



March 2022 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

March is holding on to both the Winter and the Spring seasons! The classrooms are looking for signs of Spring outdoors while wearing warm outdoor clothing. The tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths have sprouted already just outside our front door, and the children often comment about their growth as they walk through to the playground.

A special thank you to **Jacob Anderson** and his family for keeping our birds well fed throughout all the seasons. There are now many sparrows nesting out front in the arborvitae trees. They visit every morning and wait for the feeder to be replenished. Here is a picture of our kindergarteners tending to the feeder in the afternoon class. The students enjoy caring for everything in and around our school!



February's Restaurant Fundraiser Update



Last month's fundraiser at The Chateau in Franklin brought in an amazing **\$172.14** for Sunrise. This is the highest amount yet that we have pulled in from a restaurant event. That money went directly into a new outdoor playground storage bin and new shovels and buckets for the sandbox. Thank you to our Parent Reps for organizing this and thank you to everyone who participated in this event last month! Every bit counts for our program.

Giving Tree Donation Update

Thank you to **Eva Goedhart** and her family for their ongoing monthly monetary donation towards the Giving Tree. This month, Sunrise was able to purchase a few items for both classrooms.

- Shapes 3-part Wood Tile Cards
- Fraction Shape matching puzzle board
- 2 Wooden Handled Punchers (for push pin work)
- 2 Push Pin Felt Pads

Our classrooms stay beautifully furnished and supplied with the support of our Sunrise Community Members. As always, a heartfelt thank you to our parent community.

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

Outdoor Recess Playground Fun

Yes... finally no more snow! The students have been enjoying the sand box in full swing these past few weeks. Of course, it can be messy, and sand often gets everywhere (clothes, shoes, and in your car). However, I thought you might enjoy a few of these outdoor photos to show how fun the dirt, sand, and just being outdoors can be at this age!



Upcoming Panera Restaurant Fundraiser – Saturday, April 23 all day long

Sunrise's next restaurant fundraiser is at Panera in Franklin - 270 Franklin Village Dr. The flyer is attached to this newsletter and may also be found on the school's website under the [Current Events](#) tab.

Please help share this flyer on any of your social media sites, with friends, co-workers, and family members to help spread the word. Bring the flyer or show a digital version to the cashier when ordering at the café to ensure Sunrise earns a portion of the proceeds. This fundraiser specifically requires the flyer to be shown.

Parent Teacher Conferences April 28th and 29th

Last week, the Classroom A and Classroom B Conference Sign Up Links were sent out. Thank you to the many families who have already signed up. Please remember to communicate in advance with your child's Head Teacher if you plan to not attend the conferences.

Thursday, April 28th will be a half day, and all students are dismissed at 11:30am. Please be sure to **pick up on time** as the teachers will have lunch break and then prep for conferences.

Friday, April 29th there will be no school. For your convenience, childcare is available in the front classroom during your scheduled conference time. Here are the links for your reference:

<http://tinyurl.com/Sunrise-classroom-A>

<http://tinyurl.com/Sunrise-classroom-B>

If you have any questions about the conferences, please contact Ms. Laura or me directly and we would be happy to help you.

Upcoming Sunrise Spring Fair Event on May 7th

Time to think about our Annual Spring Fair which is scheduled for Saturday, May 7 from 12-2pm. It will be the first time since the beginning of the pandemic that we are able to host this event. Our Parent Representatives, Marissa and Susannah, met with both Ms. Sue and me last month to discuss ideas and review plans. This year, the school will hold a raffle with 10 specific, themed items (for children and adults to partake in), 2 Classroom Made Projects as the Silent Auction, 1 Week of Summer Program, and more! Details will be provided from the Parent Reps shortly about how the parent body can help with the fair. As the fair date comes closer, more specifics will be sent out about children's games and activities, bouncy house fun, and food. You won't want to miss this fun!

Summer Program Registration

Last month the Summer Program Registration went out. Thank you to the families who have already enrolled. If you need further information or a new registration form, please let either Ms. Sue or me know, and we would be happy to help you with the registration.

