

# Newsletter

## Special Christmas Edition Autumn Term – 20.12.2022

### Update from Headteacher



**Thank you for a successful 1<sup>st</sup> term. We managed to get fundraising events going and did great!**

**Thanks to all the volunteers.**

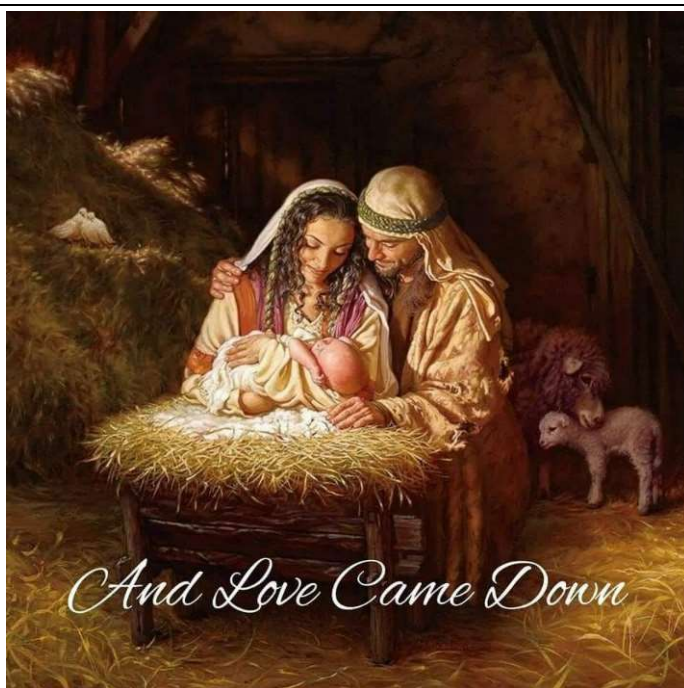
**I wish you a very blessed Christmas season and New Year.**

### Value this half-term



**Big Question of the week**

**Has the COVID pandemic changed the world?**



*And Love Came Down*

**We wish all our pupils, staff, governors and families a blessed Festive Season as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.**







### Important dates



**Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**School re-opens**












## Whole School House Points

	Ants 	Badgers 	Locusts 	Lizards 
Red-Orange Class	5	12	22	24
Orange-Yellow Class	12	0	11	0
Green-Blue Class	15	10	10	17
Indigo-Violet Class	44	28	7	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1060</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>1154</b>

## Attendance

	
<b>Our school target</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Attendance this week</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>Attendance this year</b>	<b>93%</b>

Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of Persistent Absence pupils (below 90%)
2022/2023	<b>93%</b>	<b>15</b>
2021/2022	<b>91%</b>	<b>25</b>
2020/2021	<b>94%</b>	<b>13</b>
2019/2020	<b>95%</b>	<b>5</b>
2018/2019	<b>96%</b>	<b>4</b>

Red-Orange Class			<b>90%</b>	
Orange-Yellow Class			<b>98%</b>	
Green-Blue Class			<b>90%</b>	
Indigo-Violet Class			<b>90%</b>	

**100% attendance this week: 69 pupils out of 88 pupils which is 78 %**

Freya G	Ethan	Kai	Max	Finlay
Jesse	Knightley	Maci	Cash	Lily-May
Jackson	River	Phoebe	Archie	Harrison M
Jett	Teddy C-G	Brooke	Teddy D	Harrison P
Darcie	Alice curt	Amelia	George	Sebastian
Amelia-Rae	Sienna	Gabriella	Freya J	Naomi
Alice Bur	Joey	John James	Talia	Libby
Florence	Cassidy	Ralph B	Sienna M	
Lucas	Ralph K	Barney	George A	
Maddison	Eva	Teddie T	Jessica	
Dylan	Harrison	Lillie	Dylan C	
Rafe	Dotty	Diggy	Charlotte	
Acer	Jacob	Paul	Chloe	
Evie-May	Jude M	Noah	Freya G	
Ava	Amber	Sidney	Lara	
Mikey	Daisy	Freddie R	Ava G	

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*Believe - Engage - Excel*

**Though your beginning was small, your future will flourish indeed – Job 8:7**



**Snow day!**

**Due to severe weather conditions, the school unfortunately had to close for a snow day!  
Thank you to Mr Bianchi (Site Supervisor) for clearing the snow!**



