

# CMS Monthly News

# December 2024



December is here again! It seems like a short month due to the holidays, but it is certainly full of fun!

We will be having our traditional Pajama and Game Day on the last day of school before break.

There will also be a "Sweatshirt Day" to show off our favorite winter attire and much more.

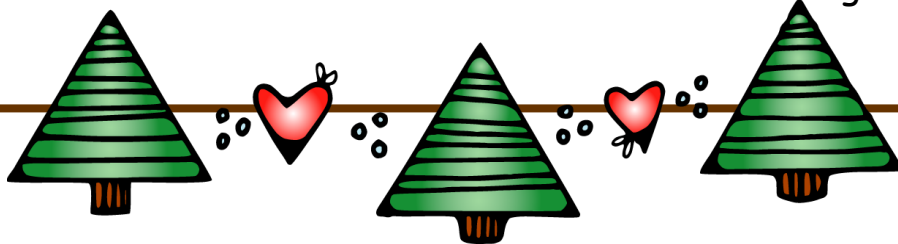
Be sure to read through the informational sections of the newsletter and as always, post your calendars someplace handy.

Please ask at the office if you have any questions.

*Happy December!*

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## Sweatshirt Day

Wednesday, December 4, 2024

Wear your favorite sweatshirt as we enjoy this fun "theme" day. The students will be having their pictures taken so be creative!

## Winter Break

Week #1 December 23rd - December 27th

Week #2 December 30th - January 3rd

## School Closed



## School Resumes Regular Schedule

Monday, January 6, 2025

## Pajama and Game Day

Friday, December 20, 2024

All classes will be having a Pajama and Game Day on the last day before Winter Break. As we approach the holidays, the energy and excitement will grow. Spending the last day in low key activities and playing with friends is a great way to start the Winter Break.



### Items To Wear/Bring

1. Pajamas
2. A Game to share

## Chap Stick

The Department of Children, Youth and Family Services views chap stick as a medication. We are only allowed to apply medications with proper documentation through the school office. Please keep chap stick at home and not in pockets or lunch boxes. Thank You!



from our home to yours  
with Love....

Don't forget that our food drive continues this month. Our heartfelt thanks to the families who have already given to those in need this holiday season.

Blessings to you all!

If your student gets a seasonal flu or any other vaccination, please let the office know so that your child's immunization form can be updated. Thanks!

# SPECIAL INFORMATION

Please check with the office and confirm your contact phone numbers. With the weather being unpredictable, it is important that we can reach you in case of an emergency. Remember that if your office, home, or cell phone number has changed, you need to let the office know as soon as possible. If you aren't sure what numbers we have, please ask!

Don't forget to clock your student in and out each day on the school computer! Remember that you must tap the button with your student's name before hitting "Finish" for a time to be logged. At the end of each day, a staff member must manually put in times for anyone who has not successfully logged their student in or out. We do our best to remember your arrival and/or departure times. The only way to guarantee that you will not be overcharged for your actual attendance is to clock in and out each day.

Also, the Department of Children, Youth and Family Services requires that an authorized person must physically sign a student in and out each day using a full signature. Please remember to do this when picking up and/or dropping off. This is in addition to using the computer.

Thank You!  
The CMS Staff

'Tis the season to get wet and dirty! As you know, most children love to roll around in the leaves outside, even after we strongly encourage them not to! Please keep a couple of changes of clothing at school for your student, especially pants and underwear, during these next wet months.

~Thanks~

## CMS Sick Policy Reminder

We know this time of year can be frustrating, but please remember the following information to help all of our students and staff stay healthy.

1. Students who are unable to participate in all regular school activities should stay home.
2. Students must be "fever, vomit and dihedra free" for 24 hours before returning to school.
3. Students showing 2 or more symptoms of illness should stay home.
4. All students must wash their hands upon arriving at school.

### A Special Thanks!

... to everyone who participated in our "Books Go Everywhere" reading challenge.  
Awesome Job!!!

... to all who brought books in for our Book Sharing Day.

... to all who participated in all of our Family Projects.

...to everyone who has made a special effort to keep themselves and all those around them safe and healthy.

...to everyone for their support!!!

Thank you!





# Disguise The Gingerbread Project

Dear CMS Families,

We will be reading the story of “The Gingerbread Man” in class this month. Your job is to DISGUISE your gingerbread shape as an animal, a storybook character, or many other creative possibilities in hopes of being saved from the fox!

You may use any items that you find around your house to create your gingerbread person’s disguise. Let your child be creative!

