

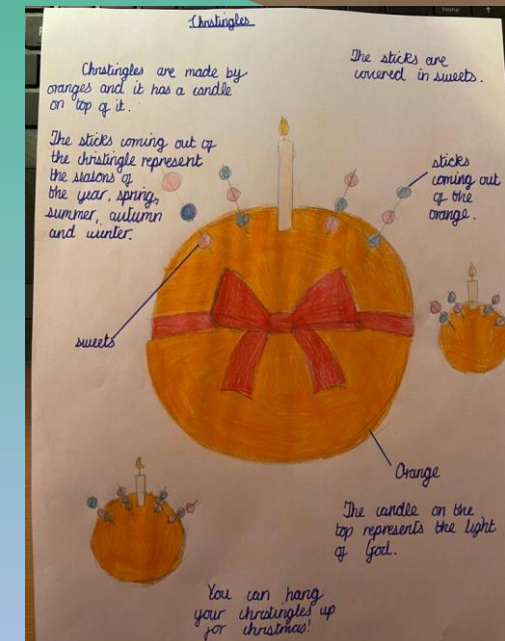
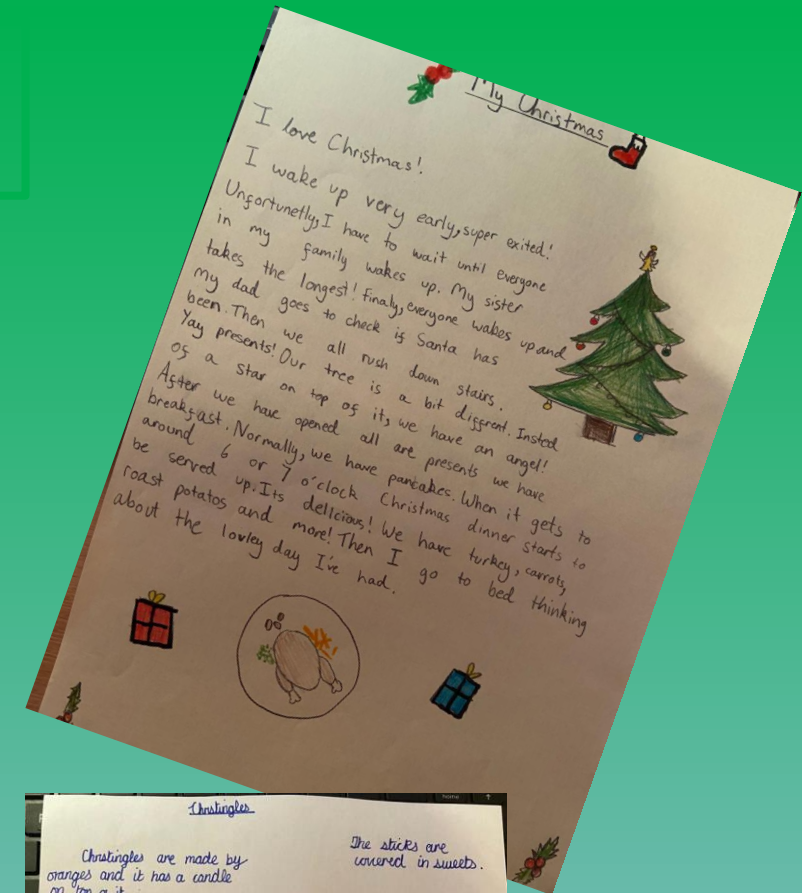
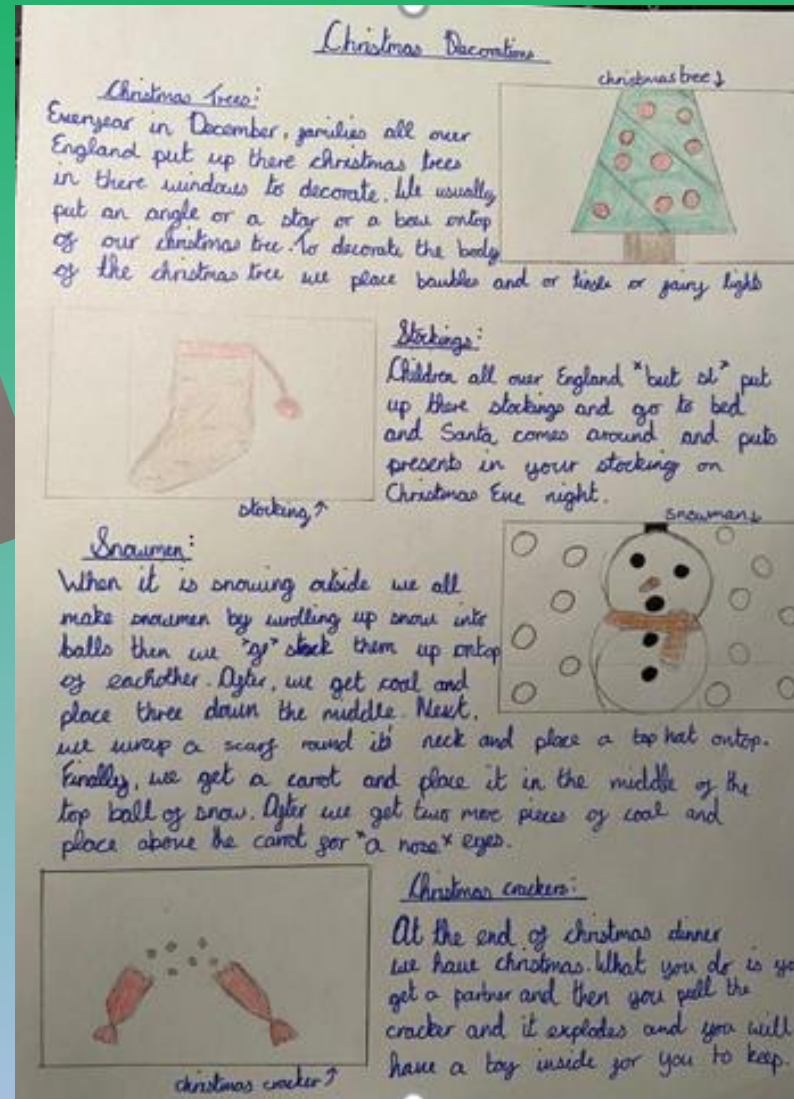
