



## February 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

**It is officially Winter!** - The snow has been beautiful to look at, but a little treacherous to drive in. In the next few days, if the weather is warm enough (above 15 degrees) the children will play in the snow. Please make sure you send them in with appropriate clothing for the snow – hats, mittens, snowpants, warm jackets and boots. They have been anxiously waiting to use all the snow toys, shovels and sleds.



In recent days, when we had no snow, they were sliding down the pine needles on the hill in the playground. At first, we tried to stop them from using the sleds on the pine needles, but with no snow and not knowing when we would get snow, we finally said “Why not” But now they will slide on snow – just what the sleds were actually intended for. Wee... what fun!

**Summer Program** - Thank you so much for filling out the Summer Program survey. We received approximately 90% of the surveys back. Therefore, we really got a good idea of the needs and wishes of what families wanted for our Summer Program. We increased our program from three to five days per week and the option of either a half day or a full day was added. The themes were taken right from the surveys, and many of the responses requested the farm, transportation, outer space, under the sea, and gardening. These are all fun topics to work with, and Ms. Andrea and I can't wait to have an exciting and fun filled summer program using these themes.

The first week we will explore “Under the Sea” and our favorite story teller - Diane Edgecomb - will come to tell a story on “How Whales got their Spout” and so much more about what goes on under the sea. During the Transportation and Outer Space weeks we have special activities planned including a visit from the local train authority and nearby children's museum. As the summer gets closer we will share those details with you. The last week of our summer program will focus on the farm and gardening. We have a puppeteer coming to present a show on “Harvest Time”. She uses popular children's stories (such as *Tops and Bottoms* - a Caldecott Honor Book by Janet Stevens) to present her plays. Please sign up for the summer program as soon as you can. The brochures are out; it is also advertised on the website, and we are featuring the summer program already in many local newspapers.

**Vendor Night** – Thank you to Amy Gilman who organized Vendor Night and to Rebecca Baril, Kristin DiCrescenzo and Suzanne Littler for helping out with selling raffle tickets. It was a fun night, and I think some of the vendors did very well. In case you weren't able to attend, it's not too late to order from the vendors; we have all the information on our website on how to contact each vendor to place an order. Look for the link under the Current Events tab of [www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com). Thank you to everyone who participated.

*Offering quality Montessori preschool, pre-k transitional and kindergarten programs since 2005.*

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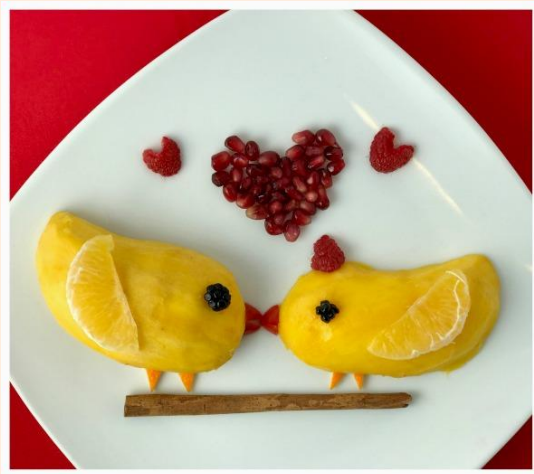
[www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

## Health & Nutrition corner

by Amy Gilman – Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (R.D.N.)

Winter in Massachusetts seems to be jammed into one month - February. It feels like we are forced indoors (for the most part). Being home with the kids on these snowy days is a perfect time to make food art. It's healthy, it's an activity you can do together and they might be more likely to eat it if it's presented in fun shapes.

Treat the dish as your canvas.



Lovebirds ([www.superkidsnutrition.com](http://www.superkidsnutrition.com)): Lovebirds can be used as a nice surprise for Valentine's Day. In this recipe mango, raspberry, blackberry, tangerine and pomegranate were used, but you can use other fresh or frozen fruits to create your lovebirds, such as melon instead mango; blueberry instead of blackberry; strawberry instead of pomegranate, etc...

Get creative and use fruit you have on hand! Use the photo above as a guide. Cut the mango in half to make the bird's body, use a blackberry as the eye, a tangerine section as the wing, the tangerine peel as the feet, a raspberry for the beak and the last and most important part - arrange raspberries or pomegranate to make the heart. Enjoy!

## Keeping in touch

If you have any questions or comments, please know that you can also 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.

**Director, Karen Roeber:**

Director@MySunriseMontessori.com

**Lead Teachers:**

**Andrea Koska:**

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Don't forget to sign up for the Summer Program! It is a great way for your children to stay in touch with their classmates, meet new friends and experience age-appropriate and exciting themes.

