

## ~Toddlers~

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Throughout the month of December, we enjoyed looking at different holiday traditions. Some of our favorite activities included making reindeer art and decorating cookies. The class enjoyed squeezing and spreading frosting onto their cookies and making different sprinkle designs. Another favorite event was the visit of St. Nick. On December 6th the class decorated holiday stockings and put them in the hallway during naptime and St Nick came and filled our stocking with toys and treats. We enjoyed counting down to Christmas by reading different holiday books leading up to Christmas break. Our class loves reading books, it was fun reading new books and finding some new favorites.

We hope you had a wonderful holiday and are ready to start a new year. We will start the month by practicing counting forwards and backwards from 10, exploring gravity with ball dropping games, and making class goals for the new year. Then we will travel north to explore northern countries. As we explore different countries and their flags, animals, landscapes, traditions, foods, architecture, and much more. We are excited to learn about history and traditions and adapt them to our classroom. Did you know that the Igloos were not just found in Alaska, but also Greenland, Canada, and Siberia? Igloos were used for permanent and temporary houses for the Inuit people of arctic regions. Igloos were made mainly of compressed snow, but also different materials found in nature. We are going to make our own igloos and temporary structures using different materials found around our classroom. I am excited to see what we can do with our class materials. Animals are very popular in our classroom. We are going to look at new and popular animals that call the North their homes. We are going to look at similarities and differences between each animal and how they have adapted to living in cold environments. I am excited to look at new animals, for example the Greenland shark. Did you know that a Greenland shark can live for over 500 years and can grow larger than a great white shark? This is just one of the many animals we will learn about as we travel through the North. Finally as we go from country to country, we are going to read different books and poems from each country. We are going to enjoy looking at the different pictures of the countries and use the books as a tool to explore different customs and traditions.

Stay warm,

Your Toddler Team