

Why does Christmas matter to Christians?

Cremyll RE

Autumn 2 2023



I know how people get ready for Christmas.

Christians use Advent, which is like a countdown to Christmas.

We buy presents for each other – presents are important to me at Christmas.

Jesus being born is important for Christians.

We saw lots of signs of Christmas when watching the Christmas adverts.

I have chocolate in my advent calendar.

We looked at how we get ready for Christmas and any signs of Christmas and compared this with Christians and how they get ready. Some of us were the same as Christians and did Advent, some of us prepared for Christmas differently.

We decorate our houses and cook nice food to get ready.

I know who Jesus was.

He was a magical human.

We talked about the words associated with The Nativity. We learnt that Christians believe there are lots of clues throughout the Bible that tell them that Jesus wasn't just a tiny baby born in a stable; as well as being a human baby, he was also God on earth. We then looked at artwork from around the world showing The Nativity and used magnifying glasses to see what signs of the Nativity they showed.

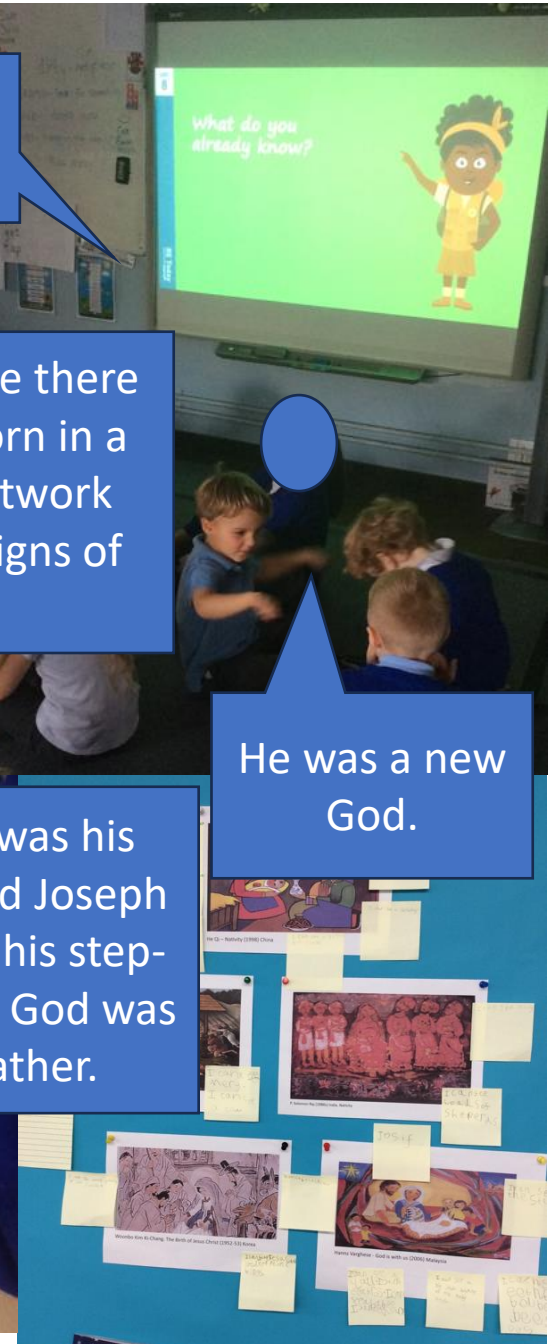
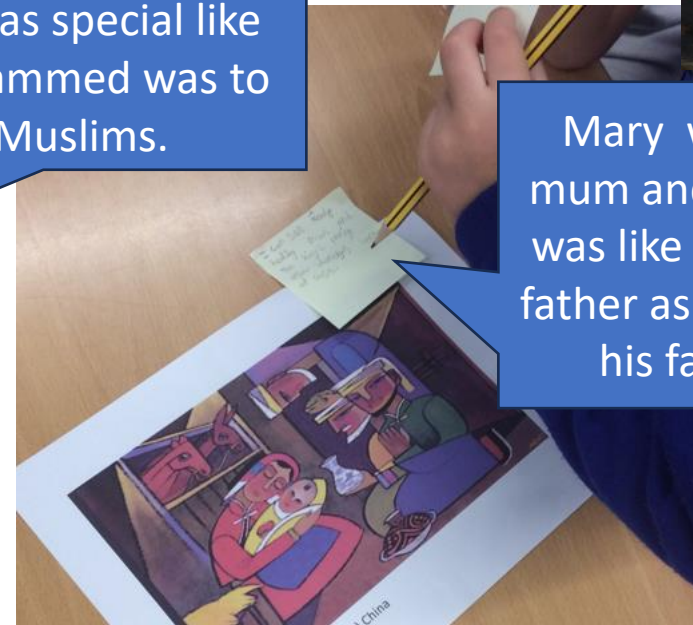
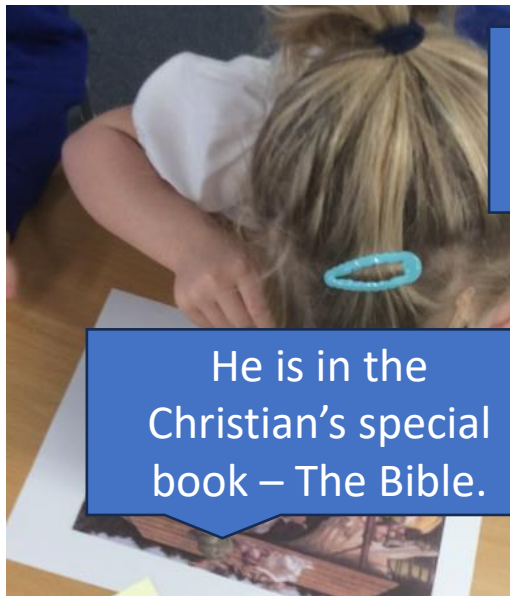
I think incarnation is the new baby being born.

