



## November 2019 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

### Giving, Giving, Giving!

This month has been all about giving at Sunrise. Our November annual Food Drive for the **Franklin Food Pantry generated 142 pounds of food!** Many of the students helped weigh and pack up the food into the bags before I delivered everything. There were many, many family members who contributed to help make this event possible – thank you to all the Sunrise families and extended families who donated.



### Sunrise's Sharing Day



Classroom A and B participated in Sharing Day together before the Thanksgiving Break. The teachers and students worked hard to prepare for this event. Last week, the students each made our traditional Sunrise Peace necklaces for each other. These necklaces have the Native American symbol of a broken arrow for peace or a rising sun symbol representing the sunrise. The necklaces were also part of the place settings at the table. The students prepared the apple crumb dessert and made homemade whipped cream for the topping. Before they shared their snack, many students shared what they were thankful for.

One student said she was thankful for her parents, her sister and our school! Many students said they were thankful for their friends and family! I am thankful for the students and families of this program and for the staff who work tirelessly to make Sunrise the wonderful school that it is!



### Sunrise Giving Tree Update

In November, there were many families who helped the school purchase Classroom Wish List Items from the Giving Tree. The classrooms are currently enjoying the following materials:

- Micro Brite
- Volcanoes Book
- Earth Puzzle
- Rocks with Matching Cards
- The Red/Blue Number Set

Thank you to Emma and Olivia LaButti, Angelina and Robert Bartolini, Henry Boorum, Piper Manning, and Dominic Dubois for their donations from the Giving Tree. There are many items still available for classroom gifts!

*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

### Driveway Safety Update

The Moseley Complex has installed another speed bump as you pull into the one-way driveway towards our school. The goal for the placement of the speed bump is to slow down all the complex employees, visitors, etc. Thank you for being mindful when pulling into the complex!



**Parent Conferences** are on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 - 3:00p.m. and on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. A reminder that Thursday is **only a half day** for students. Classroom A half day students are dismissed at the normal pick up time between 11:30-11:45a.m. Classroom B half day students and all Classroom A & B full day students are to be picked up by **12:00p.m.** There are no classes on Friday December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Please plan to arrive a few minutes before your scheduled conference to ensure the conference slots remain on time. If you plan to bring your child(ren) to your scheduled conference, please arrive a few minutes early to help them settle into Classroom C. Ms. Chandra or Ms. Jessica will be assisting in Classroom C during the conferences.

### Restocking your child's cubby box

When you come in during conferences, consider restocking your child's cubby box. Children often need extra socks during the winter months after they come in from recess. And, as we all know, children grow constantly. Feel free to swap out t-shirts for sweatshirts, adding cooler weather appropriate clothing or larger sizes.

**Sunrise Potluck Dinner** is on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:00p.m. This annual traditional event is a great kick off to our Winter Break! During the Parent Conferences, there will be a sign-up attendance sheet to let us know if you plan to attend and what you would like to bring to share at the potluck. **Due to allergies, please do not bring foods which contain nuts.** The students are learning a new song with Ms. Mary Jo, and they plan to sing it that night as a Sunrise group. You will not want to miss this event!

**Winter Break** – December 20<sup>th</sup>-January 1<sup>st</sup>. Classes and the Extended Day program resume on January 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Next Pizza Session** – Begins January 9<sup>th</sup> and runs through March 19<sup>th</sup>. A sign up form for this 10 Week Session will be available when we return on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Parent Observations

Our program is unique in the sense that we offer an open invitation for parents to visit and observe our classrooms whenever it is convenient. Right now is a great time to begin thinking about scheduling a classroom observation. Typically, it is best to observe the classrooms sometime during the morning work cycle period between 9:00a.m.-11:00a.m. An observation lasts about half an hour, and this often gives parents a better sense of what a typical morning is like! An observation consists of watching, absorbing and gaining knowledge of your child's day. More information regarding observations will be available for you to pick up at the Parent Conferences. Once you are ready to schedule an observation time, please email me directly and I would be happy to set up an appointment for you.

**Sunrise and the Big Y Community Bag Program** – Our school was selected to be the non-profit recipient for the month of December.

**Where:** Big Y at 348 East Central Street Franklin

**What:** Purchase a reusable \$2.50 Community Bag

**How Much:** For every purchase of a community bag our school receives \$1.00

**How Long:** The entire month of December

**How can you help:** Spread the word to all your family, friends, co-workers, etc.

When shopping at that location, they can purchase the community bag to help donate to our school.



