

Sapphire Newsletter - week ending 24.11.17.

Throughout this busy period at school, daily adult directed learning continue to support progress in Literacy (phonics, reading, handwriting, writing) and Mathematics (number and shape, space and measure). We harness the children's interest and excitement for the Christmas season by using the Christmas story and themes in their learning.

This week, the children have greatly enjoyed shared sustained learning connected with Christmas. (where adults/children work alongside each other, sharing ideas etc.) and they have also shown us some super independent work in child-initiated play.



What is the EYFS?

Early Years Foundation Stage is the national curriculum for children aged 5 and under.

There are 3 Prime areas of learning:

- Communication and Language.
- Physical Development.
- Personal Social and Emotional Development.

There are 4 Specific areas of learning:

- Literacy
 - Mathematics
 - Understanding the World
 - Expressive Arts and Design
- All areas of learning are reflected inside and outdoors



All activities leading up to Christmas support our learning in Religious Education and the seven areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum. Please find some examples below - it is important to say that there are frequent opportunities for cross-curricular learning in Prime and Specific areas.

Continuing our **Religious Education** work - this week focussing on developing the children's knowledge of the Christmas story (**Literacy**).

Continuing to practise our song and movement for the Christmas Nativity Play - reminder of dates/times in last week's newsletter (**Communication and Language, Physical Development, Personal, Social and Emotional Development etc.**).

Developing role play within our Christmas house. In order to maximise cross-curricular learning across the seven areas of the EYFS we are introducing elements one at a time - decorating the Christmas tree (**Understanding the World**), putting up our Advent Calendar (**Numeracy**)

Taking part in **Expressive art and design** activities, for example making stained glass windows



and characters for our R.E. display.

Home Learning - please make a Christmas decoration to hang on our Christmas tree so that each child's efforts are represented on the decorated tree. Here are some ideas.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend.
The staff of Sapphire Class