Thank you for taking the time to read our community news!

Andrea Rossick, Head of School



Dependent Care - Childcare Tax Forms

You all should have received an email earlier this year from our bookkeeper regarding tax information requests.

If you need a completed dependent care form for your tax documents, please reach out directly to Rebecca for that information.

If you have any questions about invoices or tax forms, you may contact either Rebecca Reda at mysunrisebilling02038@gmail.com or me at headofschool@mysunrisemontessori.com



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

Laura Holland:

Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Susannah Barry & 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

Monday April 18 through Friday, April 22 - Spring Vacation Week - No classes, no extended day.

Saturday, April 23: Fundraiser at Panera, 270 Franklin Village Dr., Franklin. All day long.

Thursday, April 28: Early release at 11:30AM; Parent / Teacher conferences in afternoon

Friday, April 29: Parent / Teacher Conferences all day; no classes; childcare provided during your scheduled conference time

Saturday, May 7: Family fun at our Spring Fair from Noon to 2pm. We are so happy to be able to offer this special afternoon to our wonderful families, alum families and also to welcome new families for the fall. See you there.

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. on eligible purchases.



To register and begin shopping, simply go to smile.amazon.com on your web browser or activate in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones. Select Sunrise Montessori School as your charitable organization **PRIOR** to shopping, and .5% of all eligible purchases will go back to our school. Add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier each time you shop. Or click on the QR code. Please tell your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. Every purchase helps.



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.



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).



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.

The Giving Tree

Check out the items on the tree, just inside the front door. Also listed through the school's website.

Amazon Wish List for Sunrise

Did you know? Sunrise has a Wish List on Amazon. Be sure to check out the following link:
<https://tinyurl.com/y3mpcpa3> New items are added each month.



Classroom A Newsletter March 2022

Dear Classroom A Families,

It's hard to believe March is already here, and we are welcoming spring! We have had a busy month in our classroom. We started off by celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday and National Read Across America Day! Ms. Emily led a craft where children glued and pasted colorful fish onto popsicle sticks based on the book *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss! We also read *Green Eggs and Ham* and learned that Dr. Seuss was born in Springfield, MA!

We celebrated Montessori Education Week after returning from the vacation. The children learned about where Maria Montessori was born, and how she designed the materials that we use in our classroom to help us learn! The children shared at the group circle what their favorite works are. Our class read books about spring and the changing seasons as well!

Our classroom celebrated Holi and Saint Patrick's Day this month.

We learned that Holi is a celebration of colors and a welcoming of Spring.

It is celebrated with a bonfire on the last night of the lunar cycle following a day where people gather



to enjoy sweets and snacks and throw powder or colored water with friends and family.

The children passed around red gulal, (colored powder) that is traditionally used. They used colored water to spray a paper figure to symbolize throwing colored water during the celebration!

For Saint Patrick's Day, our classroom learned about where the country of Ireland is located in the world, the colors of the Irish flag, and why Saint Patrick's Day is celebrated. We learned about the three and four leaf clovers and read the story *How to catch a Leprechaun* by Adam Wallace. The children enjoyed listening to Irish music during the morning, having a small parade at circle and completing works throughout the morning like a shamrock craft, cutting works, and the Irish flag and country coloring pages!



This month in **Science**, our classroom has been busy learning about Amphibians and the life cycle of a frog. We have been reading *From Tadpole to Frog* by Wendy Pfeffer, and the children enjoy labeling the figures from egg to adult frog. Afterwards, the children use the frog stamps and ink pad to make their own Life Cycle of a Frog booklet.

At group circle, we also read *Frogs* by Gail Gibbons and the children helped to complete the 3-part matching work labeling the pictures and learning the parts of the frog. They have also been busy using the parts of the frog puzzle to trace, color, and label.