**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.

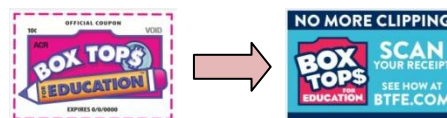
Every time you shop at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com), Amazon will make a donation to Sunrise Montessori School, Inc.



- To register and begin shopping, simply go to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device (not the app).
- 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](https://www.smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier each time you shop.
- If you shop on [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) using an internet browser on your desktop or laptop computer, your mobile phone, or your tablet, then your purchases of eligible products (marked “eligible for AmazonSmile donation” on the detail pages) will result in donations. Purchases that are not made using an internet browser (for instance, using the iOS Amazon Shopping App, Kindle Store, FireTV, Amazon Dash, or Amazon Echo) are not currently eligible for donations.

### 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've 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](https://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.



### Special Thank you to our families:

I wanted to take an opportunity to specially thank several Sunrise parents, caregivers and children for their recent donations to the classrooms:

November Donations – Thank you

This month's snack donors were Arielle Cabral, Millie Warren, Olivia & Emma LaButti and Robert & Angelina Bartolini.

Also thank you to Jacob Anderson for the new birdfeeders and seed supply and to Gus Semas for the basketball hoop donation.

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](mailto:Headofschool@MySunriseMontessori.com)

#### Lead Teachers:

Sandhya Jain:

[Sandhya.sunrisemontessori@gmail.com](mailto:Sandhya.sunrisemontessori@gmail.com)

Kristin Masefield:

[Kristin3sunrisemontessori@gmail.com](mailto:Kristin3sunrisemontessori@gmail.com)

#### Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Sara Allegretti & Kathi Shah

[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 “**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

**December 5:** Half day; Conferences in afternoon from 12:30pm to 3:00pm.

**December 6:** No classes; Conferences from 8:00am to 3:00pm.

**December 19:** Pot Luck Dinner from 6:30pm to 8:00pm

**December 20 through January 1:** Winter Break. Enjoy the holidays.

**January 2:** Classes and Extended Day program resume

**January 9:** Second pizza session begins

**January 17:** Professional Development Day; no classes and no extended day program

**January 20:** MLK, Jr. holiday; no classes and no extended day program

**January 25:** Admission Open House from 11:00am to 1:00pm

Priority enrollment for current students, younger siblings and alum families begins in early January.



Dear Classroom A families,

November has been a very exciting month! We learned about our Earth, the continents, the oceans, landforms, leaves, tasting different squashes and, of course, Thanksgiving!

This month welcomed a bounty of dried leaves that covered our playground. The mundane task of raking can be the most fun activity for our young friends at Sunrise. The children used their hands, rakes and sand box toys to clean up the leaves from the playground. They found great pleasure in volunteering and initiating this activity! Once again proving to us that Maria Montessori always knew that real and meaningful activities give great joy and a sense of accomplishment to the children.



We love **cooking** in Classroom A ... since we have been learning about the varieties of squashes, this month we started tasting a few of them. Children made some "spaghetti" using the Spaghetti Squash, and then tried it with butter for a snack. We also used our Kabocha Squash to enjoy home made pumpkin muffins that the children made with Ms. Alka ! We will continue to taste the remaining squashes in the month of December. The children carefully picked out all the seeds from these squashes to feed to the birds. Along with this, they have been prepping a lot of snack on their own ... they seem to enjoy peeling and eating boiled eggs (great fine motor skill) and used a melon scoop to make cantaloupe balls for the snack!



This month in **Practical Life** we have been practicing wearing our winter gear. This will help prepare the children to be independent with his task, and we will be able to enjoy the snow in the months to come without taking too much time to get dressed for it.

The children are also practicing storing their mittens and hats inside their jacket sleeves so that their cubbies are organized.

Please remember to label all the winter gear for your child. We also have been practicing setting up a table for dinner. Hopefully they can showcase these skills to you and your family through the holiday season.





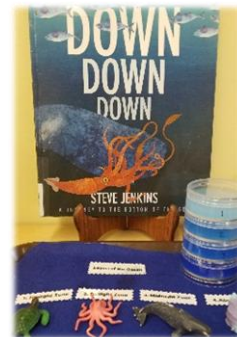
**In History**, we have been learning about the timeline. The children will continue to learn about days of the week and months of the year in an interactive way. In this picture, they are learning the months of the year by associating each month with a recognizable event. For example, May is Mother's Day Tea at Sunrise and November is Thanksgiving. They have also been introduced to the concept of Past and Present. These concepts, which are simple for an adult mind, can be a challenging task for young children.



