**SHARING**

For sharing this week, children can bring or tell us about a favorite gift.

 Sharing next week will be Children’s Choice.

**NO SCHOOL**

 Next Monday, January 15th is a holiday. There won’t be school that day. Enjoy the three-day weekend with your family.

**SWIMMING**

We are making a slight change to our swimming routine. Beginning next week, **all** third through sixth graders will swim on Monday. Kindergarteners, first graders, and second graders will swim on Wednesday.

**EXCITING CHANGE**

 Beginning today, our class will have the opportunity to learn Shotokan Karate from Mr. Hinds from 11:25 until 11:55 daily. This class is designed to introduce young children to the basics of self-defense in a very structured and safe manner. Students will be participating in activities designed to promote self-control, confidence, and attention to detail. Games and fun activities will play a large part in class instruction.  Students will learn karate fundamentals in a safe environment that allows for practice and growth, without putting a child or others at risk of injury.

Mr. Hinds is a 2nd kyu Brown Belt in Shotokan Karate and has been a practitioner and instructor since 2011.  He’ll be coordinating with the Homer Shotokan Karate Club (Kay Bay Martial Arts facility) to provide course testing (rank) opportunities for students.

**SPELLING**

First through fifth graders have spelling words attached. The condensed homework explanation is 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. Thanks for helping your child learn these words.

**BATTLE OF THE BOOKS**

We’ll begin practicing for the Battle of the Books competition next week. Look for a letter with more information to come home either later this week or with next week’s bulletin. In the meantime, please encourage your child to continue reading the books from the list for his or her grade level.

**MATH**

 Kindergarteners will be working on foundational skills for adding numbers.

 Draven will be comparing numbers.

 The second graders will be finishing their unit on money.

 The third graders will be finishing their unit on fractions.

 The fourth graders will begin working with fractions.

 Faith is also working with fractions.