

Our Questions

- How do we know that Christmas is coming?
- Why do Christians think that Jesus was a very special baby? -
- What is the story of the birth of Jesus?
- How do Christians use the story of the Nativity to guide their beliefs and actions at Christmas?
- What do you have to be thankful for and why?
- Why is Christmas important for Christians?



Year 1 Christianity Autumn 2 Why does Christmas matter to Christians?



Key Skills Taught

Investigate: ask relevant questions; know how to use different types of sources as a way of gathering information.

Empathise: consider the thoughts, feelings, attitudes, beliefs and values of others; identify feelings such as love, wonder, forgiveness and sorrow; see the world through others eyes.

Express: explain concepts and practices, interpret symbols and respond through a range of media.

VOCABULARY

Advent: To get ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus

Good News: Christians believe that God came to earth to bring 'good news' to everyone, even poor people. The 'good news' was about God and how to be close to him.

Christmas: A special day when Christians remember and celebrate Jesus' birth. (25th December)

Bethlehem: A small town near Jerusalem, believed to be the birthplace of Jesus

Birth: When a baby is born

Jesus: God's son

Precious/special: Something or someone of great value to be respected and not treated carelessly

Celebrate: to recognise a happy day or event.

Key Knowledge Taught: by the end of the unit, pupils are expected to know/be able to:

- Advent is a time of getting ready for Jesus' coming and I can talk about some traditions (Advent wreath and calendars.)
- Christians believe that Jesus was God on Earth and that he came to Earth to be with people and show them how to live and demonstrate what it is like to have a close relationship with Father God.
- God coming to earth as baby Jesus is part of the 'big story' - incarnation. Jesus was born as a baby in Bethlehem. Mary, Joseph, the wise men, the shepherds and the angels all knew that Jesus was God. Jesus' birth was extraordinary and he was worshipped as king (Gospel of Matthew) and he came to bring good news to everyone, even the poor and humble (Gospel of Luke).
- Christmas is a time for giving. The gifts the three wise men gave show that Jesus was a very important king even if he did not look like it.
- Christmas is also a time for remembering that poorer people (shepherds) visited Jesus, and that Jesus came to earth for everyone.
- Christmas is a time when Christians thank God that Jesus came to earth to show and tell people how to live.
- Christians use nativity scenes, sing carols, give presents, put up decorations and help those in need at Christmas time.