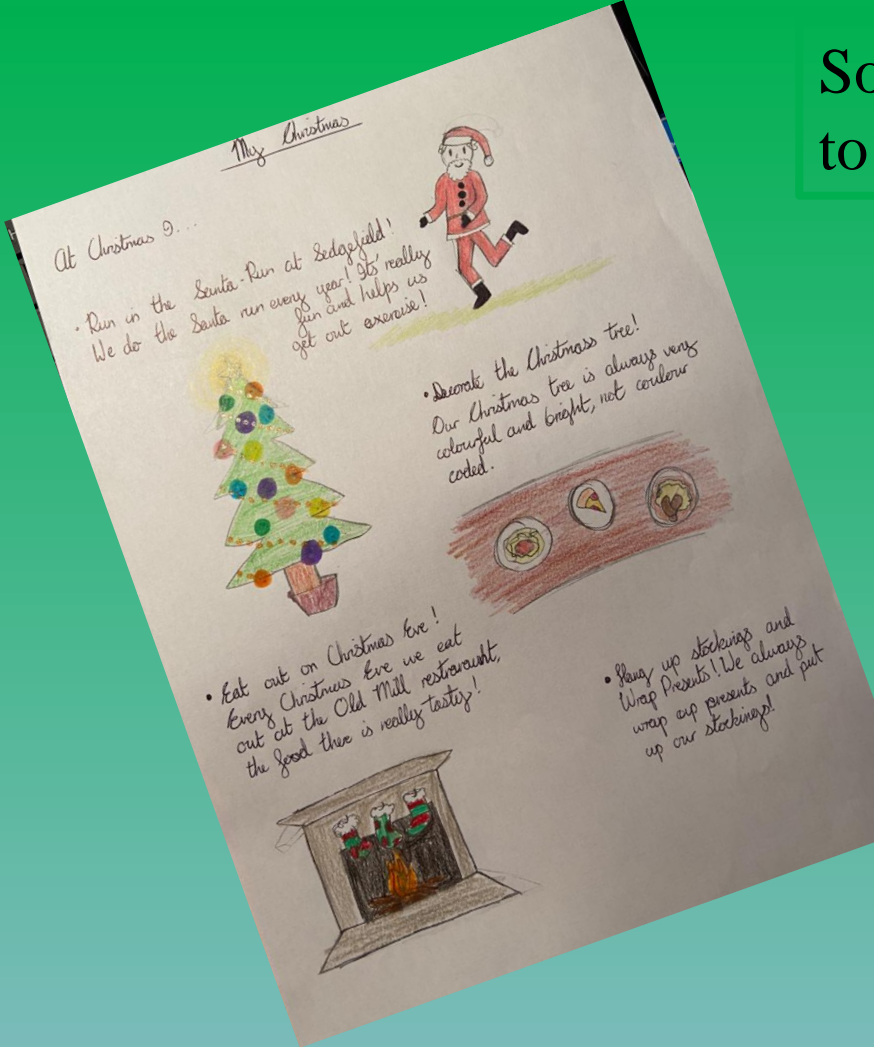
Celebrating the traditions and customs of Christmas around the world December 2020