He was special like Muhammed was to Muslims.

He is in the Christian's special book – The Bible.

Mary was his mum and Joseph was like his step-father as God was his father.

He was a new God.



I know what happened in the story of the birth of Jesus.

We recapped on what the word 'Incarnation' meant. We then read the Christmas story and had to sequence the story in the correct order. We then retold the story to our partners.

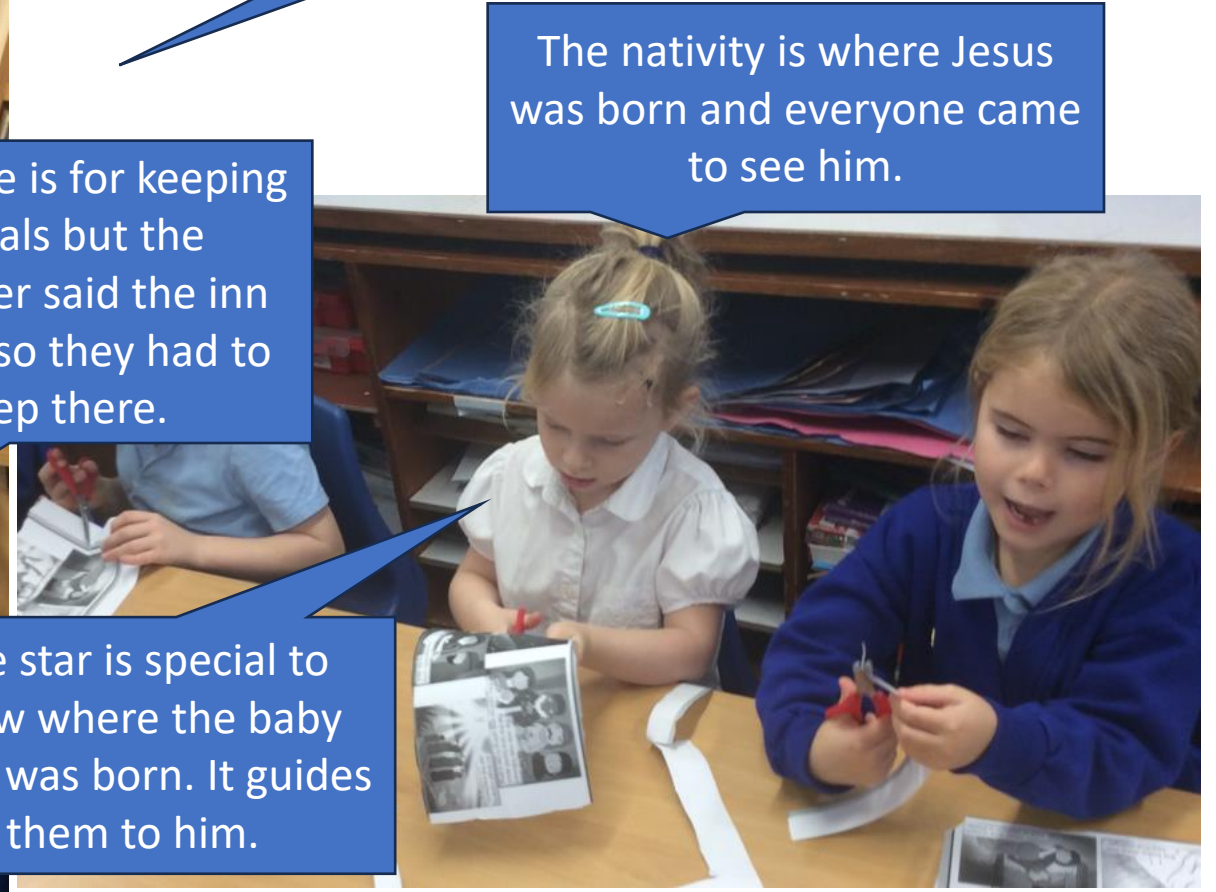
