



February 2026 Newsletter

Dear Sunrise Community,

I want to start by thanking the many families for their ongoing support and dedication to Sunrise. Your involvement makes our program special and helps our students reach their potential. Thanks to the parents and grandparents who have volunteered as guest readers or visited the school to share a holiday or family tradition. It's wonderful to see these presentations and activities in the classrooms!



Sunrise 20th Anniversary Gala – Friday, March 6th at Lake Pearl in Wrentham

The gala is just a few days away. Thank you to the families who have purchased their tickets and plan to attend next week's event. There is still time to buy tickets and join us for a festive evening with other members of the Sunrise community. **Reminder: Sunrise will close the Extended Day**

program at 4 pm on the day of the event so that our staff can get ready!

Purchase your tickets with this link... [Sunrise Montessori School 20th Anniversary Gala](#)

At the Gala we will have information about our upcoming commemorative brick program for our new entrance walkway that will be installed in August 2026.

119 Years of Montessori Education

This year marks 119 years of Montessori Education. Each year in February, the Montessori Community worldwide acknowledges the qualities of the Montessori Approach to Education and the teachings of Dr. Maria Montessori. Maria Montessori was a pioneer in education. She paved the way for a new teaching method that enabled children to learn through the Prepared Environment. This approach to learning is both “hands-on” and, most importantly, child-centered. This allows the student to move through the curriculum as they develop lifelong skills and a love of learning.



Sunrise is lucky to have a dedicated team of teachers guiding our students. I want to thank our classroom teaching teams and extended day program team for their commitment and dedication to Sunrise students and families. Each teacher brings a unique quality to our early childhood program, and their hard work does not go unnoticed!

Celebrating 20 years of Montessori preschool and kindergarten programs in Franklin!

31 Hayward St., Suite J2 PO Box 515 Franklin, MA 02038

www.MySunriseMontessori.com

Other News & Events

A classic photo from the first Casa dei Bambini in Rome, Italy, from the 1907 grand opening in the courtyard, and a photo of Maria Montessori outdoors with her students.



Summer Program Information and Registration

Many of you have already asked about our summer program. We offer a 4-week opportunity for our current students and those joining us next year! We will offer three program options, and you can choose which week(s) you want your child to participate in.

- 5 Mornings 8:30-11:30 am
- 5 Full days 8:30 am – 2:30 pm
- 5 Full Extended days 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

The summer program themes and teaching teams are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Week 1 Dinosaur Week | June 22-26 led by Ms. Jessica with Ms. Sarah and Ms. Marieliam assisting. |
| Week 2 Transportation Week | July 6-10 led by Ms. Jessica with Ms. Sarah and Ms. Marieliam assisting. |
| Week 3 Theatre Week | July 13-17 led by Ms. Samantha, with Ms. Marianne and Ms. Jessica assisting. |
| Week 4 Sports Week | July 20-24 led by Ms. Samantha with Ms. Marianne and Ms. Jessica assisting. |

More details about the themes, program option costs, and the registration form are included with this newsletter.

Sunrise Scholastic Books & Amazon Wishlist Donations

Thank you to Charlie Brennick's and Colin Cugini's families for purchasing the following wishlist items for our school:

- Dramatic Play Dress Up Clothing
- Do-A-Dot Markers
- 2 Cases of Paper Towels
- 2 Packs of Cleaning Wipes
- Wooden Animal Tracks Stamp Set
- Alphabet Playdough Stamps
- Forest School Adventure: Outdoor Skills and Play for Children book
- Count and slide farmyard friends book
- Sponges for Practical Life and Art activities

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.

Congratulations to the Ellis family
on the birth of their baby girl
in February.



Upcoming American Montessori Society Conference in Washington, D.C.

Sunrise's Head of School and Head Teachers from Classrooms A & B will attend the Montessori Event 2026 through the American Montessori Society (AMS) held **March 20-22, 2026** in Washington D.C. Thanks to the generous fundraising by our Sunrise Community, expenses for the conference admission, hotel stay and transportation will be covered. The Annual AMS Conference draws well over 3000 Montessori professionals from around the country and internationally. We can't wait to share with you what we experience! We thank you for your support!

