

Key Vocabulary

Christmas
Jesus
God
Angel
Mary
Joseph
Donkey
Bethlehem
Star
Baby
Stable
Manger
Kings
Gifts/presents
Gold
Frankincense
Myrrh
Shepherds
Heaven
Light
Party
Christmas tree
Decorations
Food
Worship

Whole school unit for Christmas 4 weeks (November/December)

Year group: **Reception**

Our Enquiry for the year is: **The present (Who am I and how do I relate to others?)**

Our Enquiry for this unit is: **How do we celebrate?**

Our Story

Person: A king/wiseman.

Place: Stable in Bethlehem.

Problem: How will he celebrate the birth of the new king?

Possibility: Take the king a present.

Visits, visitors or key events (Community) Our school Christmas Fair, the Christmas concert, special assemblies in school and hopefully Father Christmas will visit us via video link.

Home learning ideas/places to visit (Community)

Read Together: The traditional stories around different festivals and celebrations.

Talk Together: Discuss why people celebrate these occasions and how they celebrate.

Make/Do Together: Make your own Christmas cards to send to family.

Communication and Language development

Children will talk about how they celebrate different occasions – e.g. birthdays, Bonfire Night, Christmas and Eid. They will listen to each other and ask questions.

We will discuss how we celebrate when a baby is born and what gifts they would take for a new baby. We will then think about why the Wise Men took gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Key areas of maths learning:

Lots of counting, e.g. baubles on the tree, buttons on the snowman. Use one-to-one correspondence and know last number in the count is the total. We will be looking at one more and one less and simple addition and finding the total
We will name and describe 2D and 3D shapes. We will look at patterns and create our own repeating patterns and body patterns.

Key areas of English learning:

Children will listen to the Christmas story and label the characters from the story and begin to write simple sentences. We will continue our phonics journey and start to read and write words and captions. We will be developing our pencil grip and forming letters correctly.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This is a time when there can be many changes to the children's normal routine. They have to learn to adapt their behaviour to different events and social situations.

Understanding of the World:

Children will be encouraged to describe special times and events that they celebrate with their family and friends. They will also learn that other people celebrate different occasions and that there are similarities and differences in all these events.

Children will use simple programs on the computer and use our interactive board for a variety of purposes.

Role Play area

The stable in Bethlehem. Children will be able to act out the Christmas story.

Physical development:

Children will develop their fine motor skills through mark-making and cutting.

In P.E. the children will be continuing to work with Mr Jackson on gymnastics.

Children will become more independent in their self-care, particularly zipping their coats up, washing their hands after the toilet and before snack time and dressing and undressing themselves.

Expressive Arts and Design:

Children will make their own Christmas cards and decorations for their tree. They will also make a calendar for the year 2020.

We will be learning a variety of new songs that we will perform in the annual school Christmas concert.

Resources we will be using: (Books/artefacts/ key resources in areas)

The Christmas Story

Puppets for the different characters

Manger with baby

Clay

Books about celebrations

Creativity (connections and fluency of ideas) How we are going to share our learning with our community

Blog photographs and descriptions of our work and the activities we have done.