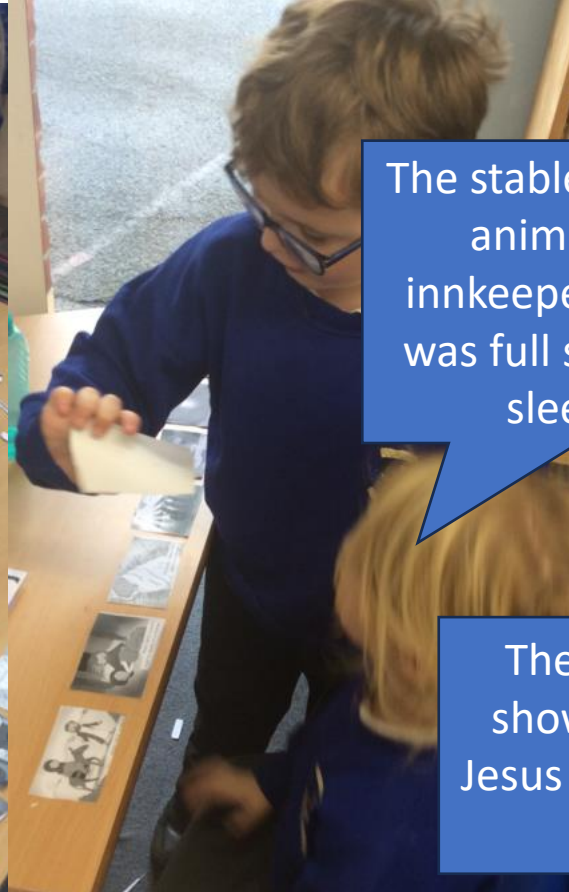
Incarnation means the new baby God has been born.

The nativity is where Jesus was born and everyone came to see him.

The stable is for keeping animals but the innkeeper said the inn was full so they had to sleep there.

The star is special to show where the baby Jesus was born. It guides them to him.

Mary gave birth to Jesus in a stable.



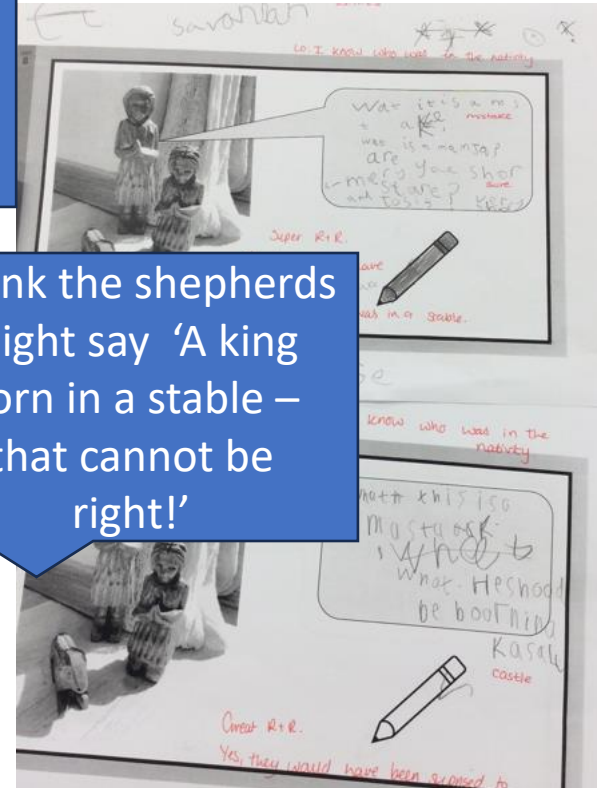
I know some of the characters from the Christmas story.