Community Connection

If you aren't already part of the Sunrise Parent Facebook page, please visit the link to join. This is a great way to connect only with the Classroom A and B parent community. Please help share your childcare resources, as this has been a recent request on the page. We want to stay connected and help support our families! Thank you, parents. [Sunrise Parent Community 2025-2026](#)

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

Samantha Renaud, Montessori Head Teacher Classroom-A@MySunriseMontessori.com

Emily Hill, Montessori Head Teacher Classroom-B@MySunriseMontessori.com

Sunrise Parent Representatives:

Erica Cucino, Stephanie Rogers & Manisha Thanneeru ParentRep@MySunriseMontessori.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 6: Sunrise 20th Anniversary Gala Event at Lake Pearl in Wrentham. Get your tickets online.

Extended Day ends early at 4pm that day.

March 13: [Scholastic Book orders](#) deadline.

March 20: Professional Development Day. This is an in-house work day for all staff. No classes and no Extended Day.

Pizza Fridays: March 6, 13 & 27

Sensation Station: Classroom A attends on Thursdays; Classroom B attends on Wednesdays

Sunrise Montessori School Summer Programs – 2026

Sunrise Summer Programs provide a great introduction for children who are newly enrolled for the upcoming year, as well as for those children who have recently completed the academic year. Our summer program weeks are full of age-appropriate activities and exciting themes. Each week provides the opportunity for children to meet their classmates and teachers and relax on the summer schedule while having fun! Summer weeks will include either a special enrichment presentation at school or a visit to the Sensation Station in the Hayward St. complex.

June 22 - June 26

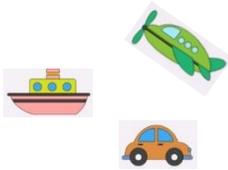
Dinosaur Week



Let's travel back in time and explore how the dinosaurs lived. How many types of dinosaurs were there? How long did they live? What did they eat? We will learn plenty about dinosaurs through fun activities like digging up "fossils", reading books, singing songs, and completing fun dino crafts! If your child loves dinosaurs, this is truly the week to explore!

July 6 - July 10

Transportation Week



Cars, trucks, trains, planes and boats. So many ways to get around! This week we will focus on how people travel, discover how food and products are shipped around the world and much more. With themed activities, crafts, songs and books we will be on our way to become well-seasoned "travelers".

July 13 - 17

Theatre Week



This week our focus will include several classic fairy tales. One favorite story is *The Three Little Pigs*. We'll read the story, create pig and wolf masks for an art project and enact our own version of the story in the classroom. A dramatic play area will be set up both inside and outdoors to encourage the children to use their imagination and creativity to stage their shows. The dramatic play area will include puppets, props, dress-up clothing and more!

July 20 - 24

Sports Week



During Sports Week, the children will learn basic sports skills and techniques, with a primary focus on soccer and T-ball. We will learn about different uniforms and safety gear worn for these activities and how these keep players safe. Each day at recess we will practice basic skills that help the children develop teamwork, communication and confidence.



Registration Form for Summer Programs 2026

Child's name: _____

Address: _____

Parent/guardian name (s): _____

Preferred email (s): _____

Contact phone # (s): _____

Session selection is flexible. Sign up for one week or several. Please indicate your choice(s) below with an "x"

| | Morning session 8:30am to 11:30am <i>(\$275 per week)</i> | Full Day session 8:30am to 2:30pm <i>(\$400 per week)</i> | Full Extended Day session 8:30am to 4:30pm <i>(\$550 per week)</i> |
|--|--|--|---|
| Week 1 June 22 – June 26 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| no session the week of June 29 – July 3 | | | |
| Week 2 July 6 – July 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Week 3 July 13 – July 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Week 4 July 20 – July 24 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- See the accompanying page for weekly themes.
- The Summer Program is open to **current** students, **newly accepted** students who are at least 3 years old by June 1, 2026, and students **who were enrolled during the 2025-2026 school year**.
No outside applicants are eligible.
- A deposit of **\$100 per week selected** must accompany this registration form.
- Each summer program week is limited to **20 participants** and will be filled on a **first come / first served basis**.
- Upon registration, additional paperwork and confirmation of the selected week(s) will be sent to you.
- Final payment on the remaining balance is due no later than **Friday, May 29, 2026**.
- Invoices will be sent approximately 2 weeks before the due date (mid-May).
Please call the office at 508.541.8010 to inquire about late registrations.

Please drop off completed form & deposit at school no later than **May 8, 2026**.