Christmas cards made from recycled materials sent to our partner schools in France, Brazil and Kenya.




Some of the work Year 6 prepared to share with our partner schools



Year 1 Italy


Italy - Befana

Children in Italy hang up their stockings on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6th. They celebrate the visit of the Three Kings to Bethlehem. Santa Claus does not fill the stockings on Christmas day and instead on the 6th January they expect Befana a jolly witch-like character who rides around on a broom. The legend is that the three kings stopped at her hut to ask for directions. They asked her to join her but she was too busy. Later she wished she had joined them so she went to find them taking with her presents for baby Jesus. She couldn't find them though so she gave her presents to another child. Now each year she does this for all the good girls and boys. Gifts include walnuts, a tangerine and sweets. We watched a video that taught us how to draw a witch step by step. We wanted to draw a witch like Befana.




Italy - Befana

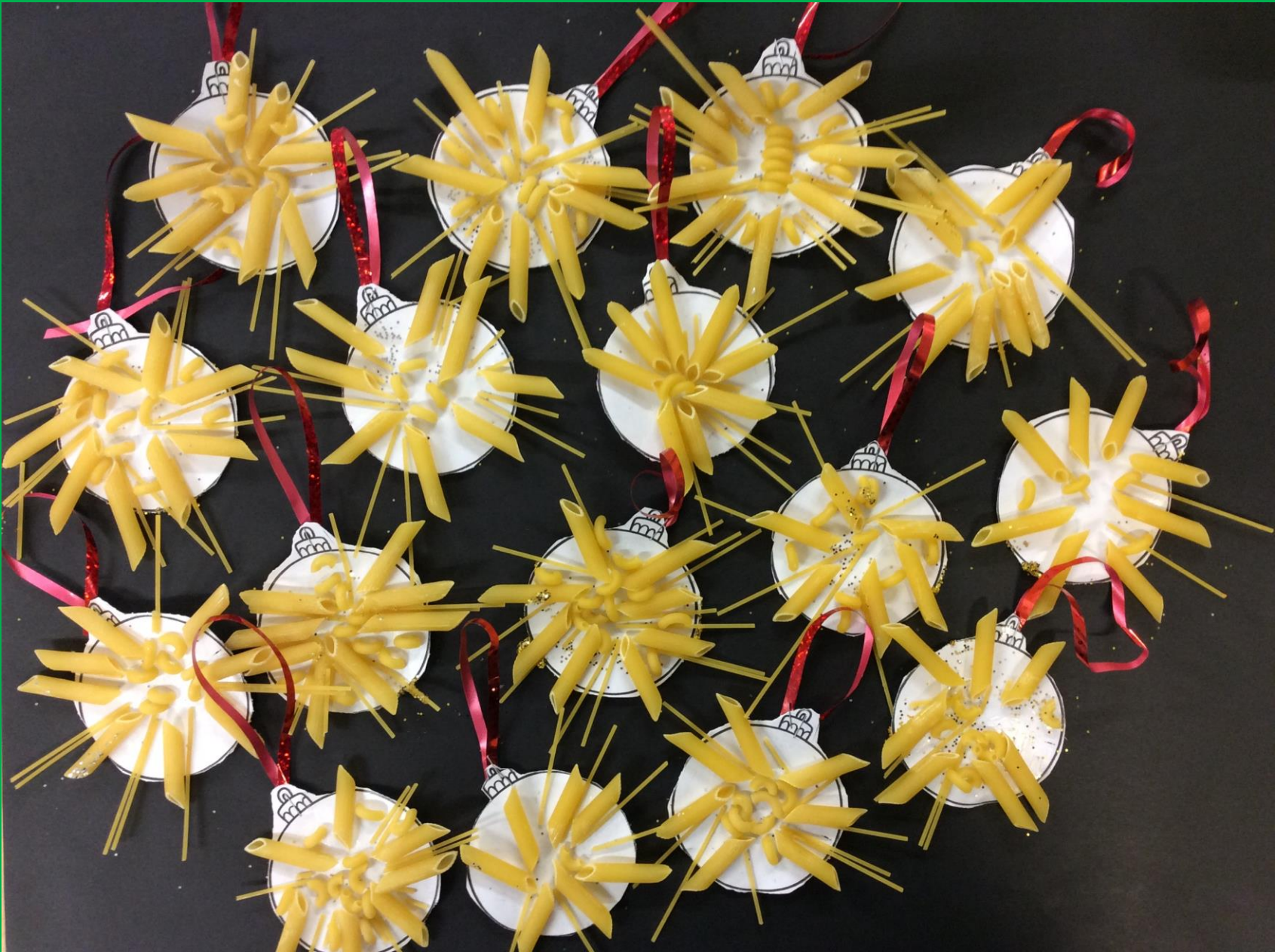
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Year 2

