



## Apple Tree Class

# Topic Letter Autumn 2 - Brrr ...Winter!

During this topic we will be thinking about winter, the Christmas story and how we celebrate Christmas. We will be doing lots of Christmas art and craft and sharing the story of Stick Man too!



### Numeracy

N - We will be using the language of weight to explore different sized Christmas decorations and weigh Christmas presents. We will be exploring 3D shapes through construction activities. We will be exploring positional language.  
R - We will be ordering items by weight, using positional language and learning the mathematical names for 3D shapes.

### Literacy

N - We will be listening to the Christmas story. We will be doing lots of mark making too.  
R - We will be answering 'how' and 'why' questions about the Christmas story. We will be writing our Christmas lists and in our Christmas cards using sounds correctly and in sequence.

### Home Learning Ideas:

- Make your own Christmas cards and write inside
- Make nativity puppets using lolly sticks and re-tell the Christmas story
- Go through the kitchen cupboard and name the 3D shapes you find
- Order your Christmas presents by weight
- Make a winter collage
- Write to Santa
- Watch this clip of The Christmas story told using sand pictures. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebie/stories/lets-celebrate-christmas-story>

### Understanding the World

N - We will be going on winter walks to notice the seasonal changes. We will be talking about Christmas events in our families and homes.  
R - We will be looking at and discussing the seasonal changes. We will be talking about what Christians believe and what happens at Christmas in different families all over the world.

*N=nursery age*  
*R=reception*  
*(school age)*



# Songs and Rhymes

Here are some of the songs we will be singing this topic...



## Jingle Bells

Dashing through the snow  
 In a one-horse open sleigh  
 O'er the fields we go  
 Laughing all the way  
 Bells on bobtail ring  
 Making spirits bright  
 What fun it is to ride and sing  
 A sleighing song tonight! Oh!

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

## Santa Claus

Who's that fat little jolly old man  
 With beard as white as snow?  
 And who creeps down the chimney at night,  
 Then as quick as a wink, off he goes?

I've been told that it's dear Santa Claus,  
 That jolly, happy man!  
 Who comes once a year on Christmas Eve,  
 Spreading joy everywhere that he can!

## Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer

Rudolph, the red-nosed reindeer  
 had a very shiny nose.  
 And if you ever saw him,  
 you would even say it glows.

All of the other reindeer  
 used to laugh and call him names.  
 They never let poor Rudolph  
 play in any reindeer games.

Then one foggy Christmas eve  
 Santa came to say:  
 "Rudolph with your nose so bright,  
 won't you guide my sleigh tonight?"

Then all the reindeer loved him  
 as they shouted out with glee:  
 "Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer,  
 you'll go down in history!"

## Away in a Manger

Away in a manger  
 No crib for His bed  
 The little Lord Jesus  
 Laid down His sweet head

The stars in the bright sky  
 Looked down where He lay  
 The little Lord Jesus  
 Asleep on the hay

The cattle are lowing  
 The poor Baby wakes  
 But little Lord Jesus  
 No crying He makes

I love Thee, Lord Jesus  
 Look down from the sky  
 And stay by my side,  
 'Til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,  
 I ask Thee to stay  
 Close by me forever  
 And love me I pray

Bless all the dear children  
 In Thy tender care  
 And take us to heaven  
 To live with Thee there