

Year 4 Flamingos

RE

Autumn 2



What is the most important part of the Christmas story today?



What is the Christmas Story?

The Nativity story, also known as the Christmas story or the Nativity of Jesus, is a story that tells the conception and birth of Jesus Christ. Telling the story of Nativity is a Christmas tradition and is central to the celebration of Christmas within the Christian faith.

Over many centuries, the story of Nativity has changed and developed depending on which culture and people have told the story. Some elements, however, have always been included. Historically speaking, the story of Nativity is enormously important; it's the entire reason behind the naming convention of BC and AD for years,

Key Vocabulary	Definition
angel	God's messengers.
Christians	People who believe in Jesus.
Christingle	A symbol used in a service to signify that Christians believe that Jesus was the light of the world.
Christmas	A Christian festival that celebrates the birth of Jesus.
commercial	Refers to trade or business.
frankincense	A fragrant gum resin from African or Arabian trees that is burned as incense.
humble	Not proud.
incarnation	Literally means 'to take on flesh'. For Christians, the incarnation shows that Jesus was fully God and fully human.
Mary	The mother of Jesus.
myrrh	A yellowish-brown to reddish-brown aromatic gum resin with a bitter slightly pungent taste obtained from a tree.
nativity story	The story from the Bible that tells the birth of Jesus.
star	Appeared in the sky at the time Jesus was born and led people to visit him.
symbol	An object that reminds someone of something else.
Wise men	Men who came from far away to visit Jesus

Symbols of the Christmas Story.

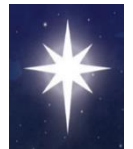
Different symbols from the Christmas Story that are important to Christians.



Jesus in a manger



shepherds



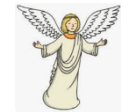
guiding star



Wise men / kings



gifts



angel

What is a Christingle?

The Christingle has many important symbols for Christians on it. Many churches have Christingle services at Christmas.

The orange represents the world.

The candle reminds Christians of Jesus whom they believe to be the light of the world.

The red ribbon goes all round the 'world' and being the colour of blood, reminds Christians that Jesus died.

The four cocktail sticks are the four seasons

The sweets (or sometimes dried fruit) remind Christians of God's gifts to the world



What gifts did the Kings bring?

Gold - a symbol of royalty, because they saw Jesus as a king.

Frankincense - this was burned during worship in the temple, reminding us of God and how Jesus is His representative on Earth.

Myrrh - this was an oil used to anoint the dead, it was symbolic of the death Jesus would face to save humanity from sin.

