



February 2020 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

February has been a busy month despite it being so short!

February's Special Guest Reader

This past month, the classrooms enjoyed a special visit from Sunrise's former Director, Mrs. Roeber! As some of you may remember, Mrs. Roeber is a huge fan of the children's author, Jan Brett, and one of the books she read was *A Snowy Nap*. In addition to reading the story, she added songs and a special activity for the students to enjoy. Some of the students remembered working with Mrs. Roeber in the before and after school program, and we all enjoyed her visit!



Sunrise Parent Association (SPA) Meeting Update

The parent meeting was held on February 24th and the upcoming Spring Fair event needs were discussed. Thank you to our two parent representatives, Sara and Kathi, for attending and to Krisanne Connell for joining the meeting. These parents have agreed to help collect raffle and silent auction items (i.e. gift certificates, items that the business would like to donate, and/or monetary gifts). If you could not attend the meeting, but would like to still help with the collections, please let me know, and I would be happy to give you the necessary information.

I am accepting any donations, and these may be dropped off at the school. Thank you to the families that have already donated from their business and/or have given a raffle item.

Additionally, if you own a business or know of anyone who owns a business and would like to donate or become a sponsor at our Spring Fair Family Fun Event, please let me know, and I will provide you with the appropriate paperwork.

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

Scholastic Orders are due March 6th

Kathi Shah will be completing the scholastic orders, and these are due by Friday, March 6th. If you need an additional order form, you can pick one up in the front room area.

Restaurant Fundraiser Event for Thursday, March 26th at The Chateau in Franklin

Located at 466 King St., Franklin. See their website for information:

<https://www.chateaurestaurant.com/locations/franklin>

Thank you, Kelly Cabral, for organizing this fundraiser. Our school will receive 20% of the total bill amount if when the fundraiser flyer is presented. The flyer is attached separately with this newsletter.

Summer Program Update

This summer we are offering 3 weeks to our current or upcoming newly enrolled families. The summer program choices are 5 mornings (8:30am-11:30am) or 5 full days (8:30am-2:30pm). The half day program costs \$200 per week and the full day program costs \$325 per week. *Each session is limited to 20 children.* You may choose to enroll for one, two or all three weeks. Registration forms are available at the office or online on our website:

www.MySunriseMontessori.com

Week 1: June 15 - 19	Cooking
Week 2: June 22 - 26	Space
Week 3: June 29 - July 3	Gardening

Giving Tree Update

We continue to receive an amazing amount of donations to purchase items from the Giving Tree.

This month we have ordered the following materials:

- Matryoshka Russian Nesting Dolls
- Grace and Courtesy Picture Guidebook
- Count and Lace Fruit
- Cotton Lace Doilies (to add to the flower arranging activity)

Thank you to both Arielle Cabral's and Tyler Allegetti's family for helping Sunrise purchase those items!

Professional Development Day Friday March 13th – No School

I am especially excited for this upcoming professional development day. I am attending the annual AMS Conference event (American Montessori Society) in Dallas, Texas from Thursday, March 12th through Sunday, March 15th. This event is held once a year at various locations throughout the country and there are typically over 3,000 Montessorians attending inspirational and informative workshops. I look forward to bringing back a multitude of information to share with both the Board of Directors and our teachers!

2020-2021 enrollment

Thank you to everyone who has returned enrollment paperwork for your child/ren for the upcoming school year. We look forward to seeing our returning students in September, quite a few younger siblings and also new students from our alum families. Your support is truly appreciated. If you know of anyone who is still searching for preschool or kindergarten for the fall, please have them contact the office. We have only a few enrollment spots available.



Special Thank you to our families:

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

Tyler Allegretti for sending in delicious snacks.

Mason Boday's "Ya-Ya" for donating a supply of art activity trays.

As you know, Sunrise supplies the fresh produce and other items for the students to enjoy each week. We have appreciated the many non-perishable snacks that have been donated so far this year. We could use a few donations of Saltine and Ritz like crackers, graham crackers, vanilla wafers, or any other cracker items. Thank you in advance for helping!

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

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

April 2: Parent / Teacher conferences in the afternoon

April 3: Parent / Teacher conferences all day; no classes

April 10: Professional Development Day. No classes, no extended day

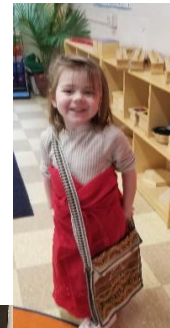
April 20 - 24: Spring Vacation week. No classes, no extended day



Classroom A February Newsletter

Dear Classroom A parents!

We have been celebrating Latin America in our classroom. In this spirit, the children are learning about animals which live in South America, the names of Latin instruments and flags of South America. They have been learning to identify the countries within South America and made their own continent maps by tracing and cutting these out. As an extension of this activity, some children have been using the label maker to label each country. We have been talking about the Andes mountains, Machu Pichu and discussing several fun facts, reading lovely stories and singing songs about Latin America. The children enjoy working on the continent box which contains items from South America. In the pictures below, the children are trying on a hand bag from Machu Pichu, a skirt from Uruguay and sweaters from Peru!



