* uses
* 12/18 – Early Release (1:15)

**Literacy:** Our Guided Reading groups are up and running and going pretty well! Students will continue to work on developing independence during Literacy centers. This week we will be reviewing the literacy skills we have been learning about so far this quarter (asking and answering questions when reading, using the five finger rules for fiction and non - fiction text, and comparing and contrasting facts in non – fiction text) by using Gingerbread themed materials. We will be finishing up mClass testing the students to find out where the students are in reading. At this point in the year students should be on a C reading level and a D reading level by the end of the year. I will be sending the students reading levels home with them with their report cards.

**Phonics:** We are continuing the next section of our Letter Land phonics program. We are focusing on a letter a day and doing different activities to help the students remember the letter and the sound it makes. We will also practice identifying the difference between letters and words. The children will participate in a sorting activity using letters, words, and sentences.

**Sight Words:** I, at, is, to like, me, the, it, am, and, went, a, come, in, here, go, see, my, you, look, up, said, we, on, can, play, an, got, for, with, one, his, she, have, no. **New Words: no new words this week. Keep practicing the words we have. Your child needs to be able to write and read these words “in a snap”! The students feel so proud when they accomplish these words!**

**Writing:** We are working on making the students more confident in their writing and to enjoy writing. We are working on sentence starters and making sentences before going into small moments. We will work on adding details in our sentences as we are writing. I have a few fun writing activities planned this week to go along with the approaching holidays. We will continue to work hard on “Being a Smartie Speller” while we write. Our Kindergartners are really working hard on applying their letter/sound knowledge to the writing of words and sentences.

**Math:** In Math class we will be practicing counting by ones and tens using a hundreds chart. During centers this week, students will be working on positional words (in front of, behind, beside, under, above, in-between, inside, next to, etc.). As we continue working in small groups during centers, students will practice staying on task, using a quiet voice, and working cooperatively with others.

**Social Studies :** This week we will be continuing our Social Studies Unit on Needs and Wants. We will be discussing what needs and wants are and how to determine the difference. We will be reading books, watching informational videos, and completing class activities to help learn this concept.

* 12/17 – Building Gingerbread Houses
* 12/18 – Early Release (1:15) / Report Cards go home
* 12/21 – 1/1 – Winter Break
* 12/21 – Divya’s Birthday!
* 1/4 – End of Winter Break

# Important Dates

* Please remember to check the GREEN ALLIGATOR folder daily and return it to school. Remove anything in the “Keep at Home” side and check the “Return to School” side for important notes/info.
* Homework is sent home at the beginning of the month. It is optional to do. It reviews all the concepts that we are working on in class. Keep the packet at home until it is completed and send it back to school at the end of the month.
* We will be out on Winter Break from December 21, 2015 – January 2, 2016. Have a great Holiday!!
* Report Cards will be sent home this coming Friday, December 18, 2015.
* This coming Friday, December 18 is an all school Pajama Day! Students are encouraged to wear their pajamas to school this day! We will have our Polar Express Day this day :)
* **This week on Thursday, December 17, I have planned to build gingerbread houses with the students but we are still in need of supplies to do so. If you could donate any of the following supplies or help with this activity it would be greatly appreciated! The link to the signup genus for the supplies we still need is below!** [**www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C044FACA92CA2FA7-gingerbread1**](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C044FACA92CA2FA7-gingerbread1)
* If you are interested in ordering Scholastic books visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.

# Reminders/Further Information

Monday: Media

Tuesday: Technology

Wednesday: Readers Theater

Thursday: Science

Friday: N/A

# Specials

# Curriculum News

Ms. Dodson’s Classroom Newsletter

**Have a wonderful week!**

Ms. Dodson

[**ddodson@wcpss.net**](mailto:ddodson@wcpss.net)

### Alston Ridge Elementary

Cary, NC

Week of 12/14/15 – 12/18/15

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

banner with apples and crayons