

CHRISTMAS

Language, Literacy and Communication Skills: Bilingualism / Welsh Language Development

- Collect Christmas artefacts and learn relevant vocabulary
- Familiarise with idioms 'ar bigau'r drain', 'brensiach y bratie', 'wrthi fel lladd nadroedd'
- Write story/prepare booklet containing an idiom
- Creative play – decorate an artificial Christmas tree using balls, tinsel, bells, stars, stockings – familiarise with vocabulary
- Look at Christmas cards, discuss the greetings
- Design and make a Christmas card
- Write a letter to Father Christmas
- Prepare a shopping list for Father Christmas
- Instructions how to prepare a Christmas cake/mince pies. Prepare list of ingredients
- Letter expressing thanks for Christmas gift
- Think of an object associated with Christmas corresponding to every letter in the alphabet
- Prepare instructions how to build a snowman
- Write a simple poem about one of the characters
- Describe one of the characters
- Place an 'object' in a Christmas stocking and the children to question and guess what's in the stocking – food? a toy? Does it move? Is it soft?
- Research Welsh traditions e.g. Y Fari Lwyd; Hela'r Dryw; Y Plygain

Mathematical Development

- Discuss 2D and 3D shapes. Envelope and parcel shapes
- Symmetrical Christmas drawings
- How do Christmas drawings look after half/quarter turn?
- Weigh ingredients to make Christmas cake

Science

- Discuss what materials are waterproof and would keep someone dry. Collect different materials for children to experiment
- Christmas foods – the children to cook and notice how ingredients change
- Bake a Christmas cake
- What materials are best to keep us warm? Collect materials for children to experiment
- What happens to water when placed in a freezer? Fill interesting shaped objects with water and freeze e.g. rubber gloves, balloon
- Different ways of moving – skiing, skating

Humanities

- Where do the children live? Addresses. Discuss the difference between a street/village/town etc.
- Discuss different kinds of weather
- The Christmas story. Act scenes from the story
- Discuss Christmas traditions. Questionnaire for grandparents comparing Christmases of old and today
- Decorate orange with cloves and ribbon

Physical Development

- Create dance to convey excited feelings on Christmas Eve/winter activities – building snowman, throwing snowballs

Personal and Social Development, Well-being and Cultural Diversity

- Pass the parcel – importance of taking turns when playing games, importance of playing fairly
- Discuss different feelings when playing pass the parcel – disappointed/happy
- Discuss the importance of saying thank you for presents received
- Discuss feelings on Christmas Eve
- Discuss feelings when participating in Christmas concert

Creative Development

- Print Christmas wrapping paper
- Create models/simple puppets of characters in story/Christmas characters
- Create pictures/drawings/computer pictures of Christmas objects
- Listen to music and compose a simple piece expressing excited feelings on Christmas Eve
- Make paper chains using newspaper/brown paper/flour and water to glue them together

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Discuss how Christmas is celebrated in different parts of the world
- Children to note different greetings on Christmas cards – different languages
- Listen to carols from different countries

Information Technology

Teachers should take the opportunity to promote the use of Information Technology when researching and recording information