

Notes for the advent series 2020

There are 4 advent worship sessions here.

Ideally these should be used from week beginning November 23rd. That will allow 1 session per week up to the end of term.

Those of you who know the Christian calendar will realise this is the week before the Sunday the church recognizes as Advent Sunday (this year November 29th) so in school we will be looking ahead to each Sunday in the church. We are doing this so that we can have 4 weeks to reflect on Advent before the school holiday.

Each session once again has an image linked to it.

Each class will need an advent crown.

Ways to make a simple advent crown are available on Pinterest. The activity in the session before advent (the session on worry) will provide you with some green hand shapes that you could use and attach together to make the base*. Sticking these to a circle of card will make a quick and easy advent crown. 4 candles can easily be made from card or cardboard rolls. You will need 3 purple candles and 1 pink one. It would be helpful if the words 'hope' 'peace' 'love' were on the 3 purple ones and the word 'joy' on the pink one. Separate pieces of yellow paper or paper cut into flame shapes can be attached at each session.

Why 1 pink candle?

The origins of this are not clear but some churches say that in the midst of preparation – shown by the purple candles (purple is the colour in the church for preparation so altar cloths, garments worn by priests etc will be purple during advent, as they are during Lent) – there needs to be joy! Advent is a solemn time in the church so it is important to have that glimpse of joy half way through.

*when children see the advent crown for the first time show them the hands which have now made the base for the crown. We've done this because when Jesus came into the world it was so he could understand what it was like to be a human – having worries, being anxious, being sad and sometimes being

angry, all the things we've thought about in the last 3 weeks in our class worship. Having our hands here helps us to remember that.