We learnt that **Scandinavia** is made up of five countries in Northern Europe:

- . **Finland**
- . **Sweden**
- . **Norway**
- . **Denmark**
- . **Iceland**

During the winter, Scandinavians only have a few hours of light each day.



Year 2



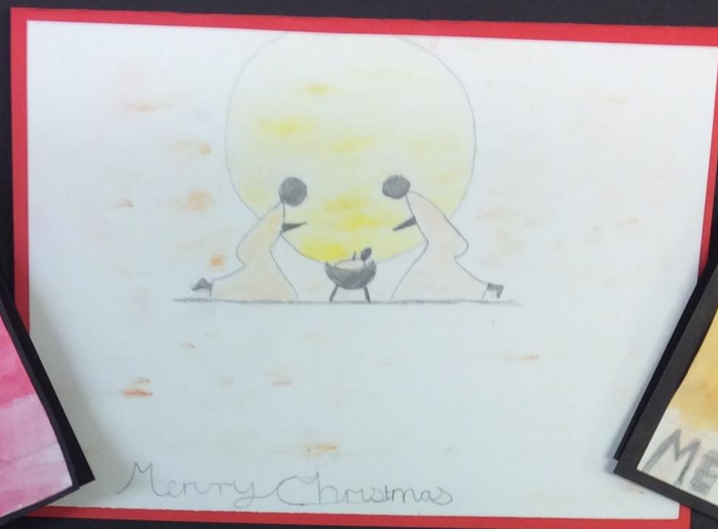


Red and white
are favourite
colours for
Christmas
decorations.

