**SHARING**

Sharing will focus on patterns this week. Children should bring something with a pattern.

Next week will be Children’s Choice.

**NO SCHOOL**

 There will not be school on Monday, January 21st. Enjoy the long weekend!

**SPELLING**

Your first through fifth grader has spelling attached. The condensed version of the homework appears below.

**Monday**: Cut, sort, explain

**Tuesday**: Sort and write

**Wednesday**: Adult reads, child writes in correct category, fix as needed

**Thursday**: Sort, glue, add two

 We’ll test on the words on Friday.

**SWIMMING**

 We’ll be swimming in school on Wednesday. Please send your child to school with a suit and a towel. Thanks!

**ASSESSMENTS**

 We will be working on completing many district-required assessments in language arts and math this week. Some of these are administered one-on-one. Others are administered on the computer. They will allow us to track the progress your child is making and to intervene if we see problems.

**THANK YOU!**

 Thanks to everyone who made sure your child’s name was on mittens, gloves, and snow pants. Last week went much more smoothly when it was time to get ready for recess or to go home.

**UKULELES**

If your child still has a school ukulele and case at home, please send them back to school. We are looking for a way to continue those lessons. When we have it worked out, we’ll re-issue the instruments. Thanks!

**BATTLE OF THE BOOKS**

 Your third, fourth, or fifth grader will be bringing home a note regarding Battle of the Books today.

 Fifth graders will practice on Mondays and Thursdays until 4:00. Third and fourth graders will usually practice on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. I have a meeting this Tuesday so we’ll have to skip the Tuesday practice. Their first practice will be on Wednesday after school.

 Please encourage your child to keep reading those books!

**STUDENT TEACHER**

 Our class will be lucky enough to have Allison Miller with us as a student teacher for most of this semester. Allison is completing her master’s degree in elementary education. One of her final requirements is to teach in an elementary classroom. Throughout the semester, Allison will gradually increase the scope of her responsibilities. We are looking forward to welcoming Allison to our classroom.

**BOOK ORDERS**

 Current book order forms are attached. Please turn in any orders by Friday, January 25th. Please make any checks payable to Scholastic rather than to me.