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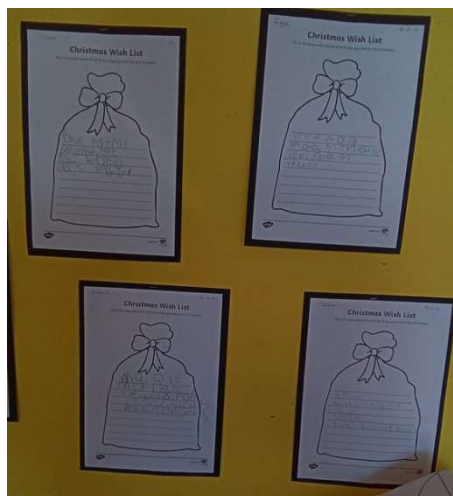


**Red-Orange  
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:  
Miss Isabella Curtis**

**Reception**

**Year 1**



This week in English, Reception have been looking at winter and Christmas! They have been creating their own wish lists and using their phonics to sound out words!

They also loved showing us their lovely Christingles they had made!

Little Wandle books should have now been sent home to all children. Please ensure you read with them and write in their reading records. **Please remember to put reading books in book bags! Otherwise we cannot give out a new reading book. If books are lost or damaged parents will be charged a fee to replace.**



**Merits and Awards**

<b>Reader of the week</b>	<b>Acer</b>
<b>Writer of the week</b>	<b>Scarlett</b>
<b>Mathematician of the week</b>	<b>Jesse</b>
<b>Scientist of the week</b>	<b>Loki</b>
<b>Star of the week</b>	<b>Knightley</b>
<b>Pen licence</b>	<b>N/A</b>

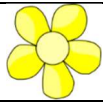
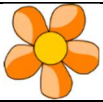
**Buddies of the Week**



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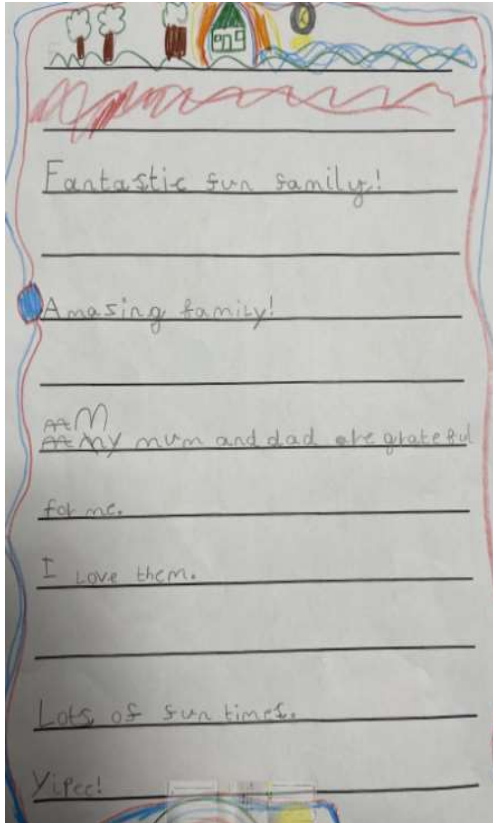
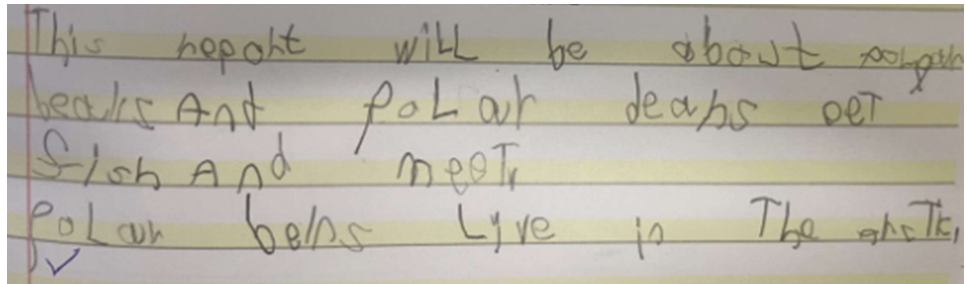
**Orange-  
Yellow Class**