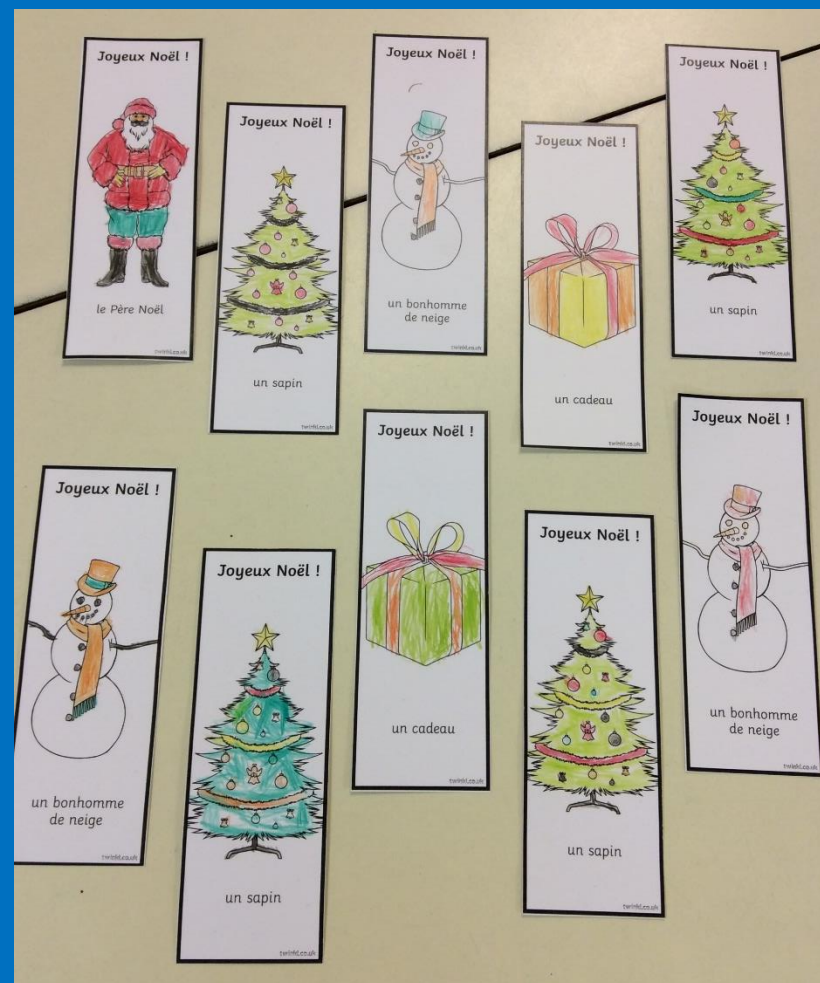
YEAR 4 CAMEROON AND KENYA







Reception France



Year 3 Germany







*Year 5
Portugal
and Brazil*





YEAR 6





New Zealand Christmas

CHRISTMAS TREES

In New Zealand, Christmas trees are called Pohutukawa, the flowers are bright red, and they bloom near Christmas time.



SCHOOL

In New Zealand, they break up in December and have 2 months off school, but in the UK we only get 2 weeks off. As well as kids being off school, adults are off work as soon as the holiday starts.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

People in New Zealand follow the British tradition of having turkey, but others have it with lamb. People in New Zealand also have a Christmas dinner.



Christmas in Italy



- In Italy As well as saint Nicolas they also have la Befana. La Befana visits each house on the twelfth night (January 5th) and leaves presents for the children. Italian parents tell their children that la Befana will leave only ashes or coal if they are naughty.
- The legend say that Befana was sweeping houses when the three wise men had come and othered her to visit baby Jesus with them.
- She said she was too busy to go and was left there sweeping but by the time she had changed her mind she couldn't find the wise men or the new born baby.
- Today she is still searching which is why she visits each household on the twelfth night. Befana visits every house giving presents in hope that one of them is the child. As well as this they also have saint Nicolas which gives present like are most countries in Europe. On 6th of December, many families celebrate St Nicholas Day. Children write letters to St Nicholas asking for gifts and they hang up there either a sock or put a plate on the table on Nicholas day's eve. Children recite poems or carols.
- Italian Christmas cake, known as panettone, is often served after mass on Christmas Eve. It is a dry fruit cake, and is typically eaten with a cup of hot chocolate.
- Sweet snacks and treats are eaten in Italy all through the holiday season. Popular goodies include sweet honey breads, marzipan, nougat and gingerbread, all symbolizing the sweetness of life.
- The Yule Log is important in Italian homes, and many families keep it burning nonstop until New Year. In Tuscany, a huge log is set on fire, during the Festival of the Log.



How do they celebrate?

In each Posada, children are given candles and a board with painted clay figures of Mary riding on a donkey and Joseph, to process round the streets with. They call at the houses of friends and neighbours and sing a song. The song is about Joseph and Mary, and the child who is in charge of a room in the house.



What is the Posada?

The Posada is the journey of Mary and Joseph when they needed to find a place to stay for the night. But everyone was full, and they ask if they can stay in a room. He said, "No, but you can sleep in a stable."

QUICK FACTS!

1. In Mexico, Christmas is celebrated from December 12th to January 6th.
2. Each night a different house holds the Posada party. At the final Posada, on Christmas Eve, a manger and figures of shepherds are put on to the board.
3. Merry Christmas in Spanish is "Feliz Navidad!"

Christmas in Mexico!

