



Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

- When your child is putting on/taking off his/her coat, encourage your child to pull the sleeves to the correct way (by putting their arm down the sleeve, grabbing the cuff and pulling outwards). This will help your child gain a growing sense of independence.
- We are learning about our emotions. Talk to your child about feeling **happy, sad, angry**. Play games of showing happy/sad/angry faces and encourage your child to have a go too!



World Around Us:

- Make your own **Christmas sand!**
 - 8 cups flour
 - 1 cup baby oil
 - Red colouring and glitter
 - Mix together
- Talk about Christmas traditions in other countries e.g. it is sunny in **Australia** at Christmas and they may have a BBQ instead of turkey!



Early Mathematical Experiences:

- Play some simple games with an element of **counting**. We have been working on becoming secure with the **numbers 1, 2 and 3**. A game of snap helps children to notice **similarities and differences**. You can make “snap” from Christmas wrapping paper backed on old cards.
- Get some **red** and **green** paint to let your child paint their own wrapping paper. Encourage your child to draw vertical lines **red-green-red-green-red** as we have been learning about simple **patterns** in school.



Language Development:

- We are talking about the very First Christmas - **Baby Jesus'** birthday and the Nativity. We have been sharing Christmas traditions from home.
- There are some super Christmas story books read aloud on Youtube:
 - **Emily Brown and Father Christmas.**
 - **Topsy & Tim meet Father Christmas**

December
2020



Home
Learning



Physical Development & Movement:

- Using children's scissors, let your child cut wrapping paper and sellotape and help to wrap presents (*even if it is only an empty box!*). **Scissors** can be bought in B&M or Poundland or ordered on Amazon. Look at our website for information on **scissor skills**.
- In your outdoor area, get a large, soft ball and throw it to your child. Encourage your child to throw the ball back to you. We are working on **catching and throwing**.



The Arts:

- Get some inexpensive **baubles**, paint and glitter. Let your child decorate the baubles for a sparkly Christmas tree.
- Make and decorate Star-shaped shortbread biscuits with your child. (*Please see recipe on second page.*)
- Sing our **Christmas** Songs. Add some body movements and actions for fun.



Songs We Have Been Learning:



Jingle Bells

Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride,
On a one-horse open sleigh!
Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way!
Oh what fun it is to ride
On a one-horse open sleigh!

A Great Big Star (A King is Born)

1.

There's a great big star in the sky tonight,
Shining, shining, bright.
There's a great big star in the sky tonight
So the kings can follow its light.

Chorus

*To the stable in Bethlehem
To Jesus the newborn King,
To the stable in Bethlehem
So that they can worship Him.*

2.

When the kings look up they can see the star,
Shining, shining, bright.
When the kings look up they can see the star
And it guides them ever so far.

Chorus and then repeat verse 1.

**You can look this song up on Youtube.
There are Words on the Screen and you
can Sing-a-Long!**

Other Useful Links/Ideas:



NI Forest School Ideas

www.forestschoollawards.org

1 Christmas Hunt

2 Decorate a Christmas Tree

Please view our **Home Learning** tab on our website to access the above resources.

See our GRTL tab on the school website for help with fine motor skills development.

Recipe for Christmas Shortbread:

Ingredients:

- 125g/4oz butter
- 55g/2oz caster sugar (pluse extra to finish)
- 180g/6oz plain flour

Method:

- 1 Preheat oven to 190 (Gas mark 5).
- 2 Beat the butter and sugar together until smooth.
- 3 Stir in the flour to make a paste. Gently roll out until 1cm thick.
- 4 Cut into stars/snowmen/Christmas trees.
- 5 Bake in oven for 15-20 minutes. Leave to cool and sprinkle extra caster sugar on top.

ENJOY!