**Class Register Teacher:  
Miss Lauren Seeley**

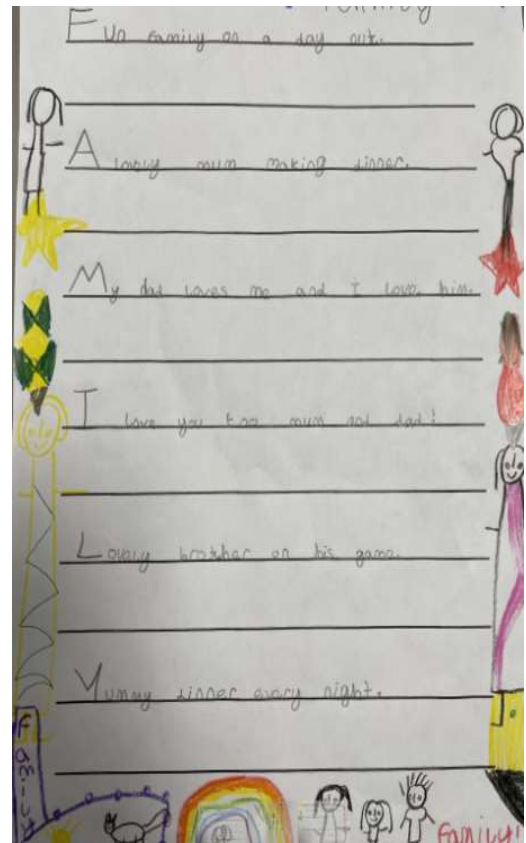
**Year 1**

**Year 2**

Year 1 have been very busy in English writing some reports. This week they have been learning about Polar Bears and writing facts about them.



Year 2 have been learning about acrostic poems. They have been looking at how to add alliteration (the occurrence of the same letter or sound at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words) and onomatopoeia (the formation of a word from a sound associated with what is named (e.g. sizzle) to their poems.



**Merits and Awards**

<b>Reader of the week</b>	<b>Daisy</b>
<b>Writer of the week</b>	<b>Cassidy</b>
<b>Mathematician of the week</b>	<b>Joey</b>
<b>Scientist of the week</b>	<b>Kai</b>
<b>Star of the week</b>	<b>Ralph</b>
<b>Pen licence</b>	<b>N/A</b>

**Buddies of the Week**

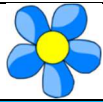
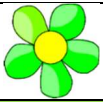


For adapting so well to the changes this week. All of Orange and Yellow are the buddies.

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### Green-Blue Class

**Class Register Teacher:  
Mrs Jenny Dean**

**Year 3**

**Year 4**

We began the week with some real winter weather ...

Dr Walker's looked delightful wrapped in a blanket of snow! Thank you for accommodating the changes that we had to make to mitigate risks.



We ended the week preparing and cooking a savoury dish: Ratatouille, which we then took home to sample! We worked together as a team to follow the recipe instructions – linking to our English work.



We learnt how to use imperative verbs in our instruction writing.

We followed instructions to make Christmas cards – look out for them in your child's school bag!

**Use "Bossy" Verbs**

Chop	Make	Add
Push	Turn	Wash
Run	Pull	Brush
Cut	Blend	Rinse
Measure	Heat	Measure
Mix	Cool	Put
Take	Clean	Sit
Cook	Stir	Stand
Slice	Rest	Bake
Spread	Close	Melt
	Grease	Place
	Toast	Eat
		Grill

**Little Miss Bossy**

Wash Weigh  
Brush Dry  
Rinse Flip  
Measure  
Put Peel  
Sit Knead  
Stand Wait  
Pour  
Sprinkle

### Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Jude
Writer of the week	Cash
Mathematician of the week	Phoebe
Scientist of the week	Gabriella
Star of the week	Barney
Pen licence	

### Buddies of the Week

**A GOOD FRIEND**  
is someone who...



**A GOOD FRIEND**  
is someone like you!

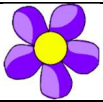
We have all been great buddies this week!