We looked at some of the people and animals in the Christmas story and talked about how each one of them would be feeling. We discussed how we get ready for a baby, compared this to how we would prepare for a royal baby as Jesus was seen as a king. We then looked at mangers and stables and if we thought this was a suitable place for a king. Finally we put ourselves in the role of the shepherds and how they might have reacted to seeing baby Jesus in a stable.

When we prepare for a baby, the nursery is clean and colourful and warm.

He was expected to be born in a palace but he was born in a stable with lots of hay.

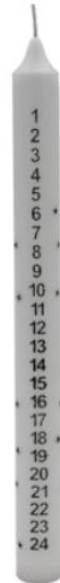
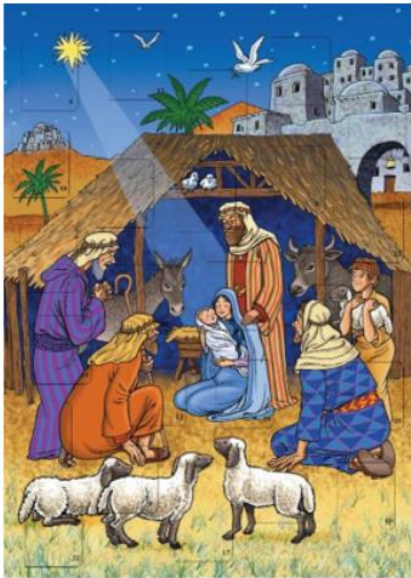
I think the shepherds might say 'A king born in a stable – that cannot be right!'



I know what advent is and that it means waiting for Christmas.

We looked at advent and compared advent calendars to an advent wreath. We looked at what the candles in the wreath represented and discussed who was waiting for something in the Christmas story.

Advent: a time of waiting



The love candle is like loving our family spending time together. Also Mary and Joseph and God loved Jesus.



The candle of hope probably means that Christians are hopeful for Jesus.

Advent is a special calendar to count down to Christmas.



Truro Cathedral Visit

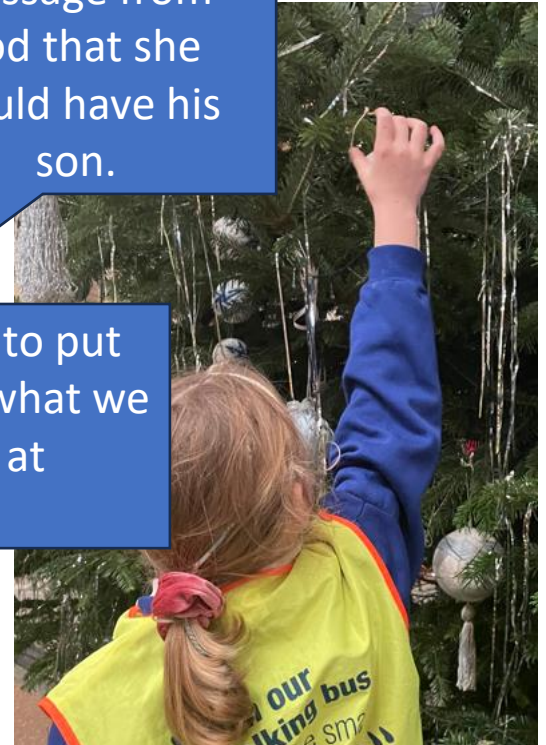
We visited Truro Cathedral by train and had a tour focusing on the Christmas story.

Joseph was a carpenter, he was worried when he heard Mary was having God's son, but an angel told him to not worry and look after her.

