



November 2023 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

At Sunrise, November is a time for reflection. The students discussed what it means to be thankful, and the classroom activities were focused on helping and giving to others in our school and helping members of our community.

During the past several weeks the teachers spent a great deal of time planning and preparing for the students' **Sharing Time**.

Sharing Time was held on the Tuesday before our Thanksgiving break, and this is a time when the classrooms enjoy being with one another. As part of this sharing process, the Classroom A students made a turkey for their classmates in Classroom B and the Classroom B students created beautiful placemats for their classmates in Classroom A. During Sharing time, both classrooms enjoyed singing songs, listening to stories, and eating (or sampling) cornbread, dried fruit, and homemade applesauce that was made in the afternoon kindergarten class the day before. There was also sliced deli turkey for students to sample as well. For more details... check out your child's classroom newsletter.



Time for Giving to the Franklin Food Pantry from November 27th through December 18th

This month kicks off our annual food drive collection for the Franklin Food Pantry. The Food Pantry has a great new location at 341 West Central Street and Sunrise is collecting necessary items as well accepting monetary donations to support families in need. Our Food Drive begins on November 27th and ends on December 18th. Donations may be dropped off either with your child or be brought directly into the front room and placed into our collection bins. The students will help sort and bag up our donations before I bring them to the food pantry on December 19th.

Listed below are a few donation categories taken from the Franklin Food Pantry website as well as the link with their specific current pantry needs. Sunrise appreciates your support in advance!

[Pantry Needs - Franklin Food Pantry](#)

- Unopened, unexpired, non-perishable food
- Personal hygiene, cleaning supplies, pet food
- Items from the Pantry's Amazon Wish List
- Please consider placing your items in reusable shopping bags
- Plastic containers are preferred as many of the clients are elderly and walk to the pantry making heavy glass jars difficult to manage.

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

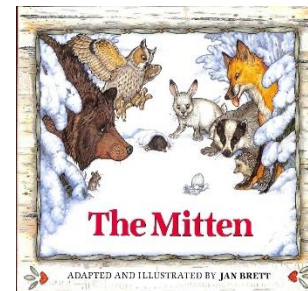
Upcoming Student Jan Brett-themed event on Saturday, December 9th from 9am until noon.

(with an inclement weather date of December 16th.)

Former Head of School, Karen Roeber, and I plan to hold a December Jan Brett themed event for students. You may have heard the phrase “two heads are better than one” – this definitely applies to Karen and me.

This will be a 3-hour student only program on Saturday, December 9th from 9am – 12pm with an inclement weather date of the 16th. The cost is \$50 per student.

The front room will have several stations set up with activities, crafts, cookie decorating, healthy snack station, and a corresponding book will be read by a volunteer and/or staff member. Each station will highlight one of my favorite authors – Jan Brett!



Station 1. *The Mitten* book and a mitten lacing activity

Station 2. *Gingerbread Baby* book and gingerbread cookie decorating activity (for children to take home)

Station 3. *The Three Snow Bears* book at the Sensory Table

Station 4. *The Hat* book with coloring the characters and the hat

Station 5. *Gingerbread and Friends* book and a gingerbread felt ornament to take home

Station 6. A healthy fun snack available for the children to make/serve themselves (fruit kabobs and bagels and cream cheese).

Sign-up forms for this event will be available at the Parent Conferences and at the office. There is also a **special raffle prize** that will be drawn during the event – only students who attend the Jan Brett event are eligible for this raffle prize drawing. See the Jan Brett sign-up form for further details!

Dependent Care Forms

Rebecca Reda, Sunrise’s bookkeeper, previously sent out an email regarding dependent care forms.

Please remember to reach out directly to Rebecca at MySunriseBilling02038@gmail.com if you have not already requested a dependent care form.

Outdoor Recess Weather Policy

Sunrise follows the Department of Early Education and Care’s weather policy. If the outside temperature is at least 15 degrees or higher and it is not raining/sleeting, the children play outdoors. The wind chill factor determines our outdoor play and the length of time we spend outdoors. This also means if the wind chill factor is **below 15 degrees**, we are not able to play outdoors at all.