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Year 5



Year 6

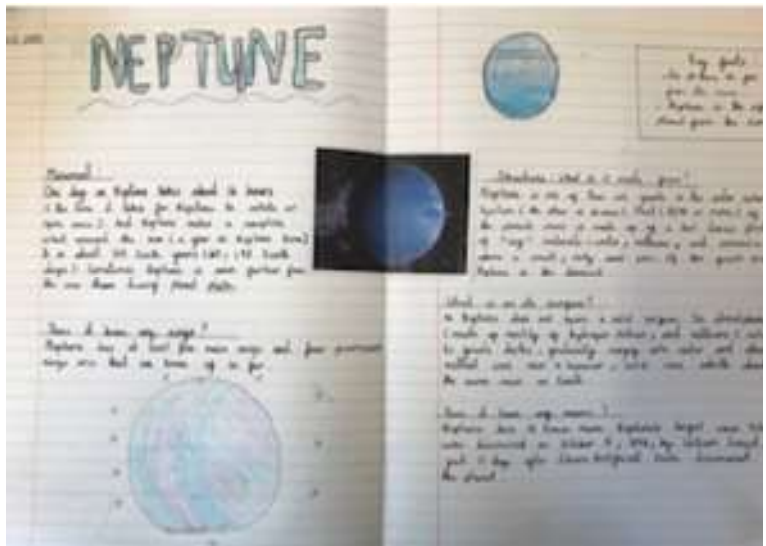
Indigo-Violet Class

Class Register Teacher: Mrs Karin Vorster

This week, we finished our Science topic about Space and Earth. We would like to share some interesting facts:

- The sun makes up 99.86% of the solar system's mass.
- Mercury is named after the Roman messenger to the Gods.
- Venus spins in the opposite direction to most planets.
- The earth is 149,598,262 km from the sun
- Mars is home to Olympus Mons, the solar system's tallest volcano.
- Jupiter is large enough for the earth to fit in 1,000 times.
- Uranus is the coldest planet in the solar system.

We conducted some research of our chosen planet:



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Chloe
Writer of the week	Freya
Mathematician of the week	Finlay
Scientist of the week	Freya
Star of the week	Jessica
Pen licence	

Buddies of the Week



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# THE first christmas night

Print Free: [www.lambsongs.co.nz](http://www.lambsongs.co.nz)

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



The story  
of the first Christmas  
can be found in the Bible  
Luke chapter 2.



Joseph and Mary  
Day after day  
Clip Clap on their donkey  
From a town far away



Bethlehem was the place  
They would stay  
Mary's baby was coming  
That very day!



When they got to that town  
There was no place to stay  
Only the stable  
With a manger of hay



Right over the stable  
A big star shone so bright  
The shepherds would see it  
That first Christmas night.



They heard angels sing,  
"Good news comes today!  
God sent His son to you.  
Find a manger of hay."



And there they found Jesus  
Asleep in some hay.  
Baby Jesus our Saviour  
Born that first Christmas day!



Wise men came looking  
They had presents to bring  
They followed a star  
To the new baby king - Jesus!

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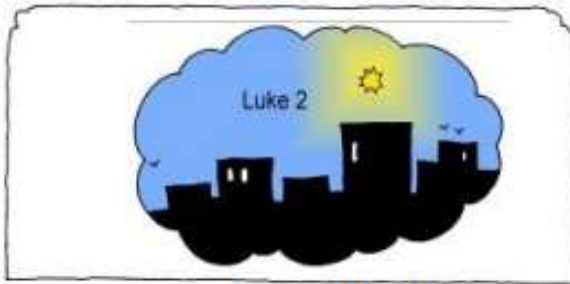


# JESUS was born in Bethlehem

Print Free: [www.lambsongs.co.nz](http://www.lambsongs.co.nz)

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



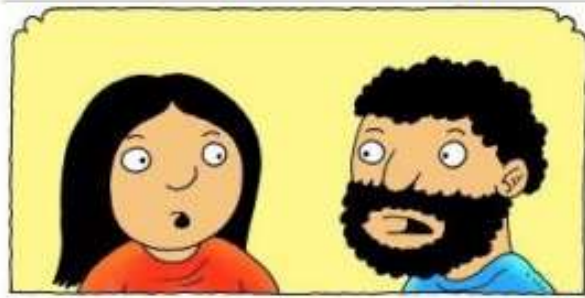
Jesus was not born in a palace, or a big house. He was born in a stable in the small town of Bethlehem and didn't even have his own bed!



