

Ari's Academy 📞 503.643.3093 🌐 www.arisacademy.com
Preschool – Kindergarten – After School
A child-centered prepared environment where children succeed

December 14th–18th 2009

–Winter Holidays Around the World–

Over the next week we will be introducing the students to 5 winter holidays celebrated around the world! We will learn about the customs and traditions associated with **Christmas, Ramadan, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, and Winter solstice.** Each celebration has many positive and interesting aspects to them, and we will highlight each as we learn together. Our study will include learning the meaning and history of new vocabulary words such as; wreath, Advent, Menorah, tradition, latkes, wreath and more.

We will also begin our “**Letters to Santa**” this week, and continue until Christmas break, a **favorite** activity enjoyed by our students each year. This letter writing center features paper, pencils, sample letters and pictures of toys for the students to attach to their letters. After they complete their letters they fold them and drop them into the “Letters to Santa” mailbox! During class time this week we will also feature daily games of **Christmas B-I-N-G-O** for holiday treats for all participants!

As we move closer to Christmas vacation we will add traditional holiday songs to our regular music circles. Songs you might hear your student humming the tune of or singing when they are at home include; **Jingle Bells, Rudolf The Red Nose Reindeer, Santa Claus Is Coming To Town, Frosty The Snowman and more!**

Look for holiday art and craft projects as well – The gingerbread boy, Frosty the Snowman, cut & paste candy cane, geometric Christmas tree, cotton ball snowfall, Santa’s beard, paper-cut snowflakes and more! Our group art project this month is the **mosaic Christmas tree** (located on the back side of the easel at circle). When it is completed we will display it near the front door. The students enjoy taking turns helping to create this group project.

As the holidays draw near, we wish you and your family a fun and safe season!