You can request additional gingerbread people from Mrs. Ehlers if you would like one for each family member to disguise.

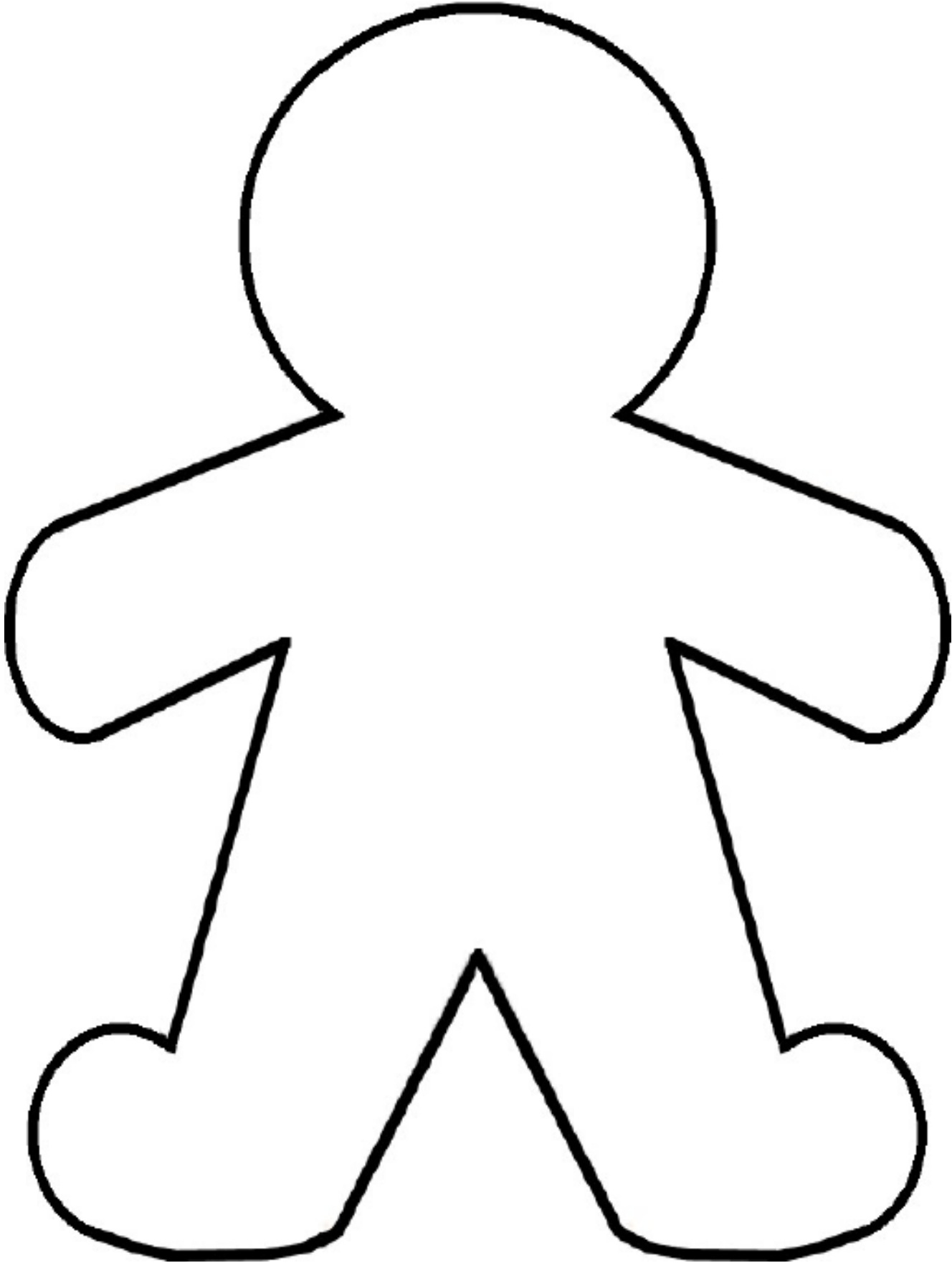
Complete your gingerbread person (people) and bring them to school for display in entry at The Montessori School the weeks of December 9th–December 20th. All of the Gingerbread People around the world thank you for your help!

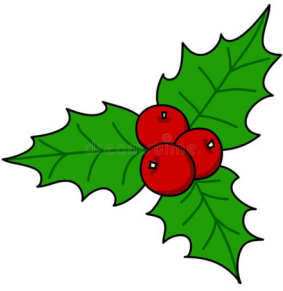
Work as a family on this project with your child.  
Most of all, enjoy and have fun!!!

