# NEWS FROM ROOM 15

Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful. –Norman Vincent Peale

#### **Dates to Remember**

Holiday Recess
-Monday, December 17 Friday, January 1

Mid-Year Testing
-Monday, January 11 Friday, January 22

Skating Party
-Monday, January 18

Staff Basketball Game -Friday, January 22

Mid-Winter Break
-Wednesday, February 17 Friday, February 19

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## **Holiday Wishes**

First of all, I wanted to give a GIANT Thank You to the parent helpers for our holiday party. I cannot express how much I appreciate all of the work that went into the party. To everyone who contributed, whether you donated food or other items, or helped coordinate the craft or games, I am very grateful. It was a wonderful party, and the children had a great time!

Secondly, from my family to yours, I want to wish everyone a safe, relaxing, fun-filled holiday break. Enjoy the family time and the memories you will be making. As your child's teacher I can't help but put in a plug for spending some time reading and working on math over the next two weeks, but it is just as important to give your child that time to rest and relax and come back refreshed and ready to learn. Have a wonderful Holiday Break!





# Reading

This week we worked on a PBL Unit with Mrs. Veldink's class. We worked in a small group and learned about how they celebrate Christmas in different countries. We each took an aspect (Christmas food, Christmas traditions, etc.) and did some research. We then created a Google slide from what we learned. We shared them to put them all together and then we were able to see everyone's slide show.

# Writing

This week we took a break from our essay writing unit and instead wrote friendly letters. We learned about the greeting, body, and signature. We also learned how to address the envelopes. When we return from our Holiday Break we will be continuing our unit on writing an essay. We will choose a "Big Idea" and give evidence to support that big idea.

### Math

This week we worked on a variety of performance tasks in math. A performance task is an opportunity for students to take a "real-world" problem and use the skills they've been learning to solve it. It involves higher level thinking and multiple steps, and it is a great way for students to apply what they are learning. Please make sure that your child keeps up with Reflex Math over the holidays. Our subscription runs out in January, but I am hoping to find a way to continue it.

### **Social Studies**

This week we worked on finishing our state projects. We were able to share them with each other on Friday. When we return from our Holiday Break, we will begin Science with Mrs. Scholma. The units of study will be on Physical Science and Earth Science.

