

CHRISTMAS 2023 – NO ROOM AT THE INN



This year we wanted to celebrate Christmas by bringing the Nativity story to life.

So, we created a 'stable' in our outdoor classroom complete with lanterns, a 'fire' and real bales of straw.



We saw the events from a different perspective, through the eyes of people who were actually there.



Each child in the school took part over the course of the week, going into the stable in small groups.

I think Jesus was born in a stable so that people would realise that he is one of us and he loves us all equally.

There were costumes for all the children and a script or story for the adults or pupil narrators to read aloud.

The smell of the straw made it feel like you were really there!



The characters then came to life as the children took on the role of The Angel Gabriel, Mary, Joseph, the innkeeper, shepherds, animals and Magi.

My favourite part was dressing up and imagining being the characters.



Afterwards the characters were interviewed to find out their feelings and thoughts about what they had just witnessed and been part of.

The Wise Men travelled for 3 years so they must have known it was an important journey!



Finally, we were all able to reflect on the experience of visiting God's chosen place for the King of Kings to be born.



Going into the stable at first felt cold and dark but when you were in there you felt cosy and warm.

There was a calmness in the stable. It was an awesome experience.

I think God decided that Jesus should be born in a stable because he wants to show that everyone can see and worship Jesus no matter what situation you are in.



This story of the first Christmas reflects our Lowdham Learner values in so many ways – here are some of the pupils' reflections:

- L** – the Kings travelled far to show their love and respect to Jesus; the shepherds showed their love by worshipping the baby; Joseph showed love by looking after Mary.
- E** – Mary and Joseph let the visitors come in to see Jesus – the shepherds and the wise men were included; all the children in school got to take part in the activity.
- A** – Joseph could have divorced Mary but he stayed with her and did his best looking after her and getting her to Bethlehem safely. He made sure the donkey didn't lose its way on the journey.
- R** – The angels told the good news of Jesus being born. Jesus reached out to show his love to everyone in the world. The Innkeeper reached out by making room for Mary and Joseph.
- N** – Mary and Joseph never gave up, they travelled all that way and did the job God asked them to do; the Kings showed real resilience by keeping going.