Joseph the Carpenter lived in the town of Nazareth. One night God sent the angel Gabriel to tell him that the baby Mary was expecting was the promised Son of God. He was to marry Mary and take care of her and the baby.



The emperor Augustus wanted more tax money. He made a new law. Everyone was to go to the town their ancestors came from to write their names on a list, so Joseph had to go to Bethlehem.



"My ancestor David was from Bethlehem," Joseph told Mary, "so I must go there to put my name down. Your baby will be born soon but you will have to come too, because God wants me to look after you."



It took about three days to get to Bethlehem and Mary rode on the back of the donkey. It was a bumpy ride and Mary would have been very tired and very uncomfortable.



So many people had come to put their name on the list at Bethlehem that there was nowhere for Mary and Joseph to stay, except a smelly stable that animals slept in.



That night baby Jesus, the promised Saviour, was born in a stable in Bethlehem. A very bright star appeared in the sky right above the place where He was born.



Joseph and Mary called the baby Jesus, just like the angel Gabriel had told them. They wrapped him in a soft linen cloth and made him a bed in a manger box of hay.

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# THE angels good news

Print Free: [www.lambsongs.co.nz](http://www.lambsongs.co.nz)

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



There was no room for Joseph and Mary to stay in the inn at Bethlehem, except in a stable where they kept animals. When baby Jesus was born they made Him a bed in an animals' feeding box of hay, called a manger.



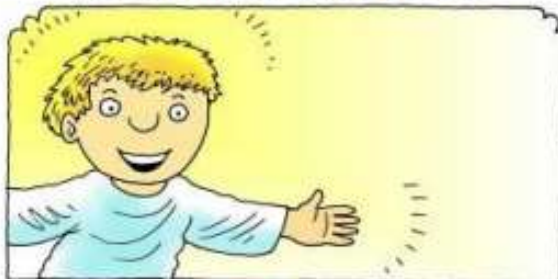
On the night that Jesus was born in Bethlehem some shepherds were staying on the fields nearby. They were sitting down quietly watching their sheep, to make sure that they were safe.



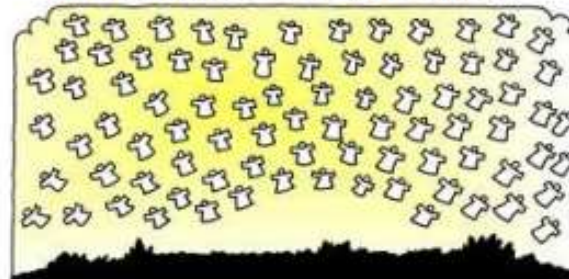
Suddenly, the whole sky was filled with a very bright light and the Glory of God shone all around them. The shepherds were very frightened.



Then an angel appeared and spoke to them. "Don't be frightened," he said. "When you hear the good news I have been sent to tell you, your hearts will be filled with joy!"



"In Bethlehem today the Saviour has been born. He is Christ the Lord, God's gift to you. When you find a baby wrapped in soft linen cloth lying in a manger bed of hay then you will know that this is true."



Then the night sky was filled with hundreds more angels who were praising and thanking God, saying, "Glory to God in heaven and may the whole world be filled with Peace and Kindness towards others."



The shepherds hurried to Bethlehem and found baby Jesus wrapped in soft linen, sleeping in a manger bed of hay, just as the angel said. They told Mary and Joseph about the angel's good news!



After they left the stable the shepherds told everyone they met about the angels and their wonderful news! The Saviour and promised Messiah had come at last! At Christmas time we still remember God's gift to us all.