Payments may also be mailed to: Sunrise Montessori School, Inc.
PO Box 515
Franklin, MA 02038



Classroom A Newsletter February 2026

Dear Classroom A families,

The month of February in our classroom was filled with many celebrations and learning about how we can spread kindness and love! Our classroom also celebrated Valentine's Day together and had a wonderful Valentine exchange! We read books about friendship and kindness in celebration of Valentine's Day. The children listened to the song "H-E-A-R-T" (2014 version) by The Kilboomers.



Cultural Studies

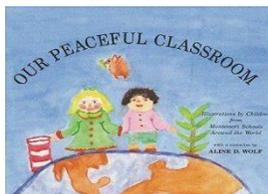
We celebrated Groundhog Day on February 2, 2026. Phil the groundhog saw his shadow this year, which means six more weeks of winter. Karen Roeber, Sunrise's former Head of School, came in and talked about Groundhog Day, and brought a fun activity for the children to make shadows on paper with a flashlight.

We celebrated the Lunar New Year. The Lunar New Year celebrates the beginning of the New Year on the Lunisolar Chinese calendar. This festival marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring. This begins on the new moon that appears from February 17th to March 3rd. This year, the Lunar New Year begins on February 17th and celebrates the year of the horse. The horse symbolizes Vitality, independence, and movement. In February the children enjoyed making Chinese New Year Lanterns for the arts and crafts.

The first day of Ramadan also begins on the evening of February 17th and concludes on March 19th at sundown. We are beginning to talk about Ramadan in the classroom which is a Muslim holiday of fasting, reflection, and community.



February 23th-27th marks Montessori Education Week. The children learned many fascinating facts about Maria Montessori and her life's work. In class, we talked about Maria Montessori.



She was born on August 30, 1870. Maria Montessori created the first Montessori school in 1907, called "Casa dei bambini" in Rome.

We read a book titled *Our Peaceful Classroom* by Aline D. Wolf and noted how the book's ideas align with the materials in our classroom.

Science



The children are exploring the concepts of hibernation and migration. They heard how some animals hibernate to survive cold winters and how other animals migrate south for warmer weather.

In addition, we have begun studying vertebrates and invertebrates. The children are learning to distinguish between animals with backbones and those without. They particularly enjoyed the cut-and-paste activities associated with this topic.

Outdoor Fun

This month, Ms. Karen brought sleds to school for the children to enjoy sledding down the hill. We have been having a wonderful time making the most of the winter weather together.



Kindergarten Corner



This month in Kindergarten, the children are learning to add teen numbers. To assist with this, they will use ten beads and unit beads to help them visualize and add the numbers.

If you or someone special in your child's life would like to sign up to be a guest visitor, please sign up via the following link:

[Guest Visitor Sign Up Classroom A](#)

Throughout the school year, our classroom honors birthdays. Please schedule your child's birthday celebration now via the following link: [Birthday Walk Sign Up Classroom A](#)

Flower arranging is an excellent way for the children to make the environment their own as it is a part of the **Everyday Living** curriculum. We invite you to sign up for a week during which your child may bring in a bouquet of your choice! Please sign up here:

[Flower Sign-up 2025-2026](#)

Sincerely, your teachers,

Ms. Samantha, Ms. Marieliam, Ms. Karen and Ms. Sarah



Classroom B Newsletter February 2026

Dear classroom B families,

I hope everyone enjoyed their February vacation and got some time to relax! We have had an exciting month with all the snow. This month we celebrated many fun holidays such as Groundhog Day, Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, and Ramadan!

Fun In the Snow

The children have been loving the snow on the playground! Recently, Ms. Karen (in classroom A) brought in two sleds to use on the hill. The children had a lot of fun taking turns sledding! Thank you, Ms. Karen!



Please remember to send snow gear each day, as we love to play outside whenever possible! (It may be easier for your child to get themselves ready if you send snow gear in a separate reusable bag as we get ready on the circle time rug.)

Valentine's Day



We celebrated Valentine's Day as a class on February 12th. The children made such beautiful Valentine's boxes and cards to pass out to their classmates. Each child took a turn walking around the circle to pass out their Valentine's Day cards to their friends! Everyone did such a great job being patient while waiting for their turn. We learned Valentine's Day is all about friendship and showing love for those we care about!

