* uses
* 12/18 – Early Release (1:15)
* 12/7 – Track-In Day
* 12/7 – 12/9 – Book Fair
* 12/17 – Building Gingerbread Houses
* 12/21 – 1/1 – Winter Break
* 12/21 – Divya’s Birthday!

# 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 tracking-in this coming Monday, December 7! We will be changing classrooms, so when students return on Monday they will be going to room 210.
* In the month of December we do a Unit with the gingerbread stories. One of our activities coming up the week of December 14 is building a gingerbread house in math class. We will be building our gingerbread houses on December 17. For this activity there is a list of supplies and volunteers that are needed to do this fun activity with the class. 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 this activity is below! [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C044FACA92CA2FA7-gingerbread1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C044FACA92CA2FA7-gingerbread1)
* Congratulation Henry!  Henry was the winner of the writing contest in the Scientist Experiment Wonder category!  He will be reading his story at Barnes and Noble this Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 p.m..
* This week we will be visiting the book fair here at school. We will be previewing the book fair on Monday, December 7 and going back to buy books on Tuesday, December 8.
* If you are interested in ordering Scholastic books visit [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com), our “book club” class code is: N8ZZF.

**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. In the next two weeks we will be mClass testing the students to find out where the students are in reading.

**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.**

**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:** Every morning we work on calendar concepts during our morning meeting. In Math class we will continue practicing counting by ones and tens using a hundreds chart. During centers this week, students will be working on teen numbers. We are also learning about tens and ones and how they make up a number. 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 starting 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.

# Reminders/Further Information

Monday: Math

Tuesday: Art

Wednesday: Technology

Thursday: Music

Friday: Science

# 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 12/7/15 – 12/11/15

Kindergarten is a Hoot!

banner with apples and crayons