They travelled a long way to be counted in Bethlehem.

Mary was given a message from God that she would have his son.

We decorated stars to put on the tree to show what we are thankful for at Christmas.



I know what is important to Christians at Christmas and why it is important to them.

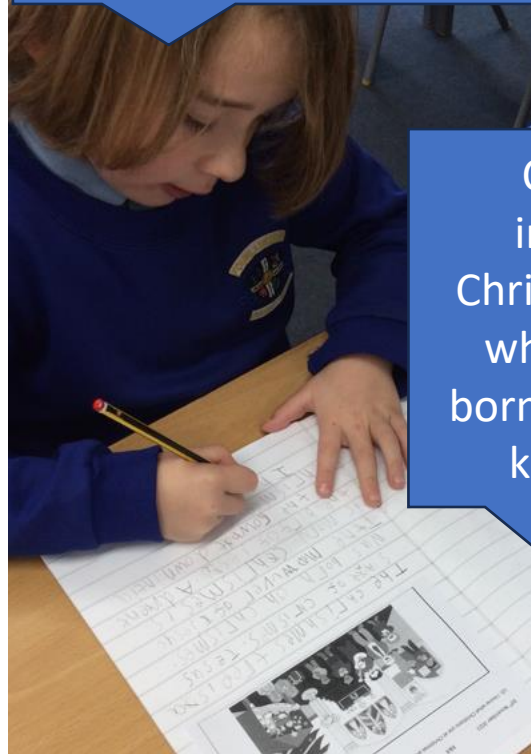
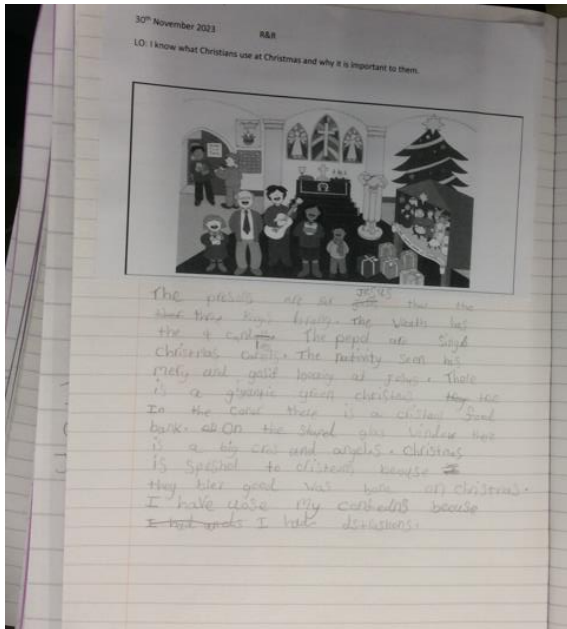
We finally discussed what matters at Christmas to Christians and identified what is important to them and why.

I can see angels in the stained-glass window, they told the shepherds to not be afraid as a king was born.

I can see the presents, like the wise men gave the baby Jesus.

I can see the advent wreath; the middle candle represent Jesus as he is the light. He is seen as special and Christians celebrate him.

Christmas is important to Christians as this is when Jesus was born, he was a new king to them.



Christianity: Why does Christmas matter to Christians?

What I have learnt in the past: what does it mean to belong to a faith community?



Facts within religion

Some Christians believe that Jesus is God and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem.

Christians celebrate Jesus' birth.

The Bible points out that his birth showed that he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example, to the poor, in Luke).

Skills

The ability to debate issues of religious significance with reference to evidence and argument.

The ability to consider the thoughts, feelings, experiences, attitudes, beliefs and values of others.

Personal Development:

Including developing awareness of their own and others' beliefs, increasing ability to reflect on the impact of faith in people's lives, and an increasing desire to explore their own and others' views including their own.

Exciting Books



Our Endpoint

Subject Specific Vocabulary

Incarnation

Christian belief that God took human form as Jesus.

Celebration

To do something special for an important occasion.

Christmas

Annual Christian festival celebrating the day some Christians believe Jesus was born, 25th December.

Advent

The run-up to and preparation for Christmas, starting four Sundays before Christmas.

Nativity

The birth of Jesus Christ.

I can explain why Christmas matters to Christians