I am so thankful to Vera Holmes for lending so many artifacts and items from her personal collection to help enrich our culture unit.



As always, Vera gave a beautiful presentation to the children by reading *Ramon Preocupon*. She not only taught children how to say the names of the colors in Spanish, but also brought in lemony, homemade cookies called *Alfajores* and *Dulce le Leches*. The children assembled the cookies and rolled them in coconut. We all loved those cookies.

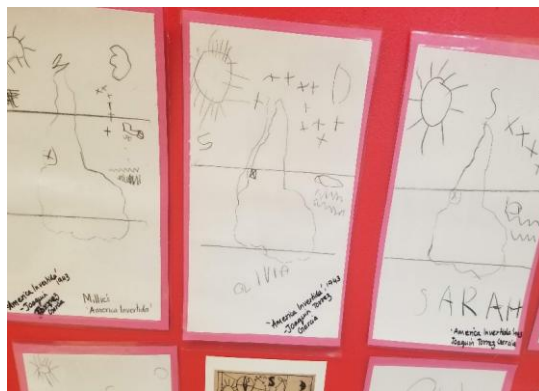
As a part of our Practical Life, the children have been wearing and zipping sweaters from Peru and unraveling a blanket to form a ball of yarn. They have also been bottle washing and taking care of classroom plants.

During these processes they are practicing "care of self" and "care of environment" skills! Recently, they have also been tweezing seeds out of a bell pepper. This activity will not only make their fine motor skills stronger, but also help me start the science unit on seeds!



In Math and Sensorial, they are learning to count up to 10 and can recognize the colors in Spanish, respectively. Nothing can catch their attention better than using their own pictures to facilitate learning.

In Art, we are studying Joaquin Torres Garcia, a Spanish Uruguayan artist from Uruguay. Once again, I am thankful to Vera for introducing me to some of his works. The children have been creating their own version of *America Invertida* and will continue to make their version of his painting called *La Piz*. Here is a picture of Vera with her family at the New York Museum of Modern Art where this artist's picture was showcased. In our newsletter we compare the original artwork alongside the creations from our Classroom-A artists.



The last week of February was celebrated as Peace Week. We celebrate this week to honor Maria Montessori and her efforts to establish peace. She is most often remembered for her contributions to the education of young children; however she is also considered by many to be a founder of peace education. She believed that the root of peace lay in the education we give our children.



The children visited several offices in the Moseley Mills complex, accompanied by a teacher, presented a rose and recited the peace poem to the employees. I consider myself fortunate that I can witness these moments when our children bring smiles and sunshine into these offices! They also learned that *Shanti* and *Paz* also mean peace in Hindi and Spanish respectively.

We will continue to study the rich culture of Latin America as we begin learning about seeds, rains forests, the Galapagos Islands and birds in the upcoming month.

I conclude my newsletter by offering the peace poem to you...

May there be peace before you

Behind you, above you, below you

From my heart to the lips to everyone.

Wishing you all peace and love,

Ms. Sandhya



Classroom B February Newsletter

Hello Classroom B families!

We started our month with a wonderful visit from Mrs. Roeber! Actually, she came in on January 31st but close enough!

Mrs. Roeber read *The Snowy Nap* by Jan Brett. It is a story about a Hedgehog that tries to stay up during the winter instead of retreating to his burrow to hibernate. He doesn't want to miss all the winter-time fun his friends from the farm tell him about, like making snowmen, watching icicles form and seeing the pond freeze and turn to slippery ice!



Mrs. Roeber also made a language and art activity for the classroom that the children really enjoyed!

In the photo (below left), two of our Classroom B friends are writing something Hedgie saw while he was watching from inside. In the next photo, a Classroom B friend is making a Hedgie face mask.



We continued our Chinese New Year celebration into February because the holiday lasts 15 days. For the start of the holiday, we practiced making Chinese characters with a brush and water on a mat that Ms. Joy (Aanya's mom) let us have!

Ms. Joy came in to our class last year and taught us about Chinese characters and words! In February, she came in and taught the children how to write with real Chinese brushes and ink. In addition, I put numerous objects about China in our geography box. Some items included chopsticks, red envelopes and coins and clothing from China. We concluded our celebration by making lanterns and having a dragon dance!



This past month we learned how penguins stay warm and that their feathers are waterproof. Penguins have a layer of blubber which protects them from the cold. Their feathers have a special wax like substance that prevents water from penetrating underneath. To demonstrate this we conducted a science experiment using Crisco in a plastic bag. Then we placed our hand in the bag of cold water and learned that the Crisco acts as blubber to keep our hands warm. We also took a turkey feather and sprayed it with water. We turned the feather over to see that the water didn't seep through.



We also had a very cool visit from Ms. Marissa (Sophia's mom). She read a beautiful book about the life cycle of a snowflake. Then she showed the children an awesome experiment on how to make a snowstorm! The children had so much fun!



We concluded our month with Montessori awareness week! The children and I walked to the different businesses in our complex and handed out roses and recited a peace poem. We have been talking about what peace means, and what it means to be peaceful. We also read many books about being kind, using manners and so on. Even though February was a short month, we were sure able to fit a lot of things in!

Truly,

Ms. Kristin