



## December 2023 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

The month of December is just about over, and another new year is approaching. Before we move into the new year, here are some highlights from this last month of 2023.

### Thank you - from the Sunrise Team

On behalf of the Sunrise staff, a heartfelt thank you to all the parents for the thoughtful gifts that each team member received before the holiday break. Thank you to Marissa and Susannah for organizing and a special thank you to Cameron and Sophia May for delivering the gift bags to the staff!



### Franklin Food Pantry

Sunrise collected approximately 120 pounds for the Food Pantry this year! Also, a Sunrise family ordered requested items directly from the pantry's website and had items shipped to the pantry (great idea). Thank you to the many families and staff members who helped make this donation possible for our community members.

### Student Re-enrollment Period & Process for all Current Families begins January 2nd and concludes January 19th

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 2024 - 2025 academic year and options, along with a returning student application form. To secure your child's preschool or kindergarten space for September 2024, please complete the returning student application form and send it back **no later than January 19th** – 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 20th. If you need an application for a younger child, please let me know as this form is slightly different. After you receive the re-enrollment email next week, please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

### 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. If you frequently visit a business or apartment complex that allows flyers to be posted in a community area for all to see, or if you are a member of a group which allows flyers to be posted/sent to members, please ask for a printed open house flyer at the office. We appreciate you getting the word out about our school. The open house events are held on **Saturdays (January 20th and February 3rd)**. The time for either date is 11am-1pm.

Sunrise's Parent Representatives will be on hand for the open house events to meet new families and to provide a parent's perspective view!

*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

### Montessori Toddler Time Winter Session

Sunrise is excited for the upcoming Winter Montessori Toddler Time session. Toddler Time runs once per week during a six-week session, and it is held on Thursdays from 9:30-10:45am. The program is currently full, however applications for the wait list are being accepted. This class is set up in the front Classroom C area and I lead this program for the 4 toddlers and their caregivers. The schedule is: January 4, 11, 18, 25, February 1, & 8.

The next MTT session will be held in the fall of 2024. Montessori Toddler Time is a great introduction to our school and programs. Many current families were MTT participants!

### December Donations to Sunrise

A monetary donation was given by Sunrise's former Head of School, Karen Roeber, and her husband Paul – thank you! Their daughter, Jessica Devaney, also donated a new beautiful wooden table for Classroom C and a supply of art materials for our program.

Thank you to Vivian Altieri's family for their donation of 2 Montessori Sand Writing Trays for the classrooms. A special thank you to Arha Vallabhaneni's family for the delicious banana bread, too!

### Passive Fundrasier

Shaw's Leadership Team has selected Sunrise Montessori School, Inc. again as a Shaw's GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Bag Program Nonprofit Partner!

The school will receive \$1 for each \$3 reusable GIVE BACK WHERE IT COUNTS Bag sold during the month of January 2024 at: [Shaw's, 255 East Central Street, Franklin MA](#)

Please help spread the word for this passive fundraiser.



The **New Pizza Session** begins January 5th and runs through March 29th, 2024 for students who eat lunch at school. Session 2 pizza forms (if you need one) are available at the office or online via the [Parent Corner page](#) of the school's website.

### Health and Safety Illness Policy Reminder

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 signs or symptoms of illness 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. Don't forget to contact the school if your child will be absent from school!

### Thinking Ahead Regarding 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. This policy is also outlined in the Parent Handbook.



### Outdoor Recess Clothing Reminder

As you know, 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 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.

Check the school's website <http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com> and Sunrise's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/sunrisemontessori> for any weather announcements as well.

### Looking for fun activities and events in December and beyond?

Be sure to check out **Community Kangaroo** – an online weekly e-newsletter that lists local events and information. See the [Franklin region edition](#) for upcoming holiday lights, fun activities and more.

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

#### Head Teacher

Laura Holland:

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

#### Head Teacher

Lynne Anselmo:

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

#### Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & 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



**December 20 - January 1:** Winter Break

**Priority enrollment for 2024 - 2025 school year for current students, younger siblings & alum families. Returning student re-enrollment forms and new student sibling applications will be sent out to all current families the first week of January.**

**January 12:** Professional Development Day - no classes and no extended day

**January 15:** Martin Luther King Jr. holiday - no classes and no extended day

**January 19:** Re-enrollment forms due for returning children, younger siblings, MTT participants and for children from alum families.

**Open House events:** January 20<sup>th</sup> and February 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11AM to 1PM. Open enrollment begins.

**Pizza Days** for full day students: January 5, 19, 26

**Sensation Station** (please arrive to school on time – the children walk to this program promptly at 8:55am)

January 4, 11, 18 and 25 **Classroom A**

January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31 **Classroom B**

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

### Tools For Schools

Shop at Price Chopper Market 32 with your enrolled AdvantEdge Card to help Sunrise earn new supplies and equipment. You may even donate your AdvantEdge Rewards points directly to the school! Follow the share links within the Tools for Schools page on <https://rewards.pricechopper.com/>



### 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](http://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).



### 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 #573412 and Sunrise will receive a credit towards future material purchases through Montessori Services. For online orders, please visit [forsmallhands.com](http://forsmallhands.com) or the eCatalog: [forsmallhands.com/flip](http://forsmallhands.com/flip). You may also order via phone at (888) 513-3998.

