



**Merryhill
School®**
A Nobel Learning Community

January News

Happy New Year! Merryhill School of Lone Tree is looking forward to what the year 2017 has to bring!

Soccer Shots Season Starting

Due to high interest after the demo last month we are excited to have partnered with Soccer Shots of Denver to offer an extracurricular soccer program! Our first Soccer Shots session begins on Monday, January 9th. It's not too late to join! If you are interested visit the Denver Soccer Shots website at den.ssreg.org to register!

Merryhill Opening in Aurora, CO

The new Merryhill School of Aurora is now open! 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! You can earn a FREE WEEK for each child that enrolls!

Parent Surveys

Last month you received an email with a letter from our corporate office about the upcoming annual parent surveys. As we feel we have been slowly making many adjustments and improvements, we would love to have all of your feedback. Once you receive the survey please take a few minutes to complete it. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Hot Chocolate Social

Come in and keep warm while you mingle with families and enjoy some hot chocolate with your child. Be on the lookout for your invitation for more details.

Teacher of the Month Congratulations to our January Teacher of the Month Ms. Jodi in the PreK 2 classroom! Please join us in recognizing her dedication to Merryhill School and extra effort she makes to ensure her classroom is top-notch!

Happy Anniversary!

*Ms. Heather Love is celebrating 1 year of service at Merryhill School on January 22nd.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Akira B.— 1/04

Teagan T.— 1/14

Danilyn B.— 1/27



WELCOME NEW STUDENTS

Lindsey M.

Lillian U.

January Upcoming Events

January 4th— Merryhill School of Aurora's Ribbon Cutting
— 4:00 p.m.

January 9th— Soccer Shots Season Begins

January 11th & 26th— Afternoons with Ashley

January 13th— Flannel Friday the 13th - Wear plaid today

January 19th— National Popcorn Day— Make popcorn arts
& crafts.

January 20th— Hot Chocolate Social — 4:00-5:00 p.m.

January 21st— Open House — 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

January 31st— National Backwards Day



Taming Tattling

January, 2017 | Topics: Social Emotional

“Sophia took my doll!” “She’s being loud!” “She knocked over my block tower!”

Does this sound familiar? Tattling is a normal and common behavior in young children, and is a sign that they haven’t yet developed the emotional and social skills needed to problem solve.

They are starting to develop a sense of right and wrong, as they learn about rules. Children may take rules quite literally, quickly becoming “kid police” and alerting authorities.



Tattling can start a vicious cycle where each child blames the other, or it can be a teachable opportunity for conflict resolution. Below are some ways you can work with your child to develop that understanding.

1. **Determine motivation.** Ask your child, “How is that a problem for you?” “How can we solve your problem?” or “Have you talked to your sister about that?” These questions don’t assign blame, but instead encourage him to think of a solution. You might not implement his solution, but his response can give you insight about why he tattled. For instance, he might say, “I think she should be punished,” which tells you he wanted to get someone in trouble.
2. **Point out tattling and its effect.** “I hear that you’re tattling on your friend. How do you think she feels about that? Is there something you could have done besides telling me?” Then, say, “What are some ways you can both feel better and be good friends?”
3. **Teach the difference between tattling and getting help.** Distinguish between tattling and getting help by giving concrete examples. “If you tell me that your sister stole your toy, you are tattling on her. However, you need to tell me if you she is hurt or in danger, for example, if she’s standing on the table and could fall.” When he comes to you for help, praise him by saying, “Thank you for trying to keep your sister safe.”
4. **Read books with your child to reinforce problem solving skills.** With your child, read “A Bad Case of Tattle Tongue” by Julia Cook. The book is about a boy whose tongue turns yellow with purple spots when he tattles. He meets the Tattle Prince and learns important problem solving skills. After reading the book, ask your child to brainstorm different ways he could resolve conflicts without tattling.

In the classroom, teachers use songs, puppets, games, books and brain-builder activities to help nurture important social and emotional skills such as listening, understanding feelings, labeling emotions and resolving conflicts. Over time, children become empowered and confident to solve their problems on their own without tattling. They learn better ways to help themselves and others, and make and maintain friendships.

– Lauren Starnes, PhD – Director of Early Childhood Education