Problem of the Week

The problems that follow focus on algebra. More specifically, students will explore patterns. The tasks are meant to be open-ended so that discussion can support understanding.

Be mindful that during these prompts, it is important the teacher listens to student conversations and asks questions that illicit student thinking.

	The fifth term in a pattern is 12. Can you create a repeating,
Primary	increasing and decreasing pattern that each has 12 as a fifth
	term?

Elementary	Create an input-output table that meets the following criteria:
	 All numbers in the output column are odd.
	 All numbers in the input column are even.
	 Each input number is smaller than the corresponding
	output number.
	What is the pattern rule?

	Create an equation that meets the following criteria:
	 One expression consists of one variable, whole number
	coefficients and two operations.
Intermediate	 The other expression consists of one variable, whole
	number coefficients, a set of brackets and two operations.
	 The value of the variable is 8.
	Record and solve the equation.