



Merryhill School®
A Nobel Learning Community

December News

Where did the year go? Merryhill School of Lone Tree has an exciting month ahead so don't forget to look at the upcoming events on the second and third pages!

Community Service Project Coming

We will be partnering with Bags of Fun for our 2017 philanthropic partnership. Bags of Fun is a local organization who's mission is to deliver a Bag of Fun to every sick child who's health and happiness is both compromised or threatened. We will be planning activities throughout the year to help support bags to local children. Be on the lookout for more details on how you can help contribute!

Merryhill Opening in Aurora, CO

Just a reminder that you can still benefit from our referral program even if you refer families to other Nobel Learning Community locations. If you know anyone looking for care in the Aurora area let us know and we can help direct them to where to inquire about our brand new school opening! You can earn a FREE WEEK for each child that enrolls! Our new school opens this month!

Teachers of the Month

Congratulations to our December Teachers of the Month Ms. Taylor and Ms. Sarah from the Toddler B classroom. As a pair, they both have shown great dedication not only to their classroom, but to our school. We want to honor their contribution by awarding them both as Teacher of the Month.

Welcome!

We want to welcome Ms. Alicia as our new Intermediate Teacher. She comes to us with great experience including working with our Intermediate age group in the past. We are thrilled to add her to our Merryhill Family!

Happy Anniversary!

Ms. Patricia is celebrating 1 year of service at Merryhill School on December 16th.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Charlotte K.— 12/01
- Max M.— 12/09
- Jackson M.— 12/12
- Kamden A.— 12/16
- Hunter C.— 12/18
- Kieran B.— 12/24
- Ms. Lyseth— 12/24
- Carson G.— 12/27
- Ms. Ashley — 12/27
- Ms. Patricia — 12/29



WELCOME

NEW

STUDENTS

- Blake M.
- Amaryllis B.
- Malakai C.

December Upcoming Events

December 6th— Soccer Shots Free Demo— Try out soccer!

December 7th & 14th— Afternoons with Ashley

December 9th— National Pastry Day—Parent Pastries to-go

December 9th— Flannel Friday—Wear your flannel today

December 12th - 16th— Holiday Spirit Week

Mon. 12th— Santa Hat Day

Tues. 13th— Character Day

Weds. 4th— Silly Sock Day

Thurs. 15th— Holiday Attire—Wear your Christmas,
Hanukkah, or Kwanza attire today

Fri. 16th— Ugly Sweater Day

Events Continued

December 16th— First Annual Ornament Decorating Party & Craft Fair— 3:30 p.m.

Come in and decorate an ornament with your child and shop for local handmade goodies. Be on the lookout for more information!

December 16th - 30th — Winter Camp for Schoolage - for children Kindergarten through 12 years of age. Come in and enjoy fun, hands-on learning activities and explore a variety of local field trips (weather permitting). Please see the office to reserve your space. Space is limited.

December 20th— Caroling Day

December 23rd— Holiday Pajama Day

December 26th—CLOSED— In observance of Christmas

January 2nd – CLOSED — In observance of the New Year



Helping Children Develop the Spirit of Giving

November, 2016 | Topics: [Citizens of the World](#), [Social Emotional](#)

The holidays are a busy time for all of us, filled with family traditions, get-togethers, shopping and traveling. With the hustle and bustle of it all, it's important to pause and reflect on our many blessings and invite our children to do so as well. It's a great time to instill a spirit of charity and kindness, and teach the true meaning of the holiday season. It's amazing how much joy simple acts of kindness can bring!



Below are some ways you and your family can spread holiday cheer to others in need.

Make cards and deliver them to your local police or fire station.

Bring flowers to a neighbor who might need some cheering up.

Collect canned goods and deliver them to a nearby food bank.

Bake cookies for residents at a local senior living center.

Draw or paint a picture for a friend.

Take your child shopping and encourage him to pick out toys or clothes for a local family in need.

Host a hot chocolate stand and donate the proceeds to a charity of your child's choosing.

Ask a local animal shelter what they need this winter (i.e., blankets, food, etc.). Then, shop for those items with your child and deliver them to the organization.

Collect clothing or personal care items, and deliver them to a local homeless shelter.

In the classroom, we build the foundation of kindness, generosity and compassion starting with our toddler and Beginner students. Children learn about sharing and respecting each other's feelings by reading books such as, "I Can Share" by Karen Katz and "Spot Helps Out" by Eric Hill. They practice these skills by being kind with one another, sharing their toys and saying "please" and "thank you."

Teachers involve our older preschoolers in the giving process from start to finish. In order to gauge their interests, teachers ask open-ended questions such as, "Who do you think might need help during the holidays?" and "How can you help that person?" Children suggest a cause such as helping animals in a local shelter or donating toys for needy children. Teachers encourage the students to collect donations, sort and pack them into boxes, and then deliver them to the organization in need.

By providing these opportunities, children are able to develop appreciation for what they have, show gratitude towards others, and see the positive impact of their actions even at a young age. They'll feel good about giving back to others and want to continue spreading joy time and time again.

– Lauren Starnes, PhD, Director of Early Childhood Education

