



Freedom to explore
Opportunities to express

Contact: rainhillnursery@sthelens.org.uk 01744 677635



DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

We have a short newsletter this month to tell you about a few of the things we have been doing. The children have enjoyed choosing from our Christmas activities over the last couple of weeks. Some of the things they made included pomanders and reindeer food. They've been very keen to use the resources in the writing and creative area to make cards too. Part of this has involved writing their own messages in the cards. As you know, we always encourage the children to have a go on their own first and to think for themselves, rather than simply giving them a model to copy or dots to trace. The adults can then scribe underneath the children's writing, gently modelling the correct way whilst promoting the children's pride and confidence in their own work. The result is we have seen an increase in children's enthusiasm to write and also in their interest in letters and print.

We've been reading lots of stories recently including the Nativity story. We used the crib to explain the story and it has been fascinating to hear how the children's vocabulary has developed and how readily they draw upon their knowledge of the characters in the story. They have also been using relevant vocabulary to describe the Christmas tree and its decorations. The children were encouraged to thread pipe cleaners onto the baubles before hanging them on the tree. This helps to develop their fine motor skills, which will of course help them to hold a pencil when they are writing or drawing too!

Diary Dates:

- Monday 4th January is a staff training day and school will be closed for children.
- School will open again on **Tuesday 5th January 2021.**

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Peaceful New Year