Please send in your application and deposit no later than Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>.

Week 1: June 26 – June 30



**Under the Sea**

Week 2: July 10 - July 14



**Transportation**

Week 3: July 17 – July 21



**Outer Space**

Week 4: July 24 – July 28



**On the Farm**

## Upcoming Events

**Montessori Education Week** – When we return from vacation, we will celebrate the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Montessori education. During this week the children learn more about the history of Maria Montessori, and they also discuss “Peace around the World” In the classroom, the Peace Rose is emphasized and towards the end of the week, children deliver a Peace Rose to many of the businesses located at Moseley Mills. Stories are read to the children about Peace and every classroom revisits the book: *The Peaceful Classroom* and the story on the Peace Rose. Sunrise Montessori School will also set up a display on Friday at the Bellingham Library to celebrate Montessori Education Week. When you can, please check it out – the display will be exhibited until March 4<sup>th</sup>.



**What does it mean to be a Montessori Teacher?** Here are excerpts from your children’s teachers.

*I like the concept of the one-on-one lessons that we do with the child and that “Ah ha” moment when the child gets the concept and understanding of the lesson presented.* **Farida Ghadyali**

*It is a pleasure working with young minds and to see them evolve as independent, caring and supportive friends to each other.* **Sandhya Jain**

*Montessori Education provides flexibility within the classroom and curriculum. This allows the children to develop and learn at their own pace and expand on their personal interests. I enjoy being part of each child’s learning experience and watching them develop within the school community.* **Andrea Koska**

*Montessori Philosophy teaches children to be independent and exposes them to day-to-day practical life skills through the activities that they learn in the classroom. They learn not only pre-writing and pre-reading skills, but also the discipline to be a better person.* **Alka Pai**

*I like how Montessori teaches the children independent skills - cleaning up a dry and wet spill, learning how to button or zip; the children understand that the classroom belongs to them, and they learn how to care for it by putting work back the way they found it and by pushing in their chair when they complete a table activity and so much more.*

**Karen Roeber**

*I love the three year cycle and building strong relationships with my students and their families. Children use Grace and Courtesy skills, which help build confidence, independence and work ethic, to develop respect for themselves and their environment.* **Kara Stegeman**

*I consistently see the benefit of the youngest children learning from their older peers; while at the same time, the older children thrive as role models and teachers for their younger peers. I also highly value when children attend the program for the full, three year cycle as the progression through the materials and curriculum is intended to span three years.*

**Elizabeth Yered**

## Looking Ahead

**Upcoming Enrollment** – With our two admission Open House events behind us, we are now filling up enrollment for next year. If you have not returned your application for next year, please do so as soon as you can. We have started to send out our Acceptance Letters through the mail. Yes, I thought about putting the Acceptance Letters in the children’s back packs – but decided a stamp is well worth using to let you know that your child is enrolled for next year.

Stay warm and enjoy the February School Vacation Week! **Karen Roeber, Director**



The children learned about Chinese New Year at the end of January. Thank you to Qian Li, Yu-Lu Ma and Shuang Xiao for reading stories, teaching us songs and creating a beautiful poster depicting the Chinese holidays throughout the year.

Family fun at Splitsville Lanes  
What a great community event!



### Weather delays and closures

As a reminder, Sunrise follows the Franklin Public School policy on delays/closings. Also watch Channels 10 and 12 for updates.

**For a 1 hour delay**, classroom A will begin at 9:30AM and classroom B will begin at 10:00AM.

**For a 1 ½ hour delay**, classroom A will begin at 10:00AM and classroom B will begin at 10:30AM.

**2 hour delay** means there will be NO morning programs but full-day children may come to school at 12:00pm. (Please bring your lunch).

For clarification on snow days and delays, you are welcome to call the school @ 508 541 8010



### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Please note that all current events, news and the academic year calendar are also found on the school's website:  
[www.MySunriseMontessori.com](http://www.MySunriseMontessori.com)

February vacation – **February 20 – 24** Enjoy the time with your family

**Friday, March 3** - Professional Development Day; no classes, no extended day

**Friday, March 31** – Parent/Teacher Conferences all day; no classes, no extended day

**Monday, April 3** – Morning extended day and morning classes only;

Parent/Teacher Conferences in afternoon; no afternoon extended day

**Friday, April 14** – Good Friday holiday; no classes, no extended day

Spring vacation – **April 17 – 21** Enjoy the time with your family

Annual Fair – **Saturday, May 6** – Save the date