

December Language Development

Talking:

Recalling the Story of the Nativity

- Christmas vocabulary/Messages to Santa/Letters to Santa
- Vocabulary relating to Post Office/Function of a Post Office
- Visit by Post Man, asking questions relating to his job

Attention & Listening:

- Encouraging correct eye contact and following simple instructions and turn taking
- Conversational turn taking during classroom activities
- Listening skills when attending school performances

Reading:

- Christmas stories in regular books, big books and on Ipads and on interactive board
- Reinforcing the appropriate use of skill by pupils in the reading corner
- Creation of Pic collage pages documenting pupils ideas and thoughts during a range of school based activities and outing.
- Reading from the librarian
- Making photographic story books

Mark Making:

- Mark Making on outdoor tuff tray using a variety of materials such as coconut and lentils
- Mark Making on art table in shaving foam and when mixing paint
- Letters to Santa
- Making stamps

Vocabulary:

Topic related language, nativity, Christmas, experiences, presents, wrapping, glitter, sparkle etc.

December Personal/Social/Emotional Development

- Reinforcing correct hygiene procedures at the toilet and before eating
- Developing pupils independence when putting on and taking off coats.
- Encouraging parents to promote independence skills in their children
- Promoting confidence in pupils to visit other classroom settings, afield other venues (Stay & Play)
- Opportunities to explore different feelings, using school based strategies.
- Explaining the role of professionals within the community
- Developing confidence in pupils to cope with visitors calling to the school.
- Learning to send letters to friends
- Discussing emotions around Christmas
- Reassuring pupils when visiting Santa

December Physical Development & Movement

Fine Motor Skills:

- Introducing correct scissor action and grip
- Reinforcing good pencil, pen and brush control
- Introducing the skills of swiping, tapping and pinching on iPad apps
- Introducing medium sized equipment for threading and sorting activities
- Introducing layered puzzles and more complex and challenging puzzles
- Developing the skills of using smaller action when drawing
- Encouraging control when using glue and tape at art activities

Gross Motor Skills:

- Developing balancing skills on scooters and balancing equipment
- Increasing challengers in outdoor balancing equipment
- Developing climbing skills
- Developing appropriate walking skills when visiting venues outside of school

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December The Arts

Art:

- Opportunities to produce Christmas decorations
- Experience with a range of materials & textures e.g. glitter sparkles
- Exploration of shades of red
- Opportunities to use technology such as touch panel & iPads to produce Christmas art
- Developing cutting & sticking skills by producing letters to Santa and making Christmas cards for friends and family
- Opportunities to cut from Christmas catalogues & brochures

Music:

- Introducing songs for Christmas Concert
- Opportunities for drama in Nativity play
- Opportunities to correctly play percussion instruments in Christmas Concert
- Encouraging solo singing or in small groups to perform
- Promoting self confidence with attendance at other school Christmas Concerts

Nativity/Christmas

December Early Mathematical Experience

Number:

- Number songs & rhymes with Christmas theme
- Counting sleeps to Christmas
- Opening windows in Advent calendar
- Putting numbers on envelopes for letters to Santa
- Counting and touching (1 to 1 correspondence)

Shape: Star. Recognising and using star shapes

Space

- Recognising when there is space to access activities
- Finding the correct space at the snack table

Language:

- Emphasis on staff modelling and encouraging the use of mathematical language relating to size

Size and Quantity

- Creating items that are long and short, big and small
- Opportunities to use tape measures to measure items
- Comparing the size of items

Sequencing/time:

- Introduction of timers for pupils to self regulate the sharing of equipment

Colour: Mixing colours together to create a new colour

December: Role of The Adult

- Offer guidance and support both indoors and outdoors
- Continue to establish relationships with children and parents
- Settle in new children
- Introduce new vocabulary associated with topics
- Support independence
- Establish rules and routines
- Make observations, note spontaneous play, build on prior experiences
- Assessment using Teddy Talks

December The World Around Us

- Opportunities to make ice cubes.
- Extending the process of ice cube making by introducing colour and small items
- Exploring the properties of ice cubes as they melt
- Encouraging pupils to add colour and scents to water in water tray
- Introducing a range of large plastic & metal kitchen utensils
- Developing pupils ability to fill using utensils of assorted sizes such as scoops, spoons and tiny jugs.

- Developing sensory experiences using sand/water, dough and relevant tools

- Opportunities to chop red fruit & vegetables
- Introducing Christmas plants such as Christmas tree and Poinsettia, hyacinth bulbs to the classroom environment

ICT

- Continuing to support pupils in using iPads & touch panel
- Introducing topic related iPad apps
- Creating ICT challenges for pupils at different levels
- Staff modelling the correct use of ICT equipment