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# SHEPHERDS by their fire

Print Free: [www.lambsongs.co.nz](http://www.lambsongs.co.nz)

By Jill Kemp

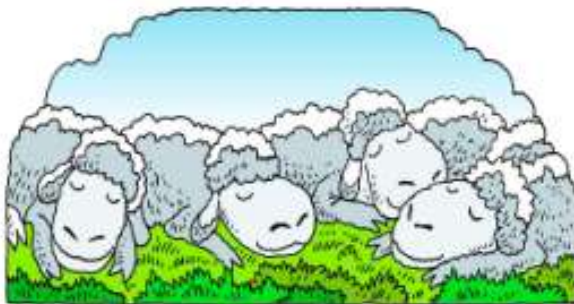
Illustrated by Richard Gunther



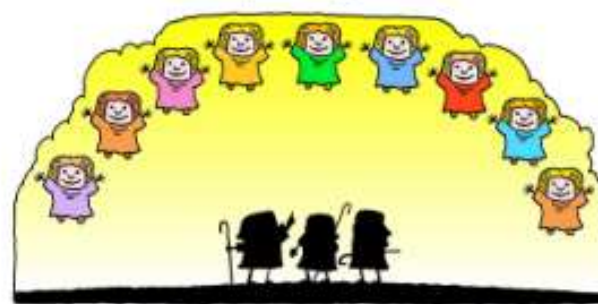
This Christmas rhyme  
is from  
Christmas For Kids C.D.  
By Jill Kemp



Shepherds by their  
fire one night  
saw a star so  
big and bright



Little lambs have  
gone to sleep  
While the shepherds  
watch their sheep. Baa Baa



In the sky  
the angels sing  
telling of a  
new born king!



In a manger  
see him sleep  
baby Jesus  
fast asleep. Shh shh.



Wise men came  
from some place far  
each night following  
the star



Gold, Frankincense and  
Myrrh they bring  
Special presents  
for the King



Precious Jesus  
I love you.  
Thank you that  
you love me too!

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# AWAY in a manger

Print Free: [www.lambsongs.co.nz](http://www.lambsongs.co.nz)

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



From: Away In A Manger - For Today  
From  
Christmas For Kids Nativity CD.  
Animated on lambsongs website - jellybean tv



Away in a manger,  
in a bed made of hay,  
God's Son baby Jesus  
born this Christmas day.



A star in the night sky,  
so big and so bright,  
Twinkles so brightly  
this first Christmas night.



The cows  
mooing softly  
the baby  
awakes,



God's Son,  
baby Jesus,  
no crying  
He makes.



I love you Lord Jesus,  
look down from on high,  
keep these little children  
safe all their lives.



Be near me Lord Jesus,  
I ask you to stay  
close by me forever  
and love me, I pray.



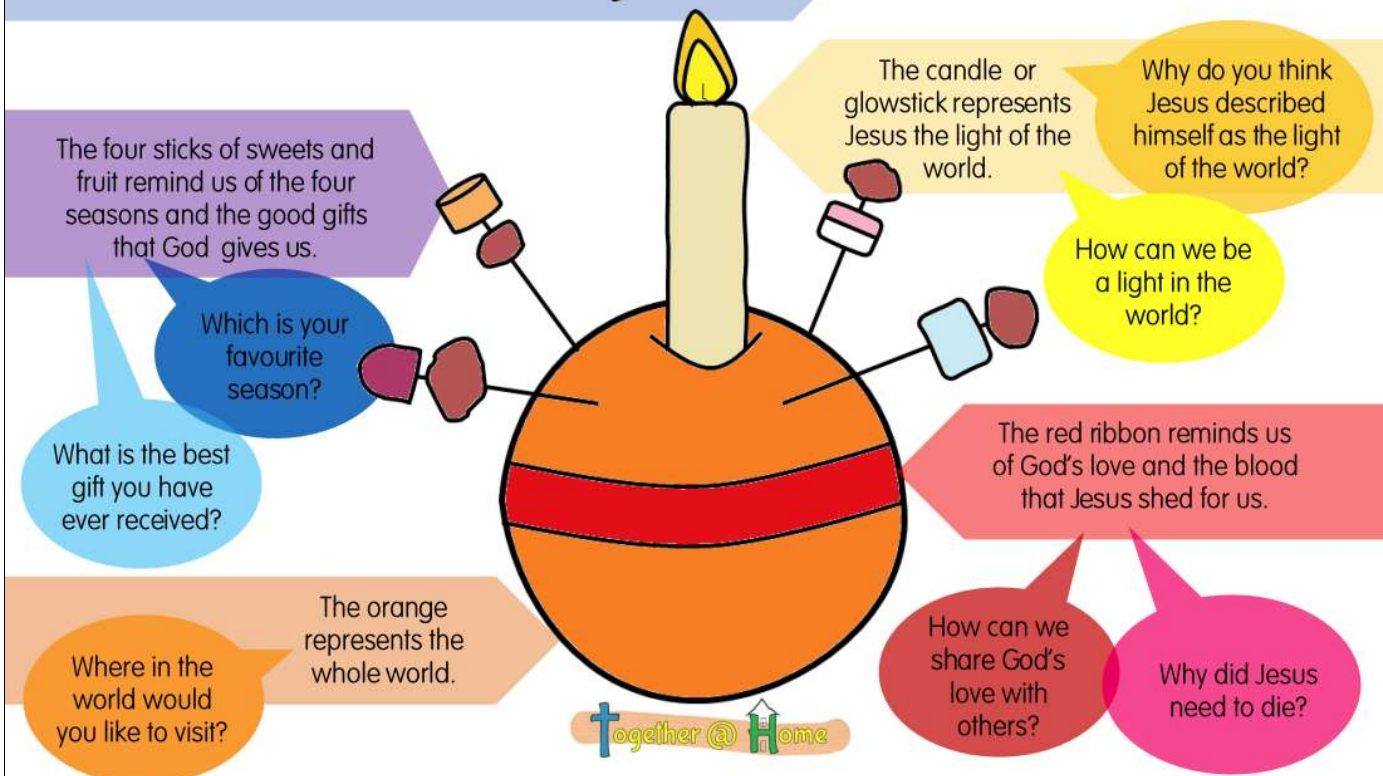
Bless all the dear children  
in your loving care  
And take them to heaven  
to live with you there.

