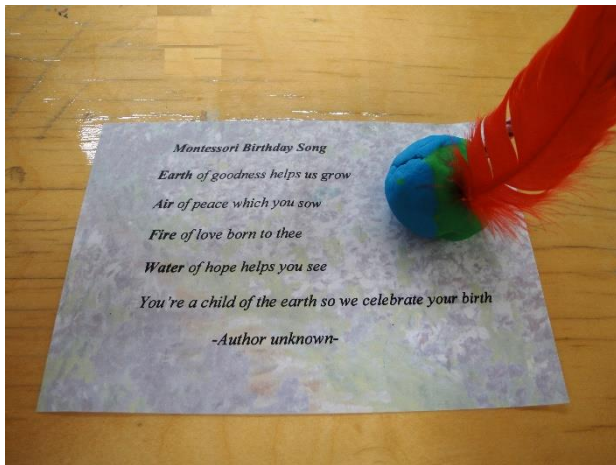
Each month parents will receive flyers from Scholastic Books which offer titles for children of all ages. Points from your purchases accumulate for the school which are then redeemed for new books and materials for the classrooms.

For Small Hands catalog

The deadline for this fundraiser is coming up in mid-October. Please contact Marissa May at Parentrep@MySunriseMontessori.com with any questions.

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!



This month we celebrated several birthdays in our classrooms.

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

Head Teacher

Kristin Masefield:

Kristin@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Marissa May

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 “**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

Thursday, October 8:	Curriculum Night. Details will be sent to all families.
Friday, October 9:	Professional Development Day for staff; no classes, no extended day
Monday, October 12:	Columbus Day holiday; no classes, no extended day
Friday, October 30:	Halloween celebrations 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
Tuesday, November 24:	Thanksgiving Feast in classrooms
Wednesday, Nov 25-27:	Thanksgiving Break; no classes, no extended day



Giving Tree September 2020

Item description	Catalog item #	Price
Basket weaving – 24 basket bases	V108	\$15.95
Cretan labyrinth	C290	\$59.95
Elliptical wooden tray	T510	\$20.95
Folding cloths	V02	\$12.00
Hex bolt board	V06	\$42.00
Magnetic Geoform	Y132	\$35.95
Palette of pegs	Y128	\$24.95
Plants We Eat – booklets and cards	D303C	\$69.95
Porcelain pitcher and bowl	G230	\$21.75
Shells with matching cards	SC920	\$45.00
Solids, Liquids, and Gases book	SC617	\$4.95
Three-part tray	T630	\$27.95
Wooden display stand – large	X102	\$18.95
Wooden display stand – small	X100	\$12.50
Wooden rainbow architectural blocks	Y853	\$41.95



Classroom A September Newsletter

Welcome to all our new and returning families - it has been a busy September!

Grace & Courtesy

During the beginning of the school year, we typically focus on Grace & Courtesy in the classroom. The children have been learning the preliminary exercises such as unrolling/rolling a work mat, carrying a tray (work), tucking in their chair, hand washing, how to interrupt appropriately, greeting a person, etc... These lessons and presentations are given together at group time, and children are encouraged to participate and practice during the group lesson. Grace & Courtesy also includes the Ground Rules for both inside the classroom and outside on the playground. The 3 main classroom rules that we learned are: Hands are for Helping, Use Low-Quiet Voices, and Use Walking Feet. Both Ms. Alka and I give gentle reminders to the children of these rules and often our returning students help set the example for their classmates.

Peace Table

We introduced the Peace table area this past month. The Peace table is designed for the children to explore individually. It has only one chair, a small collection of peace books, and colored rocks to explore and build with. Also, as part of the Peace table, we added our classroom Stick Bundle. The bundle represents the positive energy and individual strengths of the children and teachers within the classroom. Each child chose a stick (which were previously collected from the playground) to add into the bundle and one at a time they wrapped their stick with a multi-colored ribbon and added a personal thought or comment as they did so. For example, some children said they wanted their stick to represent feelings of helpfulness, kindness, love, or friendship in the classroom!



Yoga

Ms. Alka started her first Yoga lessons this month. These lessons typically are presented during the second group time, and then are practiced as an activity throughout the work period. A few of the poses presented were the rock, dolphin, and shark poses, along with a breathing exercise - "Smell the Flowers and Blow out the Candle". These exercises help relax both the body and mind and Ms. Alka does an amazing job with her presentations and practices.



Our first science, botany, and geography group lessons have started this past month as well. Throughout the year these group lessons will build from the previous lessons given, as well as other areas such as zoology, physical science, and history etc...

Science

We learned about Living and Non-Living things. For this lesson we read two books, "I know it is Living" and "I know it is Non-Living" to define the characteristics that distinguish living things from non-living things. We read that if it moves on its own, grows, eats, and breathes, then it is living and if it does not, it is non-living. Sink and Float was another great presentation in September. The children then each had the opportunity to participate with these sorting activities during the group presentations and during the work period times.



Geography

In Geography, we introduced the Sandpaper Globe along with the Land, Air, & Water Activity. The Sandpaper Globe is used to help children develop a concept of the shape of the Earth (they heard it is a sphere). The rough brown areas on the globe highlight the land and the smooth blue areas are the water, and the air around the Earth is the atmosphere.

