



## Christmas Around the World

### Europe (Year 2 )

#### **Rationale for learning**

Family holiday traditions are important because they connect family members who may be separated by distance, working different schedules, or just busy with sports, school or jobs. Research shows that these traditions help us to remain close to our family members and create a connection between our past and the future. It is for this reason that it is important to understand where many of these traditions originated. Many of our Christmas customs began long before Jesus was born. They came from earlier festivals, which had nothing to do with the Christian church. Long time ago people had mid-winter festivals when the days were shortest and the sunlight weakest. In this topic, the children will discover the origins of many Christmas traditions and also explore celebratory customs associated with Christmas in various other countries.

#### **Suggested activities for parents to help support learning**

- Share non-fiction books with your child, encouraging them to skim pages for facts.
- Encourage your child to choose play scripts to read and if they have a lead role in the Christmas play, please help them to learn their lines.

**Key Vocabulary** : Christmas, sleigh, reindeer, elf, elves, presents, wreath, nativity, Santa, wrapping paper.

#### **Reminders**

##### **Homework**

The home learning in Year 2 consists of:  
One piece of Maths or English homework each week.  
One activity from the study unit grid per half term.  
Weekly Spellings, plus activity.  
Daily Reading

##### **PE**

PE is scheduled for Monday and Tuesdays (Winter kit advised).

## Christmas Around the World Study Unit Overview

### Mathematics

Symmetry  
Multiplication  
Division  
Length  
Time  
Fractions  
Data

### Art

Christmas scenes using paint  
(using thick and thin brushes).

Design and create posters to advertise the Christmas production

### History and Geography

Historical facts about Christmas.

Christmas traditions.

How is Christmas celebrated around the world?

### Computing

Introduction to PowerPoint—  
custom animation.  
Programming—Algorithms leading  
to the use of Scratch.  
Design and create tickets for the  
Christmas play

### PSHCE

Listen to and show consideration  
for other people's views.  
Know how to recognise, manage  
and control strong feelings and  
emotions  
Have strategies for managing and  
controlling strong feelings and  
emotions  
Know about ways to contribute to  
enterprise activities

### English

Poetry: The Magical Christmas  
Box

Christmas Poetry  
Play Scripts  
Christmas Production  
Questions, questions, questions—  
all about Christmas (who, where,  
when, what, why and how)

Phonics  
Handwriting  
SPAG (spelling, punctuation and  
grammar)  
Guided Reading



### PE

Gymnastics -travelling  
Games— netball/basketball  
(throwing and catching)

### RE

The Christmas Story  
Christianity and the Church

### Technology

Where does food come from?  
Christmas cooking.  
Design and create set for stage.

### Science

A healthy and balanced diet.  
Food Chains  
Keeping fit

### Music

Christmas music and songs  
Identifying the beat of a tune.  
Recognise a change in pitch.  
Recorders

### French

N/A