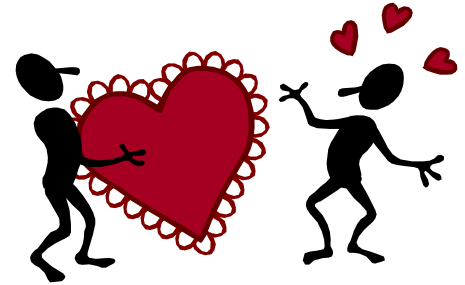




**Sunrise
Montessori**
Parent Newsletter
February 2012 Edition



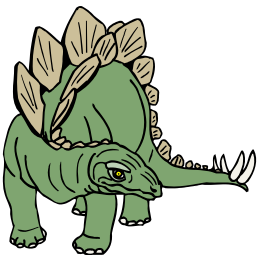
February 14th

Popularly known as Valentine's Day, this Day of Love is also a day of fun at Sunrise! We will be having a Valentine exchange in each classroom for those wishing to participate. Some quick ground rules: 1) Please leave the "To:" section blank to make it easy on your child to pass them out. 2) No candy or food of any kind is allowed to be attached due to food allergies, for one. If you wish to tape something to each Valentine (like a sticker), that's fine but not required or expected. 3) Classroom numbers: 24 BF children, 21 FF children, 36 DF children (for the M-F Half Dayers) or 24 DF children (for the MWF/T-TH Half Dayers), and 16 Doodlebugs.



NEW to Sunrise!

Join us for our brand new fun and educational summer program for the 8 weeks of summer in June and July! Some weekly themes will include **a dinosaur dig** with a REAL dig outside and assistance from a REAL Archeologist, a classroom **campout**, "traveling" across the State of Texas, **cooking projects** with real food that they get to eat and share and MUCH more! Each week will be a different theme! There is no extra cost for these programs and all children in attendance will automatically get to join in the fun.



Non-Smoking and Non-Tobacco Policy

As is stated in our Parent Handbook along with Texas State Policy, it is illegal to smoke or use tobacco inside school buildings or on school property. Our property begins at the beginning of our driveway. Can you please let all people in your family know of this policy? Thank you!

Cultural Happenings in Each Classroom

Dragonfly: The Dragonflies have been talking about Central America. Ms. Jessica shared some tasty treats with the children from this culturally rich area just south of our country!

Firefly: Ms. Karima and the Fireflies have been discussing South America and tasted an authentic South American meal of jasmine rice and peas. They also shared fruits that are indigenous to the continent, such as pineapples and coconut!

Butterfly: Ms. Kelly and her students have been exploring Asia. They have been having a blast trying on traditional clothing and ate their lunch recently on the floor on a mat!



A hearty thank you goes out to Nayeli's dad for sharing South American drum beats with the children as well as Joy Lui's mom for sharing her knowledge of the celebration of Chinese New Year!

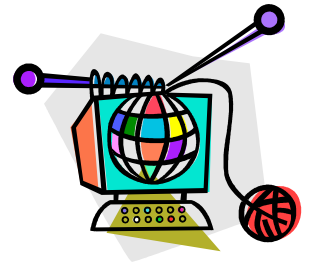


Labeling jackets

Christmas was big on new jackets as we have many jackets on our hooks here at Sunrise with no name. Can you please take a moment to put your child's first name on the label in the jacket the next time you pick up or drop off? We are planning on donating any "unclaimed" jackets in two weeks to Goodwill. Thank you!

NEW Pages on the Sunrise Website

We are proud to announce TWO brand new pages on our website! The first is "Our Staff." Lead Teachers and Administration are listed along with their picture and bio to help our families get to know us more easily. The second page is called "Shannon's Blog." About once a week, you'll see a new, short submission from the owner of Sunrise on a topic that you may deal with as a parent. There is a section for comments on the blog (we'd love to hear what you think and what you've experienced as well!).



Tuition for February is due

Tuition is due on the 1st of each month, which means tuition for February is due today. Thank you so much for paying your child's tuition on time!



Referrals

If you refer a family to Sunrise Montessori, you earn a \$100 referral credit the month after their enrollment begins! We have many families here that found out about us through word of mouth - the ultimate compliment! Thank you for telling your friends and family about Sunrise.

Highlighting Sunrise Staff Member...Ms. Patricia, our Butterfly Asst. Teacher

Traveling overseas with her mother has brought Ms. Patricia a wealth of life experience! Living in Belgium and other parts of Europe enabled her to travel often and encounter the cultures and history of other countries, but she calls Austin home now with a fondness for its people and rivers. She enjoys playing trivia games and volleyball but loves hanging out with her cats the most in her spare time. According to Ms. Patricia, she was active and productive as a child and by our observations, she's still going strong! We are thrilled to have her part of our small culture here at Sunrise and look forward to, as she does, to the next positive adventure that's around the corner.

Her favorite color is pink.

Her favorite restaurants and stores are Ka Prow and World Market.

She loves baklava and iced tea.





Fun in December! Jingles the Elf came for a visit and we laughed and sang and danced...





Art Lesson in the BF room above: Creating a masterpiece from still life

Central American Lesson in the DF room to the top right

South American Lesson in the FF room below: Tasting indigenous fruit, such as the coconut in Ms. Karima's hands