Botany

We spent a great deal of time learning about trees this month. Our first lesson involved learning the parts of the tree with our tree puzzle and a follow-up worksheet for those interested in identifying, coloring, and matching the main parts of the tree (roots, trunk, branches, and leaves). We also learned that deciduous trees lose their leaves, and that evergreen trees are always green.



Apples

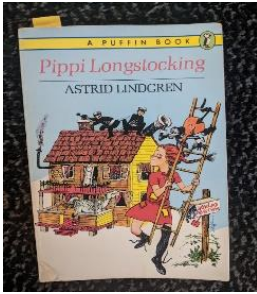
Of course, we had to sample a few apples this month! Our class had a sampling of three varieties of apples: Gala, Granny Smith, and Red Delicious. Ask your child which apple was their favorite (hint – the apple prints they made represent their favorite apple)!

Autumn or Fall Equinox

Hopefully, some of you may have heard your child/ren explain Fall Equinox. We learned that the first day of fall indicates there is an equal amount of daylight and nighttime, and that the daylight hours would now become shorter throughout the season. We also discovered that the equator line divides our Earth into a Northern and Southern Hemisphere.



Afternoon Kindergarten Class



Classroom A kindergarten students are enjoying our daily chapter reading from the fictional classic, "Pippi Longstocking" by Astrid Lindgren! First we review and retell from the previous day's reading before we move on to the next reading. The students are listening for about 20 minutes per afternoon before they move onto other projects.

We learned that Pippi lives in Villa Villakulla, and she has super amazing strength. She can lift a horse that actually lives on her porch, she has a monkey, Mr. Nilsson, that often sits on her shoulder, and she has two neighbor friends named Tommy and Annika.

Also, during our afternoon kindergarten portion of the day, the students work in their writing journals, and they are currently completing All About Me booklets!



I am happy to be part of this amazing, dynamic group of children, and I look forward to sharing next month's experiences with you all!

With Peace,
Ms. Andrea and Ms. Alka



Classroom B September Newsletter

Hello Families!

We have had a wonderful start to the school year despite the changes we made to our routines and classroom set up. The children are so adaptable and don't think twice about how the classroom differs from last year! The children are beginning to settle into the routine of the day and are transitioning well!

We learning the classroom and playground rules and are deciding how to choose a work, place it on a rug or table, clean it up and put it away. The children from last year have been wonderful role models to our two new friends as they "show them the ropes"! We also learned why our school is called a Montessori school, and how it is named after Maria Montessori. The children know that she was a doctor who 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.



We also talked about how we handle and work through disagreements with our friends when we read another fantastic book called *The Peace Rose* by Alicia Jewell.



The photo on the left shows the children what our classroom rules are. We hung this poster in our peace place. The photo on the right 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**. In addition to the classroom rules, the children have also been practicing how to push in their chairs, use "walking feet", how to interrupt a child or teacher and how to say "Excuse me, I need to get by". The teachers reinforce and model these behaviors several times each day so that the children can "see as I do" and not just "what I say".

In **Geography**, we discussed 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 which 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 name for land is continent. In the Montessori curriculum, 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 will learn to associate each continent with its Montessori 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 flat like the puzzle. When we use the world puzzle map, Asia and Antarctica are split into two pieces but in reality 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 flatten each half. This shows the children how a map is made.

In **Science**, we have been talking about apples! We learned the parts of the apple and its life cycle. We also learned the names of a few of the many different varieties of apples and even had a chance to do our annual apple tasting! We tasted three different 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. We sorted objects into each category and 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 that have a backbone and those that do not. During the course of the year we will learn about the classification of animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish).



We acknowledged the Universal Day of Peace on Sept. 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 talked about how we can be peacemakers in our classroom, and how we can be peaceful inside of ourselves. We looked at some symbols of peace, including a peace dove carrying an olive branch and the peace sign ☮. We also read a wonderful book about how we can be peacemakers in our own little world.

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!!

I just wanted to remind everyone that our morning recess time is around 9:20-9:55am. It is often still a bit chilly at that time so if you could send your child with a heavier coat and a sweater or a sweatshirt so that they can layer their clothes and then take a layer off if they get hot outside. I also do have extra mittens in my outside bag that I carry, but if you think your child may want to have a pair in their backpack just in case, that would be fine!

Afternoon Kindergarten

During our Kindergarten time, we explore in more depth what we are learning in the classroom. We use materials from our classroom and extensions like worksheets or projects.

This month in Kindergarten we explored the solar system, the layers of the Sun and Earth. We learned that the Earth is made up of land, air and water. We talked about the importance of trees and went outside for some tree rubbing!



In addition, we explored the differences between 2D and 3D shapes. As an extension of the shapes, we are learning about Wassily Kandinsky and how he used a lot of shapes in his artwork. He also used bright colors to express his emotions. His paint style is called abstract expressionism and the Kindergarteners are in the process of recreating their own Kandinsky masterpiece!!

Thank you so much!!!! Truly, Ms. Kristin and Ms. Julie