As temperatures vary throughout the day, we request that you send the following items daily: hat, mittens or gloves, warm footwear, and a warm jacket. Please label all your child’s outdoor items to ensure that any misplaced items get returned to its owner. Once the snow is here, please send in either snow pants or a snowsuit for your child to wear in the snow. If you don’t already have snowpants or a snowsuit for your child, now is the time to search/buy one. These items are often difficult to find in stores!

When there is snow on the ground and items get wet/messy, your child’s snow gear will be sent home each day to ensure these items get dried. We are not able to leave snow gear items at school as most of the children will be wearing their snow gear home from the playground. We appreciate your cooperation with this in advance. If you have a large bag with handles that holds your child’s snow pants, please also label the bag with your child’s name.

The New Pizza Session begins January 5th and runs through March 29th, 2024 for students who eat lunch at school. The remaining pizza dates for the current session are December 8th and 15th. Session 2 pizza forms will be available at the Parent Conferences.

Restaurant Fundraiser Pizzeria Uno in Bellingham Update

Our first restaurant fundraiser brought in \$81.78 for our program. Thank you to all our families and community members who participated in this event on November 9th. The parent representatives are planning another restaurant fundraiser in the upcoming months.

Franklin Firefighter visit to be rescheduled

You may have heard from your child that the firefighter presentation was cancelled due to an actual emergency for the fire department during our planned visit time. A new visit date will be determined!

Upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences are on Thursday, November 30th and Friday, December 1st

Parent Conferences will take place on November 30th in the afternoon and all day on December 1st. To hold the parent conferences, please be aware that there is an early dismissal on Thursday, November 30th at 11:30am for all students, and there is no school on Friday, December 1st.

To help accommodate the families during their parent conference time block (20 minutes), childcare will be available in the front room area in Classroom C at no charge if you choose to bring your child during your scheduled conference.

Sunrise Giving Tree and Amazon Wish List Donation Update

As you may know, the Sunrise Giving Tree and our Amazon Wish List are ongoing donation options for anyone interested in purchasing something for your child's classroom. We continue to receive an incredible amount of donations through both options.

We would like to thank the following students and their families for their generous donations this past month from Sunrise's Amazon Wish List: Mason Finnan and Srihitha & Suhanth Chagaleti. We received the following materials and books for our program:

- Wooden Puzzle sets
- Meet Claude Monet (Meet the Artist) book
- What is Passover? (Jewish Holiday Series)
- Mae Among the Stars book
- Let's Celebrate 5 Days of Diwali (Maya & Neel's India Adventure Series, Book 1)

Thank you to Arha Vallabhaneni for donating a case of much needed plastic bags and to Mason Finnan for sending in a box of green degradable bags. We go through a fair amount of these types of bags for wet and soiled clothing. Also, thank you to Dylan Alston for bringing in fresh bagels and cream cheese and muffins from Elizabeth's Bagels shop and to Amber Dev for the delicious Laumiere Gourmet fruit candies to share for Diwali. On behalf of the Sunrise Staff – Thank You!

THANK YOU

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.

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.

Winter Break is approaching

During the winter Break some families travel and some families stay in the area. This year the school was able to receive a generous donation from [Urban Air](#), the Indoor Adventure Park in Bellingham "where kids of all ages (and kids at heart) can explore thrilling attractions, challenge their body and mind, and most importantly... have a blast"! Urban Air donated 4 Ultimate passes and 4 free Icee drink coupons to Sunrise.

On Thursday, December 7th the school will have a free drawing for these passes. There's no need for families to do anything – all enrolled families will be entered in the free drawing. Before the morning dismissal, a name will be drawn and one lucky family will receive these passes. If your family is the winner, but your child isn't at school that day – no worries. We'll get the tickets to you the next day or following week. Thank you to Urban Air for supporting our community building efforts!



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.

