

Learning Journal 5.12.14

This week we have really started to celebrate Advent during our worship time with an advent ring and some advent pockets. These contain items which will help your children prepare for Christmas in some way.....maybe to use to make a card or decoration or to help decorate your house or tree. We are focussing on Advent as a time of waiting and preparation, so if they bring home a small craft item or decoration from the Advent pockets do use the opportunity to discuss how you as a family are preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

We are also working on preparations for our Christmas performance and your children have sung their hearts out and remembered lots of instructions. We have enjoyed watching our older children help the younger ones in rehearsals and we are delighted at the encouragement and support all our children give each other, as they work together to prepare something very special for you. Please remember to bring your hankies as the staff struggle to stay dry eyed during rehearsals, although some of that is from laughing at the special moments that are all part of teaching at Christmas. One of our best was the child who was certain that the kings would have brought Jesus a baby bath. A sensible assumption really!! Most of all, the children are having so much fun and are really proud of their



efforts. We hope you enjoy it as much as we have. Here is a sneak preview of our costumes on Friday.

A star and four beautiful angels!

Two of the three kings!



Two
shepherds
and an inn
keeper!



Please make sure your children arrive at 5.40pm on Monday night at Luckier Village Hall and that they are wearing easy clothes to take on and off. They will go to the changing room where staff will get them ready and you can take your seats.

Apart from play practices we have learnt the new sounds qu and ch this week and have worked really hard to get b and d the right way around. Reception have written simple calculations in maths and all the early years children practised writing their numbers. We had great fun imagining and writing speech bubbles for some of the

characters in the nativity and we have written lots of Christmas cards in our house, as well as decorating it for Christmas.

Mrs Crane made a lovely shape tree with the children to practise their 2D shapes and we all helped her to decorate it.



Everyone made a decoration. Christmas is a great time to talk about 3D shapes with baubles that are spheres and presents that are cubes and cuboids and cylindrical crackers. The children have been learning all these names this term

and could be practising them as you decorate your house.

On Wednesday we are going on a visit to see Father Christmas at Alnwick Garden. Please make sure your child has warm clothes, outdoor shoes and gloves and a hat as the forecast is for cold and windy weather. There are plenty of opportunities to warm up indoors, but we want to make the most of the outdoor activities as

well in such a beautiful setting. Gloves and hats are needed every day in school now as we play outside in the cold weather every day. Please try to name them, and a string through your child's coat sleeves with their gloves attached helps the youngest children to keep their gloves safe.

We hope the preparations for Christmas are going well in your house and look forward to sharing this special time of year with your children.