Language Arts
In the month of December we will be focusing on pattern books in both our reading and our writing. In reading, we will explore how authors use a varieties of structures and patterns to help the reader. Examples of pattern books include the following:

- Alternating (e.g., Brown Bear Brown Bear by Bill Martin Jr.)
- Surprise ending (e.g., Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by Eric Litwin)
- Sequencing (e.g., Cookie’s Week by Cindy Ward)
- Cumulative or growing pattern (e.g., Hattie and the Fox by Mem Fox)
- Cyclical or circle story (e.g., If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff)
- Repeating (e.g., The Little Red Hen by Paul Galdone)

As we immerse ourselves in reading patterns books, we will begin creating our own pattern stories. Writing skills we are developing include saying words slowly to record the sounds we hear, using what we know to sound out unknown words, using spacing between words, using ending punctuation, and capitalizing the first word in a sentence.

Math:
In math we are continuing to build our number sense. We will explore ways to compose and decompose numbers to 6. We will begin solving one-step story problems using concrete objects, such as, “If I have two crayons and you have four crayons, how many crayons do we have in all?” and “What is another way to make 6?”

Social Studies:
We will continue to build our working knowledge of maps and globes, as we discuss favorite family holiday traditions that originate from all over the world.

Science:
We have a fun inquiry-based unit about the Gingerbread Man. In this unit we will explore characteristics of living and non-living things, grouping objects by speed, and observing change.

Important December Dates
5 Cultural Arts Assembly
11 Strings Concert
13 Band Concert
15 Spirit Day—Super Hero Day
18—Jan 1 Winter Break