Re-enrollment Period and Process for Current Families from January 2nd – January 19th

Once school is back in session in January, all Sunrise families will receive important re-enrollment information via email. This email will contain a letter providing updated tuition rates for the 2024 - 2025 academic year and options, along with a returning student application form (fillable online). To secure your child's preschool or kindergarten space for September 2024, please complete the returning student application form no later than January 19th – there is no application fee for re-enrollment of current students, but it is important to secure your child's space before the new student enrollment begins on January 20th. If you will need an application for a younger child, please let me know as this form is slightly different. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sunrise Open House Events for new prospective families

Please help promote next year's enrollment by sharing our Open House information with your coworkers, neighbors, family, and friends. The dates are Saturday, January 20th & Saturday, February 3rd. The time for either date is from 11am-1pm. Sunrise's Parent Representatives will be present for these events to help meet new families and provide a parent's perspective view!

And remember, our school loves referrals! See the Sunrise Parent Handbook (this can be found on our website – go to the Parent Corner tab and scroll down the page to the Parent Handbook link. The school provides a \$100 tuition credit to any current family who refers a new family who then enrolls. There is a specific process, so be sure to read the referral guidelines in the handbook.

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 Teacher

Laura Holland:
Laura@MySunriseMontessori.com

Head Teacher

Lynne Anselmo:
MsAnselmo@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



Franklin Food Pantry Drive: November 27 through December 18

November 30: Early release for all students at 11:30AM; conferences in afternoon

December 1: Conferences all day

December 2: Sunrise Marketing Booth at the [Fairmount Fruit Farm Winter Market](#) 10am-2pm

December 9: Jan Brett Themed Event 9am-12pm **Students Only** (inclement weather Dec 16)

Sign-up form available from the office or during conferences

December 19: Last day of classes

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

Open House events: January 20th and February 3rd from 11AM to 1PM.

Pizza Days for full day students: December 8 & 15 (no pizza Dec 1 due to conferences)

Pick up the Pizza Day Session 2 sign-up form for during your child's conference.

Sensation Station Dates to remember

December 7 and 14 **Classroom A**

December 6 and 13 **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 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 or the eCatalog: 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.

Dear Classroom A families,

This month our classroom was busy getting ready to celebrate the Harvest and the many upcoming celebrations! As part of the **Grace and Courtesy** curriculum, and in preparation for Sharing Day, our class was very interested in learning about place setting in **Practical Life**. The children worked hard to make footprint turkeys for our friends in Classroom B on Sharing Day. It was a fun project and the children enjoyed decorating with feathers, sequence, and seasonal stickers! On Sharing Day, our classroom sang a song for Classroom B that we worked on the entire month called *I'm Thankful* by Frank Leto. The children did a beautiful job singing along with the music!

This month in **Science**, our classroom began learning about turkeys!

The children enjoyed using the 3-part cards to match the labels and pictures of the parts of a turkey.

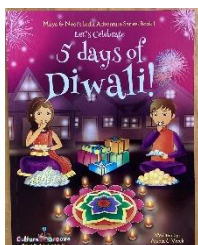
They practiced identifying beginning, middle, and ending sounds with a turkey work in the **Language** area and worked on pincer grip by pin punching a turkey!

Our classroom read stories and laughed together while singing the Frank Leto song *Wobble, Wobble*.



We also learned about the parts of a tree.

The children used the 3-part matching material to learn about the different tree parts and then when they learned them all, they created their own Parts of a Tree booklet.



In the **Cultural and Geography** area of the classroom, we learned about the celebration of Diwali. Thank you to Srihitha's family for donating a wonderful book to our school that helped us learn about the 5 days of celebration. The children enjoyed learning about *diyas* and *rangolis*, coloring beautiful pictures and sorting.

We have also had flurry of activity in **Geography** with the addition of the new map cabinet and control maps! We have been learning a song to help us remember the names of the 7 continents, and the children have been working hard on completing the puzzle maps.



In **Kindergarten Class**, we learned how to make apple sauce! We researched a recipe, wrote out our own recipe, and made a list of ingredients. Before Sharing Day, we peeled and sliced apples to put into a crockpot and added sugar and cinnamon. On Sharing Day, the apple sauce was served to our classroom friends.



We hope everyone had a great month of celebrations! Thank you to Mrs. Karen Roeber (founding member and former Head of School) for donating the tulip bulbs that the children planted in front of the school!