**Please turn in your project on:**

**Monday, December 9, 2024**







# 2024 Gingerbread Exchange

**We are excited to be having  
a family Gingerbread Exchange!**

**In a nutshell, each family who wishes to participate will make a gingerbread person and write letters or stories about it. They will then be turned in to the school office. Once all are collected, your family will receive a gingerbread person from another family to read about and enjoy.**

## **Here's how it will work:**

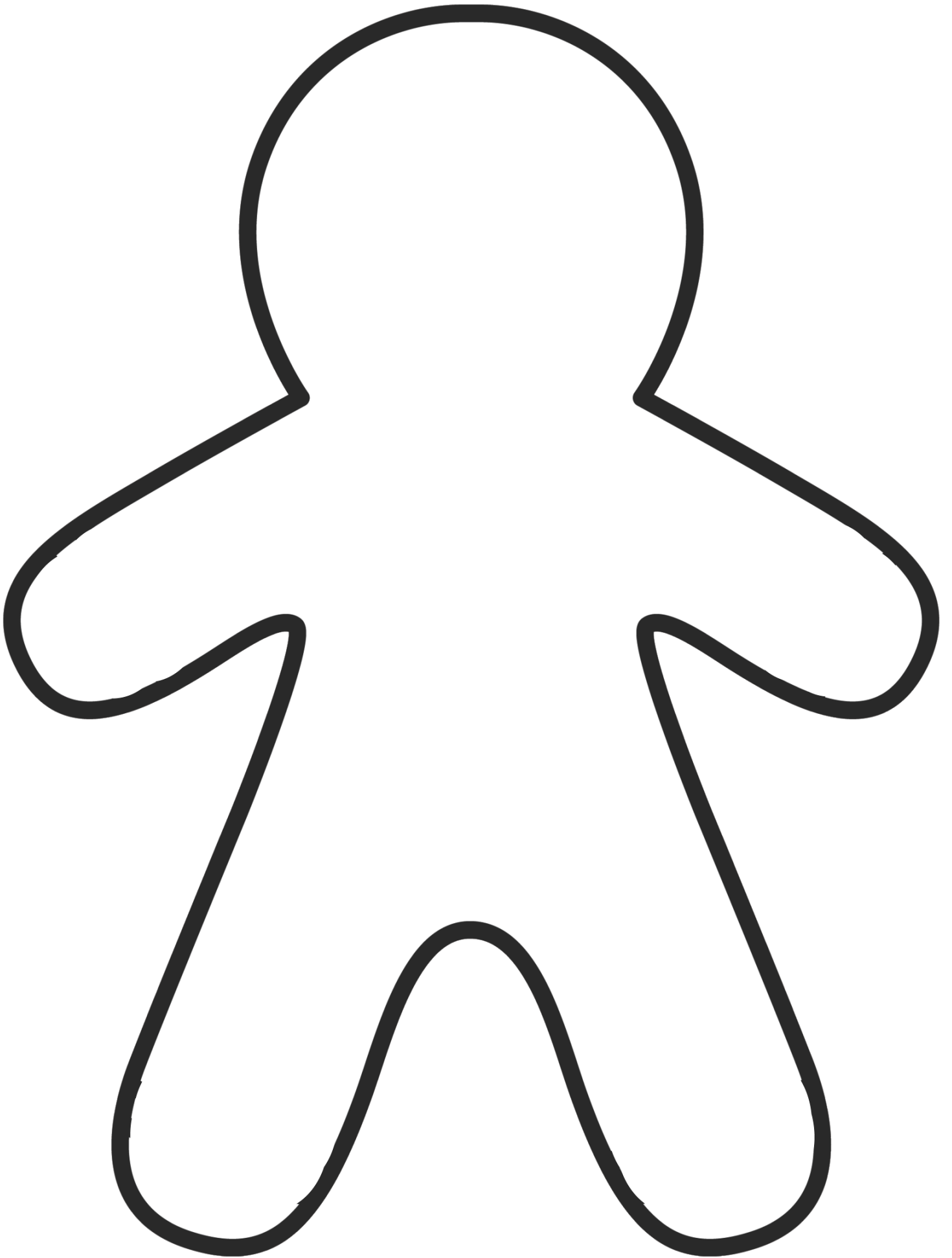
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- 1. Using the gingerbread person at the end of this newsletter, make your gingerbread person. Get creative and make it amazing! Glitter, spices, and bows - the possibilities are endless!**
- 2. Using the story page at the end of this newsletter, work together to write a letter or story to match the gingerbread person.**
- 3. Return your completed project to the school office no later than Monday, December 16th.**
- 4. Receive your exchanged gingerbread person in your parent information folder by Wednesday, December 18th.**

