November News



November is here! We have a busy month **School**[®] A Nobel Learning Community</sup> events on the second page!

Teacher of the Month

Congratulations to Ms. Luz in the Beginner Classroom for earning this months Teacher of the Month for all of her hard work on the Links to Learning curriculum and her dedication to her students!

Community Service Project

We are working on finalizing the details of our school's next community service project. Be on the lookout for how you can help contribute!

New School Opening in Aurora, CO

It is official, and it is exciting! We will be opening the Merryhill School of Aurora in January! Don't forget, our referral program qualifies for any referral to any of our locations! Get up to a free week tuition credit for each child that you refer.

Welcome!

Please take the time to welcome our three new teachers.

<u>**Mr. Zach</u>** will be assisting us around the school. He comes to us with two years experience in early childhood education and physical education.</u>

Ms. Devon comes to us with two years experience in early childhood education and will be working in the Intermediate age group.

Ms. Mandy transfers to us from our sister school. She will be working in the kitchen as our cook and our bus driver.

Happy Anniversary!

*<u>Ms. Vee</u> is celebrating 27 year of service at Merryhill School on November 16th.

November Birthdays

Ms. Jessie. — 11/04

- Ms. Heather 11/17
 - Jacob R. 11/15
- Madelyn T. 11/07

Landon C.— 11/27

Ole S. - 11/25

- Aaron G. 11/05
- Violet M. 11/14
 - Talon F.— 11/26

Ben R. — 11/05



Welcome New **Students**

Mable M.

November Upcoming Events

November 3rd— National Sandwich Day—Sandwiches for lunch

November 3rd— Open House 4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.—Refer a

friend to enroll and earn a FREE WEEK TUITION!

November 9th — Afternoons with Ashley-

Have unanswered questions or just want to chat? Come in for an Afternoon with Ashley. Sign up list is on the office door!

November 9th — Butter Braid Fundraiser Orders Due

November 11th — CLOSED for Professional

Development Day- We will be closed on Friday, November

11th for our Professional Development Day. During this t ime we provide additional training for our teachers to keep them up to date and in line with state licensing requirements.



November 15th— America Recycles Day—The

children will be learning about the importance of recycling. Our classrooms will be collecting a variety of recyclables which they

will recycle in a variety of creative ways. Be on the lookout for your classroom's details.

November 18th— Thanksgiving Feast—11:00 a.m.—

Come in and enjoy a Thanksgiving Luncheon with your child. Be on the lookout for an invitation with more specifics.



Events Continued

November 21st - 23rd - Spirit Week

21st— Plaid Day - Wear Plaid!

22nd— Hat Day - Wear your favorite hat!

23rd — Pajama Day - Wear your P.J.s!

November 23rd— School Wide ALL DAY Pajama Party!!!

November 24th & 25th — CLOSED in observance of

Thanksgiving

Learning Through the Joy of Cooking

November, 2016 | Topics: Language & Literacy, Mathematics, Social Emotional, Wellness

With cooler weather and Thanksgiving right around the corner, many of us will be spending more time in the kitchen. Use this time to invite your child to join you in the meal-making experience.

As he is exposed to new foods and food preparation, he will begin to feel more comfortable in the kitchen, while building healthy eating habits. Along with habits of self-help and good nutrition, children learn so much more from cooking, including important academic, social and physical skills.

Our teachers integrate cooking activities into many aspects of our Links to Learning curriculum. After reading "Stone Soup," for example, teachers ask students to bring in different vegetables to make their own Stone Soup in the classroom. Other hands-on activities include taste testing different vegetables, blending fruits to make healthy smoothies, measuring ingredients, and practicing pouring liquids into containers.



Below are some fun cooking activities you can do with your child to connect learning at school to learning at home.

Math:

Cooking is a fun way for children to learn and practice basic math skills, such as counting, measuring and using sequence words. While making breakfast, ask your child to count eggs as you crack them or count pancakes on a plate. Older preschoolers can help pour the pancake batter into a measuring cup. Afterward, ask him to recall the steps you took to make the meal. Listen for words like "first," "second," and "next."

Literacy:

When children assist in the kitchen, they practice listening skills and learn new vocabulary words such as "mix," "blend," and "roll." Read a recipe aloud with your child, pointing to the words as you read. Then, ask him to help you complete each step. Say, "First, we have to mix together the sugar and butter. Can you help me mix?" or "Now, we have to roll the cookie dough into balls. Can you help me roll the dough?"

Multi-Sensory:

We all know the familiar battle of trying to get our children to eat a variety of fruits and vegetables, and branch out beyond favorites like macaroni and cheese and chicken nuggets. One way to solve this problem is by making healthy snacks with your child, for example, a vegetable boat with dip. Together, scoop out the inside of a pepper and fill it with hummus or yogurt dip. Serve with baby carrots, celery and broccoli. He'll be exposed to new sights, smells and textures as he helps retrieve, wash and dip the ingredients. In many instances, he'll want to taste the food he helped prepare!

Physical:

Cooking helps develop important fine motor skills, including hand strength and coordination. Give your child plastic cooking utensils, such as spoons and spatulas, along with a large bowl filled with bite-sized pieces of fruit. Ask him to help make a fruit salad by using the utensils to mix the fruit together. Choose utensils with different sized handles, so he learns how to grasp and hold objects in various ways.

Social-Emotional:

When children follow recipes, they build confidence, a sense of pride, independence, and problem solving skills. Depending on your child's age, ask him to help bake cookies by following one-, two-, or multi-step directions. Afterward, name the dish after your child and announce it to your family before serving. For example, say, "Tonight for dessert, we're having Andrew's Scrumptious Sugar Cookies!"

By introducing children to the joy of cooking in the preschool years, they are likely to grow, flourish and learn important skills that will help them succeed in kindergarten and beyond.

- Lauren Starnes, PhD, Director of Early Childhood Education