

One of my highlights of our Christmas celebrations at school is when we all gather in the parish church for our Christingle Service. We usually hold it right at the end of term as we come together as a whole school family to look forward to the Christmas celebrations in the days ahead. Christingle is a joyful celebration that brings families and communities together as we light our Christingle candles to celebrate the light of Jesus and spread a message of hope.



Each child from reception through to Year 6 makes their own Christingle in school. Each element of a Christingle has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christmas story:

- The orange represents the world
- The red ribbon (or tape) symbolises the love and blood of Christ
- The four cocktail sticks represent the four corners of the world
- The sweets and dried fruits represent all of God's Creations



At the end of our service, each child takes the Christingle that they have made. They line the central aisle and the candles are all lit to create a warm, magical glow symbolising the light of Christ and bringing hope to people living in darkness. There is something truly inspiring about seeing the children's faces lit by candlelight and hearing them sing our final carol.

Whatever you are doing this Christmas I wish you peace and joy and hope for the year ahead.

*Mrs Helen France*

*Headteacher*