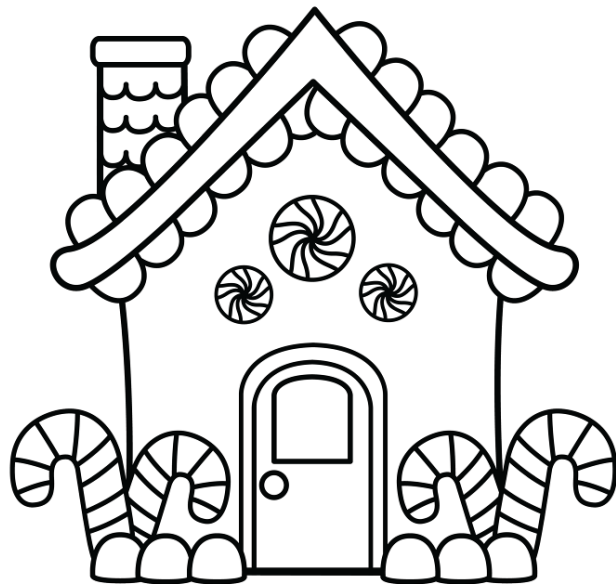
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**Don't forget to have fun! This is a great way to show creativity and work together as a family. It is also a great way to get to know another family in our school!**





Handwriting practice sheet with a decorative border and multiple sets of horizontal lines (solid top and bottom lines with a dashed middle line).







Mrs. White  
and  
Mrs. Noble's  
Classroom News

2024



This Month's Field Trips  
and Special Events  
All School Food Drive Month

Class Trip:  
The Lacey Timberland Library

Friday, December 3rd

All School Sweatshirt Day

Wednesday, December 4th

Family Projects Due:  
Disguise The Gingerbread

Monday, December 6th

All School I See Blue Day

Wednesday 11th

Special Projects Due:  
Gingerbread Exchange

Monday, December 16th

In-House Movie

"How The Grinch Stole Christmas"

Tuesday 12th

All School Pajama Day

Game Day

Friday 20th

All School Winter Break

**School Closed**

Week #1

Monday, Dec 23rd - Friday, Dec 27th

Week #2

Monday, Dec 30th - Friday, Jan 03rd

All Classes

Resume Regular Schedule

Monday, January 6th



## Classroom Birthdays

No Birthdays

## Children Are...

**AMAZING**, acknowledge them  
**BELIEVABLE**, trust them  
**CHILDLIKE**, allow them  
**DIVINE**, honor them  
**ENERGETIC**, nourish them  
**FALLIBLE**, embrace them  
**GIFTS**, treasure them  
**HERE NOW**, be with them  
**INNOCENT**, delight with them  
**JOYFUL**, appreciate them  
**KINDHEARTED**, learn from them  
**LOVABLE**, cherish them  
**MAGICAL**, fly with them  
**NOBLE**, esteem them  
**OPEN MINDED**, respect them  
**PRECIOUS**, value them  
**QUESTIONERS**, encourage them  
**RESOURCEFUL**, support them  
**SPONTANEOUS**, enjoy them  
**TALENTED**, believe in them  
**UNIQUE**, affirm them  
**VULNERABLE**, protect them  
**WHOLE**, recognize them  
**YEARNING**, notice them  
**ZANY**, laugh with them



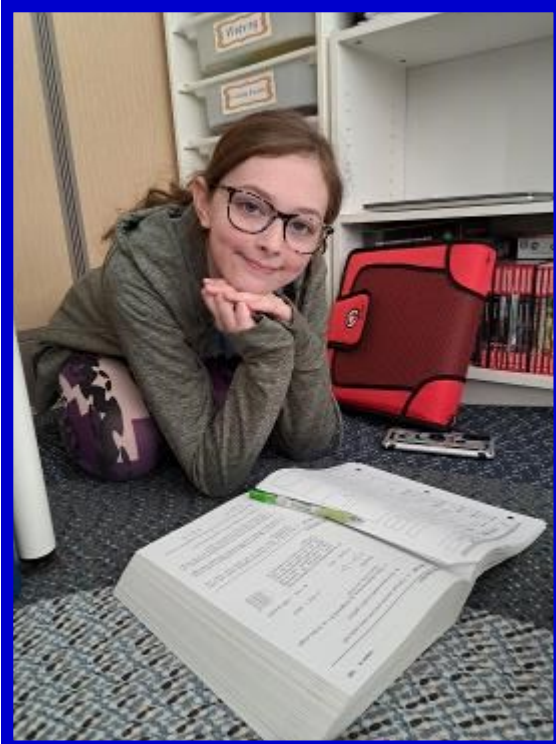
## Social Studies Classes

The following are some of the upcoming topics we will be covering in the month of December:

1. Citizenship
  - \* A Good Citizen
  - \* Living in America
  - \* Leaders and Inventors
2. Amazing Attributes
  - \* Animal Attributes
  - \* Measuring Things
  - \* How Much Does it Hold and Weigh
3. Animals
  - \* Living and Nonliving
  - \* Animal Structures
  - \* Classifying Animals
4. Plants
  - \* Living and Nonliving
  - \* Plant Structures
  - \* Classifying Animals







## Character Building Classes

Character Traits are qualities or characteristics of a person or character. Character traits describe what a person is like on the inside. We can determine a person's character traits by their actions, thoughts, and words.

Our Character Building Classes this month will include the topic of **Gratefulness**.

People who are grateful truly appreciate and are thankful for things and people in their lives. Sometimes grateful people are even thankful for the challenges and difficulties they face because of the lessons they might learn in those hard situations.

The following are some questions your student will ask him/herself while at school during the month of December: \*Do you exhibit this character trait regularly in your own life? \*Would you like to exhibit this character trait more or less? \*Do you think gratitude is a desirable character trait? \*How does being grateful impact a person's own life?

### Interesting Fact:

Research indicates that expressing gratitude has a positive impact on children and adults. Showing gratitude has been shown to increase optimism and positive emotions, as well as making people feel more connected and satisfied with school.

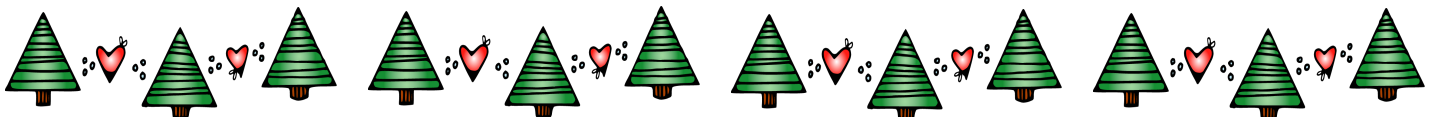
Please encourage your student to start a gratitude journal.

Thanks so much for your support and assistance in this exciting learning opportunity.



## THANK YOU!!!

To Silas, Jessica and Elliott's Families  
for bringing in the wonderful  
activities and items for our classroom...  
We will put them to good use...  
The children are already using them!!!



*"Montessori is an education for independence,  
preparing not just for school, but for life".*

- Dr. Maria Montessori









# December

Lower Elementary - Mrs. Noble  
2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <u>Thematic Unit</u> Reindeer Fun and Games	2 <u>Special Project</u> December Affirmations	3 <u>Special Trip</u> Timberland Library	4 <b>Sweatshirt Day</b>	5 <u>Science Project</u> Reindeer Facts Booklet	6 <b>December Fun Art</b>	7
8 <u>Thematic Unit</u> The Study of South America	9 Family Project: Disguise The Gingerbread	10 <u>Special Project</u> Mapping Europe Fire Drill	11 <b>I See Blue Day</b>	12 <u>Special Movie</u> How The Grinch Stole Christmas	13 Special Cooking Project Cookies	14
15 <u>Thematic Unit</u> All things Winter	16 Family Project: Gingerbread Exchange	17 <u>Special Project</u> Winter Bingo Earthquake Drill	18 <u>Special Trip</u> Bowling	19 <u>Special Project</u> Memory Book Page My Special Art Work	20 <b>Pajama Rama Game Day</b> In-House Movie The Wild Robot	21 First Day of Winter
22 <u>Winter Break</u> December 23, 2024 Through December 27, 2024	23 <b>School Closed</b>	24 <b>School Closed</b>	25 <b>School Closed</b>	26 <b>School Closed</b>	27 <b>School Closed</b>	28
29 <u>Winter Break</u> December 30, 2024 Through January 3, 2025	30 <b>School Closed</b>	31 <b>School Closed</b>	1 <b>School Closed</b>	2 <b>School Closed</b>	3 <b>School Closed</b>	4 <b>School Closed</b>

All Classes Resume  
Regular Schedule on  
Monday,  
January 6, 2025