

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



OUR TOPICS

In December we will be learning all about
CHRISTMAS!

We will be learning about the first Christmas through story, role play, small world and puppet play and through our class nativity. We will learn some special songs about the night Jesus was born like Silent Night and Away in a Manger.

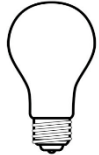
We will be getting ready for Santa's arrival too by dressing up as the big man himself, putting on antlers and pretending to be elves. We will be making toys (just like Santa's elves!) and listening to lots of Christmas stories. We will sing happy Christmas songs like Jingle Bells.

We will be completing Christmas crafts- but the details of these are top secret!

OBSERVATIONS

We will be observing whether the children can retell the Christmas story in their own words. We will be observing who is confident in performing in front of their peers and others, and we will be offering support to those who find it a little tricky. We will be checking who knows gold and silver, along with other colours and shapes we have covered so far.

COLOURS AND SHAPE OF THE MONTH



BRIGHT IDEAS!



Let your children wrap some presents. Cutting wrapping paper is a really good way to help children develop their fine motor and cutting skills as it is really easy to cut. Talk to them about how much tape they need- do they need a long piece or a short piece? How many pieces will they need?

Most children are lucky enough to visit Santa's grotto in the run up to Christmas, but why not add a trip to a crib scene in one of the local chapels into your Christmas preparations? Talk to your children about who they see. Can they see Joseph and Mary? If you go before Christmas, ask them why they think baby Jesus is not in the crib yet?

In school we have prepared for Christmas dinner by washing and chopping vegetables. Why not lighten your own work load and get your child to wash the vegetables for you?

Let your child help you decorate the Christmas tree. Talk to them about the decorations. Talk about the colours, the shapes and whether they have a favourite.

Silver and gold

Star

There should be plenty of 'bling' around at this time of the year. You could get your children to sort gold and silver decorations and spot them when you are out and about.

Talk about all the different types of stars you can see. You could count the points on the stars with your child.

PANTOMIME

10th December - The Nursery children **do not** attend the pantomime; Nursery operates a normal day. However, on this date, after school care from 1:30-3pm will be provided **in the Nursery by Mrs Bonner and Mrs Eastwood**. It will cost the usual price, and children should be picked up from the Nursery door.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A LITTLE FAREWELL!

Myself and Mrs Eastwood would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and thank you for all your support throughout Term 1.

I would also like to say farewell to everyone as I will be finishing this month to begin my maternity leave. I have loved getting to know all the wonderful boys and girls this year and I will call in to see them in the New Year once baby Bonner has arrived. Thank you all for your support this year.

BOOK BAGS

We hope you are all continuing to enjoy the weekly book bags.

Just a reminder that they must be returned on a **THURSDAY MORNING** with your child in order for them to be ready for collection on a Friday.

We are unable to swap book bags which come in with your child on a Friday morning. We hope you understand that this is because our time during the nursery day is dedicated to the children, and we are unable to undertake any administrative tasks.

NURSERY NATIVITY

We have all been rehearsing very hard for the Nursery nativity which is at **10am on the 12th December** in the school hall, and we hope you are all really looking forward to it.

Children are welcome to go home after the performance, but Nursery will run as normal until 1:30pm for any children who choose to remain in school.

Happy birthday to
Charlie and Jack Clokey
who all turn 4 this month!



DATES TO REMEMBER

4th December- School Christmas Dinner

5th December- Ballymacrickett Christmas Fair at 6:30pm in school hall

9th December- Open evening for prospective Primary 1 and Nursery children at 7pm in school hall

12th December- Nursery Nativity at 10am in school hall

20th December- School and Nursery close at 12pm for all pupils