15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful festive week at Noah's Ark for the final week of term this year. The Pre-school has been filled with Christmassy aromas of grinding down cinnamon, cloves, star anise, cardamom, fennel and making mince pies. The children have enjoyed learning about the **Christmas Nativity story** and have continued making creative tree decorations to take home.

Thank you to all the families that came to the **Christmas Stay and Play** event on Tuesday. Everybody had a really good time joining in with the crafts, stories and singing and it was lovely to get families together before the end of term.

Does anyone has an old **digital camera** in good working order that they are no longer using? Please could we have it to use at Pre-school? We use digital cameras to take photographs of the children for their learning diaries and some of ours are on their last legs. Thank you.

A **HUGE thank you to Ada's Dad, Jack**, who has made us a wonderful planter for the awkward space in our outdoor area. As well as making the bespoke item, Jack has painted all the other planters in the play area for us. They all look brilliant and we are so grateful for your help. Thank you.

It can be tricky to think of entertaining **activities to do at home** over the holidays, especially when the weather is wet. Please find attached instructions for how to make origami star boxes and snow globe hot chocolates . If you decide to give them a go, we would love to see some pictures please!

Have a restful winter break,

The Noah's Ark Team.









MAKATON

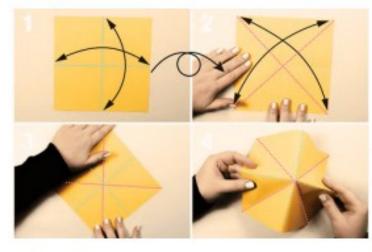
We are all using Makaton to support children's language and understanding. Staff will be happy to show you how to make the signs.

Our sign of the week is...



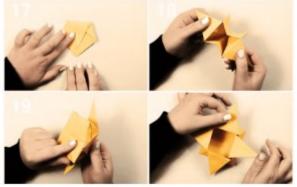
festive themed origami paper for the occasion!

Step 1





Step 4



Step 2







Thanks to www.paperkawaii.com for these photo instructions!

home. They could even give them as a present. You can use vegan alternatives for the marshmallows, chocolate, cookie, laces, Horlicks and milk, so they should be suitable for everyone to enjoy. The recipe has come from BBC Good Food.

Ingredients – makes 1 snowman – increase quantities as required

- 3 large white marshmallows
- Icing pens black and orange
- 1 giant chocolate button
- 1 chocolate (something domed shaped to make the top of the hat or just use a couple of buttons instead)
- 2 tbsp cocoa powder
- 2 tbsp Horlicks powder
- Handful mini white marshmallows
- 1 cookie (small enough to fit in a jam jar)
- 3 strawberries laces (or just use one if not going to 'plait' the scarf)

You will need

- 1 cocktail stick
- 1 large jam jar
- Ribbon and gift tag (if taking home or giving as a present)

Method

Step 1

First, make the marshmallow snowman. Skewer the marshmallows together with a cocktail stick - cut off any of the stick that protrudes from the top. Use a little of the ising pop to stick a shocolate button and mins.



Step 2

Mix the cocoa and Horlicks together in the bottom of your jar. Put the snowman on top, then scatter around the mini marshmallows. Screw on the lid.

Step 3

If taken home or given as a present, tie with a ribbon and a gift tag with the following instructions: Warm 300ml milk in a pan. Remove the snowman from the jar and add the milk. Stir until smooth and chocolatey, then enjoy, with your marshmallow snowman for dunking.

DECEMBER 3PM	DECEMBER 10:30	7:30-9PM STARTING 11TH JAN	
Family Carol Service	Nativity Service Followed by	Hope Explored Course	
Hands on telling of the nativity interspersed with carols for all the family	a Meal Join us for a Nativity service followed by a hot meal together, please book for meal	Where can I find real and lasting hope? Over 4 weeks we will explore how the Christian Faith offers an answer	

WWW.CAIRNSROAD.ORG/CHRISTMAS23