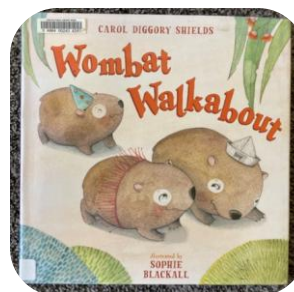
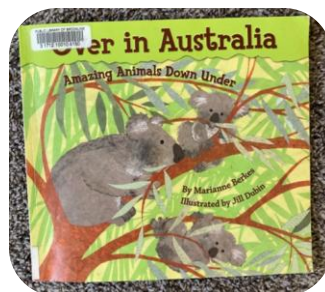
We have also been learning about magnetic forces and objects that are magnetic vs. non-magnetic! The children have enjoyed sorting objects and exploring with the north and south poles to find what repels and what attracts.



In **Geography**, our classroom continues to focus on Australia and Oceania during our continent study. We have been reading books about Australia, and the children have been busy completing the 3-part matching cards to identify and learn the names of the territories. As the children practice matching and learning the territories, then they will get a chance to make a continent booklet!



We have also been learning about the different animals of Australia and Oceania. There are so many! At circle time, the children helped to match the animal figures to the picture cards and complete the 3-part matching work to learn 11 different animals that can be found on the continent. We read *Over in Australia* by Marianne Berkes and *Wombat Walkabout* by Carol Diggory Shields and learned about the many species of animals that live only on the continent of Australia!



During Kindergarten Afternoon class, the Kindergarteners have been learning about the earthworm. We learned how to measure inches using a ruler, and practiced measuring the length of yarn "worms". Then the kindergarteners labeled each worm they measured and had a blast dipping the yarn into glue to create a display for the worms.



The Kindergarteners enjoyed learning about the celebration of Holi and created their own versions of the celebration of colors by using a straw to drop red, blue, and yellow water onto the page, then blow air through the straw to create a splash effect! We were excited to see the secondary colors that appeared on the page and the colors mixed together!



On Saint Patrick's Day, we read books, and sorted beginning letter sounds to make our own shamrocks! We learned about the history of Saint Patrick, how he was born in Britain, but then moved to Ireland at age 16 to share his beliefs with the people there. We learned that each leaf of the shamrock has a special meaning! The leaves on the three-leaf clover symbolize faith, love, and hope. The additional leaf on the four-leaf clover symbolizes good luck!

The kindergarteners learned about the Spring Equinox marking the beginning of the spring season this year on Sunday, March 20th. On this day, it is light outside for 12 hours and dark for 12 hours. We learned how people around the world celebrate the weather getting warmer and nature waking up from its winter rest. We went on a spring scavenger hunt, wrote about the signs of spring we have seen outside, and used the color box #5 and the metal insets ellipse and circle to create beautiful spring flowers!



It has been a very busy month! As the year continues to rapidly progress, we want to ask families to please begin to send seasonal extra clothes to put in your child's cubby as the weather begins to change. At any time, if you would like to know what your child has in his/her extra clothes bin, please reach out to us, and we will let you know what they have/what they need. We are excited to talk to everyone at conferences next month! Let us know if you have any trouble signing up for a time slot that was sent out via email.

We'd like to say Happy Birthday to Vian, Nokuthula, and Eva who celebrated birthdays this month!

We also want to wish Ibrahim's family the best of luck and safe travels with their move to San Antonio, Texas! We loved having Ibrahim as a member of our classroom this year, and he will be missed greatly by the friends he's made, his teachers, and everyone in the Sunrise Montessori Community! Here is a picture of our class on his last day with us, and snapshots of the children making cards and a gift to send with Ibrahim and his family!



Thank you!

Sincerely your teachers,

Ms. Laura, Ms. Alka and Ms. Samantha





Classroom B Newsletter March 2022

Hello Classroom B Families!

March is one of my favorite months of the year. If you ask the Classroom B students why, they may answer, it's because March has two seasons! We said goodbye to Winter and hello to Spring while acknowledging some of the traditional holidays that occur this time of year. We also enjoyed looking for signs of Spring around the school.