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# All about Christingles

We make Christingles at Christmas time as a reminder of who Jesus is and his love for the whole world.

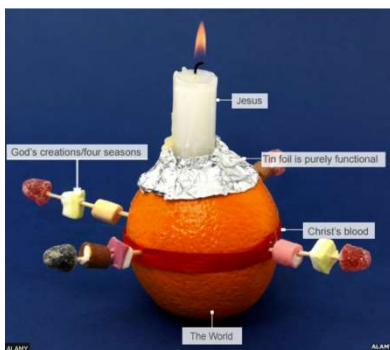


**Many churches and schools celebrate Christmas with a candle in an orange. But where does this curious tradition come from? Asks Clare Spencer.**

Every year from mid-November to as late as February, many British children stick sweets on cocktail sticks, stick them in an orange, put a candle on top and gather together. This is Christingle. The newest variation involves changing the candle to a glowstick.

The roots of the practice lie with John de Wetteville in Germany and an attempt to get children to think about Jesus. He started the tradition in 1747 in his Moravian Church congregation. At the time it was just a candle with a red ribbon given to each child. It didn't involve the orange. Or jelly tots on cocktail sticks.

But it wasn't made popular in the UK until 1968 when John Pensom, described in his Church Times obituary as "Mr Christingle", used it as a fundraising event for the Children's Society charity. Children would bring purses with money and receive an orange pierced with a candle in return. In 1972, the Times noted the increasing popularity of the services.



It's unclear where the orange part of the object came from. It has echoes of the scented pomander, which can be an orange studded with cloves.

Over 40 years later, the charity estimates more than 5,000 Christingle events were held last year to fundraise for them. But the idea has spread further than just this charity. In Northern Ireland it has been used as a way to get the different denominations together.

Source: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/blogs-magazine-monitor-30186196](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/blogs-magazine-monitor-30186196)  
[www.gracetruro.org/resources/christingle/](http://www.gracetruro.org/resources/christingle/)

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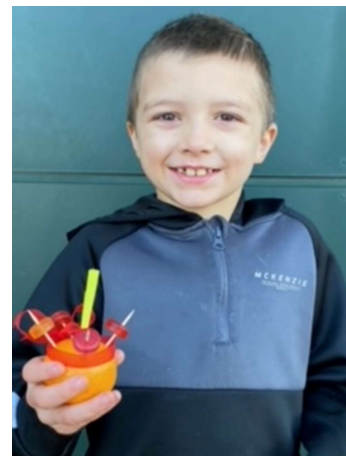


