

December 2021



Hi again everyone,

We had a great time with West Tanfield School last Monday for JAM, but were sadly unable to go into North Stainley on Tuesday because of the Covid situation. So, if you missed us, here is another JAM-at-home!

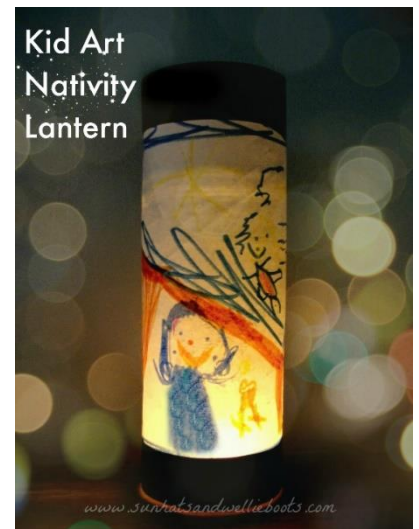
We are on the countdown to Christmas now! In church we call the 4 weeks before Christmas – Advent – a time of waiting and getting ready. So we were thinking about ways to get ready for Christmas and the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World!

Here is a rhyming poem on video which tells the story of the first Christmas... “It begins in Bethlehem.....”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D06k9vulAVQ>

As usual we did lots of different **crafts at JAM** whilst we thought a bit more about the story.... Well here are some suggestions for you to try at home!

Lanterns – lots of people made beautiful lanterns by putting a battery operated tealight inside a jam jar, and then drawing a picture on a piece of greaseproof paper and then sticking it round the jam jar (that was the tricky bit!)



Other people made their own **mini nativity** in a matchbox – baby Jesus was a stone with his features drawn on with a sharpie pen!

More details here...

<https://www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com/2017/12/mini-baby-jesus-with-matchbox-stable.html#more>





We also used these Advent Gratitude Cards – at JAM we decorated a pot to put them in, you could make a box and decorate it or use one of the ideas on here

<https://www.sunhatsandwellieboots.com/2019/11/gratitude-advent-countdown-free.html>

This is a fun way to celebrate Advent and think of other people and how we can show the light and love of Jesus to others. A challenge for every day of Advent or anytime over Christmas!

And now, let's finish with a **prayer** and then our special JAM prayer,

We go in peace:

To share the peace of God with all we meet.

We go in love:

To share God's gift of love with the world.

We go in the light of Christ:

To shine as lights in the world.

To the glory of God the Father. Amen.

May God bless ME (point to yourself),

God bless YOU (point to other people),

God bless EVERYONE (open your arms out wide),

All over the world (draw a big world shape circle with your hands).

Amen

Have a great Christmas and we look forward to our next JAM time together!

Love from All the JAM Team