Cultural Studies – Geography – Europe – Ireland – Saint Patrick's Day

Our studies ventured over to the island of Ireland! First, we learned that the country is divided into the Republic of Ireland (officially Ireland) and Northern Ireland (which is part of the United Kingdom). The children discovered that the capital of Ireland is Dublin, and painted the flag of Ireland with paint dabbers using the 3 colors: green, white, and orange.

Ms. Emily (Sunrise's student intern) helped to teach the group a new Shamrock poem, and she introduced a fun Shamrock watercolor painting activity. The children were eager to paint once the presentation was complete!



Shamrock Push Pin Work



Shamrock Watercolor Painting



We learned that Celtic music and Irish Step Dancing is very well known in Ireland. We enjoyed a short performance clip (less than one minute) from the Riverdance collection. Many of the students began to tap their feet along with the video performance. The finale was sampling the Irish Soda Bread as a special group snack. Many of the children tried the bread and asked for seconds.

Signs of Spring within the Science and Sensorial areas



Our classroom kicked off the Spring season with learning about the **Crocus flower**. I brought in a small patch of crocuses from my backyard to show that the crocus is low growing to the ground, and that the stem is actually underground! We also have been observing the daffodils, tulips, and hyacinths that are sprouting outside our school along our walkway. We are guessing at what the colors may be. Some of the tulips that are coming up were planted in the fall earlier this school year.



We read this book and added in the Color Tablets for matching shades of green in the book and classroom

Science - Indoor Planting

For our indoor planting project, we planted green beans. First, we read about seeds with the book, *A Seed is Sleeping*. We also used the **Life Cycle of a Seed** model (as seen in the picture) to visualize how our bean plants will grow from start to finish. Then, we planted our seeds in our indoor pot to care for over the next few weeks and observe the stages of growth. Our final goal is to then transplant the young plants into our Garden Box outside the school once the weather is warm enough. Details to follow next month!



Practical Life Skills

This month, we added several new activities to the Practical Life Area. One activity is the classic **Bubble Mixing**. This activity is always a huge hit, and it is quite a process to complete from start to finish. First, retrieve the water from the sink (fill to the line), slowly pour the water into the bowl, then add one eye dropper full of soap, and lots of whisking until the desired bubbles occur. Clean up is a process of walking to the sink (without spilling), pouring into the sink, using a cloth to wipe out the bowl, pitcher, the whisk, tray, and table. Finally hanging the wet cloth on the drying rack and replacing with a new cloth for the next friend to use. So many steps for one activity!



Another fun activity we recently added is the **Eggshell Grinding** work. For this activity, I use washed eggshells inside the mortar and pestle. The more the eggshell gets ground, the better the result. We then use the ground shells for plant fertilizer in the classroom. If you happen to use a lot of eggs for cooking during the week, please feel free to send along any pre-rinsed uncooked eggshells (best to rinse directly after cracking them open and return to another carton to dry).

Physical Science - Magnetism

We explored a bit of magnetism first by learning what is magnetic and what is non-magnetic. Ms. Emily helped introduce this concept as I read the book titled *The Mystery of Magnets* by Melvin Berger. We learned that some metals like the copper in pennies and nickel coins are not magnetic whereas steel screws and spoons are magnetic. The children used other fun magnet activities as part of this study. As an extension of the materials, Ms. Emily sat one-on-one with the students who wanted to complete the follow-up worksheet of magnetism.



Magnetic vs Non-Magnetic



Exploring with Repelling & Attracting



Constructing with Magnetic Shapes

End of the Morning Group Time with Ms. Jessica leading *Pass the Beanbag* game



End of the day Closing Group Time with Ms. Angela leading a *Spring Duck* poem



We hope you enjoyed reading our Classroom B Newsletter. For the month of April, we will study more Physical Science with liquids and solids (in particular solubility, viscosity and density). In the Botany area, we will study Flowers and Plants (the life cycle, parts of plants, planting). In Geography, we will learn about some of the animals of Africa and explore the African Puzzle Map in detail.

With Peace, Hope, and Happiness
Ms. Andrea, Ms. Angela, and Ms. Jessica