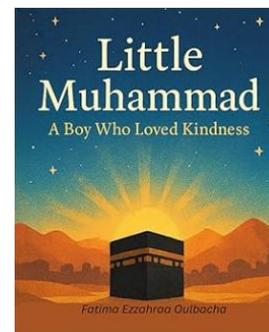


Lunar New Year

The Lunar New Year began on February 17th. Elaine's mom, Ziyuan Zhao, joined our class to celebrate the festival. She read a book to the class about each New Year's animal. On New Year's Day, many families give each other red envelopes containing a small gift. Ziyuan gave each child a traditional red envelope containing a gift. The children also decorated their envelopes! Thank you, Ziyuan!

Ramadan

Ramadan begins on the ninth month of the Muslim Calendar. During this month, many families fast from sunup until dusk. Jad's mom, Fatima Oulbacha, joined the class to read two books. The book, [Little Muhammad](#) was written by Jad's mom, Fatima! Click on the title link above to learn more.



The children learned that during Ramadan people remember to be thankful, help others and show love. Fatima and Jad also shared a fun song and gave each child a gift to celebrate Ramadan!



Science



This month, we learned about Groundhog Day. Karen Roeber, Sunrise's former Head of School, brought in a special project for the children to practice making shadows just like the groundhog does! The children held a flashlight behind a paper groundhog in order to cast a shadow. We learned this year that the groundhog predicted six more weeks of winter!

Kindergarten Corner

During kindergarten we have been learning about feelings and how sometimes we may feel happy while other times we feel sad. The children have been practicing thinking of different actions and how those actions make them feel. We used these scenarios to make a feelings book.



Classroom Sign-up links:

If you would like to visit the classroom to read a story, teach the children about a special holiday or family tradition, or plan an activity for the class (or anything else), please sign up to be a guest visitor. We love it when the children's family members visit our class!

Thank you, Karen Roeber, Elaine's mom, Ziyuan Zhao, Rowan's mom, Megan McCarthy, and Jad's mom, Fatima Oulbacha for being guest visitors this month!

[Guest visitor sign-up: classroom B](#)

As a part of our Everyday Living curriculum, the children often enjoy flower arranging. If you would like to sign-up to bring in a bouquet, please click on the link below.



Thank you, Jad, for providing flowers this month!

[Flower Bouquet sign up: Classroom B](#)



Birthdays!

If you would like to celebrate your child's special day, please click on the link and sign up for a birthday walk. As a reminder, we love to share pictures and a special story for your child's birthday walk (treats and student gifts are appropriate for home celebrations). [Classroom B birthday walk sign-up](#)

Thank you for reading our newsletter!

Ms. Emily, Ms. Marianne, Ms. Jessica, and Ms. Judy



February 2026 Extended Day Newsletter

February was a short but busy month for the Extended Day program. We enjoyed playing in the snow in the afternoons. We had several arts-and-crafts themes, including space, Valentine's Day, and dinosaurs. A highlight was a group project called "What Makes Us Feel Peaceful." In honor of Montessori Week, we read "The Peace Book" by Todd Parr and discussed different ways that we feel peaceful. We then colored peace doves and wrote down what we talked about.

In **Science**, we completed a Valentine's Day-themed experiment called zooming hearts. In a shallow dish, we poured just enough water to cover the surface and placed a heart cutout from construction paper in the water to show that it floats and remains still. Then, we dipped a second heart into dish soap, placed it into the water, and watched it move or "zoom" across the water. This experiment taught us about surface tension. Surface tension is an invisible layer on top of water caused by water molecules sticking together tightly. When the dish soap touches the water, it breaks up the surface tension, causing the heart to "zoom" across. The children enjoyed this experiment a lot!

Our Extended Day program continues to grow in enrollment. Please inform the office in advance if you plan to add your child to the program. Remember that the extended day begins after the full day pickup ends (2:30-2:40 pm). If you have any questions, please ask Andrea.

On Friday, March 6, 2026 the Extended Day program closes at 4pm so that our staff may prepare for the Gala at Lake Pearl. Thank you.

Ms. Jessica and Ms. Amanda



Sledding
fun!



The morning and afternoon Extended Day Programs offer a safe, fun and welcoming environment where children are offered age-appropriate activities which promote learning opportunities and social interaction with staff and classmates. This program is held in the front classroom of the school and on the playground.