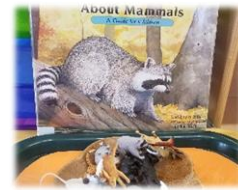
**In Geography**, we have been learning about Earth. The children have been introduced to the different layers of Earth and many have been asking me often if we really walk on the "Crust" of the Earth! It's been interesting learning about the 7 continents and matching the animals to the continents.



In the upcoming months we will continue to build on this concept. We also started learning about the layers of an Ocean and we had some interesting discussions about the different fish and species that might live in the different layers, for example, the sea sponge that children use in the classroom once lived in an ocean! In addition, we have also been learning about **Island** and **Lake** as landforms.



**In Zoology**, we started learning about mammals, and many children were excited to learn that people are mammals as well. Inspired by the book, "About Mammals", the children have enjoyed following the story to find a variety of mammals from all over the world. In the year ahead, we will learn more about each category of mammal. **In Botany**, we are learning about leaves, and we will continue to do so in the upcoming month as well.



**In Language**, we were inspired by the book "In November". The children could retell the story using various objects seen the story, and they recalled the events as described in the book. This work makes a book interactive and thus helps them remember and recall the book more effectively.



We concluded the month with our **Thanksgiving** tradition of making necklaces for our friends in Classroom B. These necklaces have the Native American symbol of a broken arrow for peace or a rising sun symbol depicting sunrise. We have been singing the morning song from the Cherokee tribe in our class which can be interpreted as being thankful for all the nature around us. We made some Apple Pie Cups and fresh whipped cream to enjoy as well. I am so thankful to Ms. Alka for making it all happen while I was visiting my family in India!! There is indeed a lot to be thankful for as we looked back and thanked each other for their friendship, support and kindness.



We continued to enjoy yoga and music, and we hope that the beautiful songs are being sung to you and your family!

December will bring more excitement with new opportunities to learn and grow. I look forward to meeting with you at the upcoming conferences.

**Warm Regards,  
Ms. Sandhya**



Hello Classroom B families,

The month of November went by so quickly! It's hard to believe that Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa are right around the corner!

We continued to learn about leaves at the beginning of the month, and discovered all the different types of leaves there are. We talked a lot about maple and oak leaves and compared them to one another. We had fun sorting leaves on the playground, but discovered that most of the leaves were oak leaves! We learned that acorns are the seeds that germinate and eventually grow into an oak tree. In addition, we learned that samaras (the little winged things that fall from maple trees) begin to sprout in just a few days. In time, a stem will grow, followed by leaves. It takes many years for a maple seedling to become a full grown tree.

In Geography, we are learning how to identify our continent on the map! In Montessori, North America is the orange continent. If you ask your child what color North America is on the globe at school, they may tell you! We learned about some of the animals that are native to North America, including raccoons, beavers, bald eagles and American alligators. We will continue to learn about North America for the month of December so that we can focus on the United States, Canada and Mexico.

As we were talking about the history of Thanksgiving and how the pilgrims came to America, where they met the Native Americans, we focused on Massachusetts. We learned what the state flag looks like and how the Pilgrims landed right in this state! Most of our focus regarding Thanksgiving was on being thankful for the things we have. Some of the children understood that the food which was collected for the food pantry was because some people don't have enough food to eat everyday. The food pantry helps to provide food so that people won't be hungry.



When we talked about what we were thankful for, most of the children were thankful for their families and friends, however toys, and unicorns were close behind! We ended our month with a gathering of the classrooms for a small snack which the children helped to prepare.



We enjoyed cider, cornbread and a delicious apple dessert. The children helped prepare the dessert by crumbling the graham crackers using a mortar and pestle. Next, they mixed the apples with cinnamon and vanilla. The children even had the chance to make whipped cream! We all had a great time and the food was yummy.





In addition to Thanksgiving, we learned about Veteran's Day. We talked about how the people in the military keep us safe. We looked at pictures of people in all of the branches in the military and learned some of the names of the branches. The older children were especially interested in our discussion and had a lot of questions.



Finally, this picture is of our full day kids! I took it after one of the children said, "let's have a group hug!" So much love in Classroom B!!!

I hope that you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving, and I look forward to meeting with you at conferences!

Truly,

Ms. Kristin