**Winners:**

- Red-Orange class
  - Orange-Yellow class
  - Green-Blue class
  - Indigo-Violet class
- Lincoln
  - Alice C
  - John-James
  - Freddie R



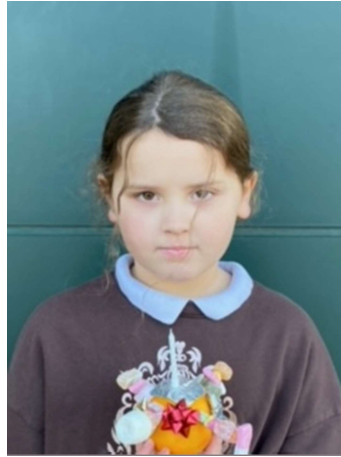
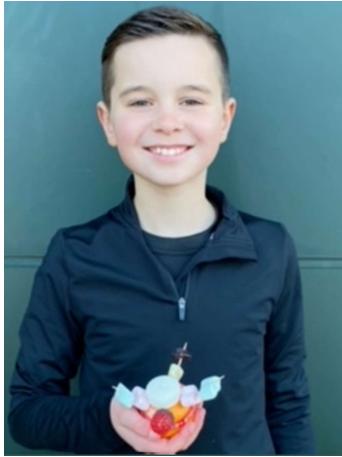
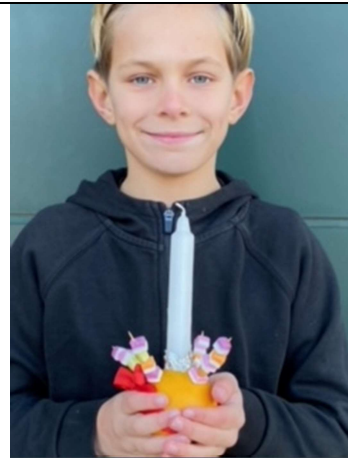
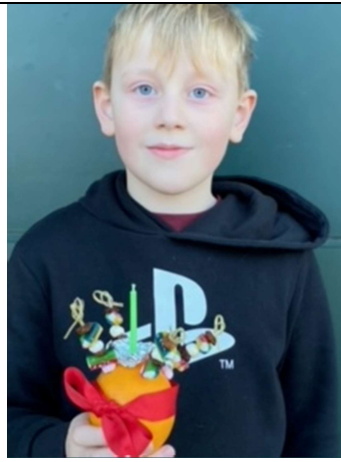
**Orange-Yellow class**



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**Key Stage 2**

**Panto**

The whole school watched the Pantomime, Peter Pan. This was fun!



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Christmas bazaar



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## Christmas performance

Our Christmas performance told the Christmas story as it happened 2000 years ago.  
We sang brand-new Christmas songs.

Pupils came to school dressed up as nativity characters and Dr Lawson was dressed up as Joseph!

Years 5 and 6 did the narration.  
We also watched a few video clips.  
Wow, this was special! Our first post-pandemic Nativity concert!

**Thank you to Mr and Mrs Doughty for the bales of hay.**

Reception	Nativity characters
Years 1 and 2	Stars and Angels
Year 3	Joseph and Mary
Year 4	King Herod and Wise Men (Magi)
Years 5 and 6	Shepherds



Reception – Nativity characters

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Mary and Joseph



Years 1 and 2 – Stars

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**Years 1 and 2 – Angels**



**Kings and Wise Men (Magi)**

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**Years 5 and 6 – Shepherds**



**Dr Lawson and year 6**

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## Church Service

Pupils, staff, governors and parents attended St Nicholas Church on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December as part of our Christmas celebration.

Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs shared with us a Christmas story. Pupils also presented poems and prayers they had written.

And just to be festive... a few songs.

Thanks to Mrs Wallis, Mrs Cox and helpers at church for setting up the church and blessing us with chocolate decorations and to Mrs Smylie (Foundation Governor) for her support.



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## Other Fundraisers

We raised **£54.40** for the Save the Children charity (Christmas Jumper Day).



We raised **£54.88** for the Poppy Appeal.



**Merry Christmas  
from all of us at  
Dr Walker's  
Church of  
England Primary  
School.**



**Enjoy the  
Festive season!**



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