### 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 listed items on the tree, just inside the school's 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: [Sunrise-Amazon-Wishlist](#) New items are added each month.

# Open House Events

January 20 & February 3, 2024  
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 an 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 2024-2025 academic year are currently being accepted.

**31 Hayward St., Suite J2 Franklin MA**  
**[www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)**  
**508.541.8010**

Dear Classroom A families,

We had a busy month full of celebrations! At the beginning of the month, we started off celebrating Hanukkah and learned the meaning of lighting the candles each night. The children loved practicing spinning the dreidels! We read and learned about many of the ways people celebrate Hanukkah and Christmas!



A huge thank you to Rachel, William's mother, for coming in to read a book to our class and teach us about how her family celebrates Hanukkah.

Our class also had a lot of fun singing Christmas Carols. We loved playing instruments and singing along to *Jingle Bells*!

In the **Math** area, the children enjoyed working on seasonal works such as counting candles on the menorah and clipping the clothespin to the symbol. In **Language**, the children worked hard on completing the pattern with Christmas trees! They also enjoyed pin-punching holiday/seasonal themed pictures, while developing concentration skills and pincer grip!



This month in **Science and Geography**, our classroom was learning about the changing of seasons from fall to winter. We also focused on the various plants that grow in the winter around this time of the year. We talked about evergreens and Christmas trees that stay green all year. Our class had a wonderful time celebrating the winter solstice by wearing cozy PJs to school, making winter crafts, and having a hot chocolate treat to celebrate the longest night of the year! We learned that the winter solstice is when half of the Earth is tilted the farthest away from the sun and the least amount of sunlight reaches Earth. We know that the sun gives us light and heat, and we learned how people celebrate the light returning as the days get longer and longer after the winter solstice!



During **Kindergarten Class**, we worked on handwriting, reading, and number formation. It was fun to complete mazes, color by numbers, dot-to-dot numbers and decorate a wreath weaving work as well to celebrate the upcoming holidays!

We would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to the children in our class who celebrate birthdays this month... Happy Birthday to Evyenia, Avery, and Ellie!

We hope everyone has a healthy and happy holiday season! See you in the New Year!

Sincerely your teachers,

Ms. Laura, Ms. Samantha, and Ms. Karen





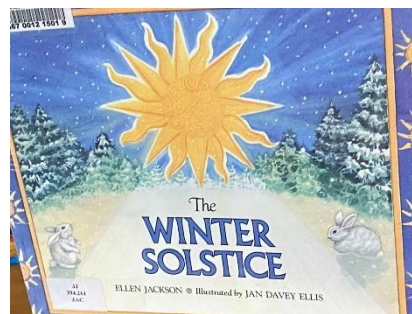
## Classroom B Newsletter December 2023

Hello Classroom B Parents,

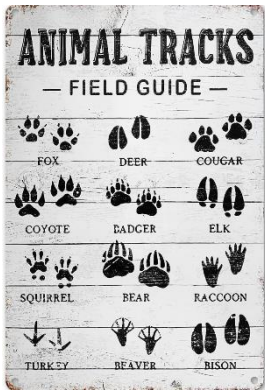
Happy December! The children have been busy learning about the different holidays the month of December brings. At the beginning of the month Jacob's Mom (Lindsay) came in to teach us their family tradition. We learned about Hanukkah; "Hanukkah" means dedication in Hebrew, and the Jewish holiday, also known as The Festival of Lights, represents joy. It's punctuated by an eight-night display of dancing flames atop candles held in intricate menorahs, conveying warmth, comfort, and a miracle. We read books, lit candles and tasted some delicious *latkes* which are a traditional Hanukkah treat.



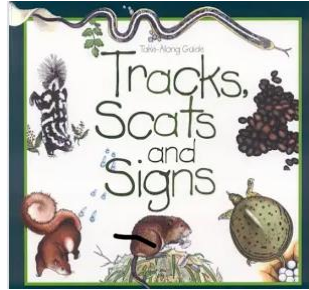
This month in the **Science** Area of our environment the children learned about the different changes in the new season. Our class had a fun time celebrating and learning about the winter solstice which officially marks the start of a new season. Winter solstice, in the Northern Hemisphere, marks the shortest day and longest night of the year. We read stories and enjoyed some hot chocolate. Both classes participated in holiday arts and crafts stations throughout the school. The children had so much fun getting together and making these crafts. 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.







In **Zoology** the children are learning about animal tracks, the differences in size, shape, paws or hooves, claws or no claws, number of toes or talons, etc... We also learned about bird tracks and pointed out the number and size of the toes. We compared the bird track to a bear track and then to a dog track. The children were excited to learn all about these different tracks.



The **Kindergarten** afternoon has been busy mastering their writing and reading skills. Holiday lessons were given on candy cane **Math**, color by number. Read aloud holiday stories were shared. Lessons were given on how to stitch, and we had so much fun making a Christmas wreath. We are also learning how to build succulents out of LEGOS by following the directions closely.

Happiest of December birthdays to our friend - Bjorn Goedhart

A special thank you to all the families for all the gifts and the delicious treats. We appreciate you all and wish you a wonderful holiday season. See you 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. Anselmo, Ms. Emily and Ms. Jessica