We also want to say Happy Birthday to Cooper who celebrated his birthday this month!

Just as a reminder, please dress your child appropriately for school with coats, hats, gloves/mittens, and snow pants if necessary. If it is not raining or too cold, we will try to get outside as much as we can during play time. We look forward to meeting with everyone at conferences!

Thank you!

Sincerely your teachers,

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



Classroom B Newsletter November 2023

Hello Classroom B Parents,

Welcome November! This special month is filled with gratitude, love and traditions. Our classroom was busy celebrating some of the many holidays that the month of November brings. Our focus this month was on learning about **"Pumpkins"**. We read many different books and also enjoyed lessons in the **Botany** area of our environment. The children are learning about **"The parts of a pumpkin"**. A lesson presentation was given on the 3-part nomenclature cards. The children loved this lesson and often went back to the shelf to further investigate independently.



"Fall Planting" Fall is a wonderful time for gardening lessons. The children enjoyed going outside and planting bulbs. Bulbs are easy to plant and grow, and the children are excited as we await the beautiful flowers that will prevail in the spring.

A special thank you to Ms. Karen Roeber (one of the founders of our school and the former school director) for donating the tulip bulbs that the children planted in front of the school!



The children are also learning about the Pilgrims and Native Americans. We discussed family traditions and stories and thought about how these celebrations may have been different 400 years ago. We read books, created activities and learned about the history of the first settlers.

The children enjoyed Sharing Day with classroom A. We made placemats and exchanged these gifts with our friends in classroom A. We enjoyed a delicious snack together to celebrate this beautiful holiday. It was a fun-filled week before the holiday break.

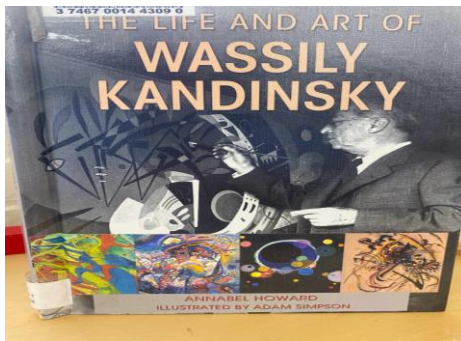
In the **Sensorial Area** of our environment, we are learning about Geometric Solids.



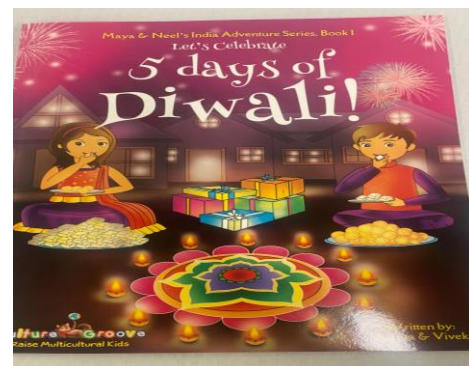
The Geometric Solids are one of many Montessori materials that challenge and shape a child's stereognostic sense, which is their ability to perceive and understand both the form and nature of objects through touch. We incorporated our Artist of the month "Kandinsky" and his work as an extension to our lesson. The children were able to clearly make a correlation with some of the geometric solids and his amazing artwork.

Famous Artist of the month - Wassily Kandinsky

Kandinsky "Several Circles"



Happy Diwali, also known as Deepawali, is a five day-long festival celebrated by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists. This year Diwali was celebrated on the 12th of November. The main celebrations occur on the third day of Diwali, the darkest day of the month, coinciding with the Hindu lunisolar calendar. Goddess of fortune, prosperity and wealth, Lakshmi is the primary deity worshiped during Diwali. A special thank you to the Chagaleti Family for donating this beautiful book, *5 days of Diwali*.



Cooler Weather is here! Just as a reminder, please dress your child appropriately for school (in layers) coats, hats, gloves/mittens, and snow pants if necessary. If it is not raining or too cold out, we will try to get outside as much as we can to expel energy and get some fresh air.

Happy Thanksgiving Day!



We look forward to meeting with everyone at conferences!

Happiest of birthdays to our **November Friends**
Ms. Lynne Anselmo



“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