Coley Primary School – Knowledge Organiser

SUBJECT FOCUS:	RE	YEAR 4	TERMS 2

WHAT? – Key Knowledge

What is the most significant part of the Nativity story for Christians?

We are surrounded by symbols in our everyday lives. Different symbols carry meanings for different people.

Some symbols may be commercial, secular or religious in their meanings.

Christians celebrate the festival of Christmas to remember the birth of Jesus Christ. They read the Nativity story from the Bible.

Christians believe that Jesus is God's son and that God sent him to Earth.

The Nativity story has lots of people, places and objects that carry symbolic meanings for Christians.

Some people display a Nativity scene in their house at Christmas time.

Some of the symbols seen at Christmas time are not religious symbols.

Some people celebrate Christmas even though they are not Christians.

Some Christians use Christingles to help them think about the birth of Jesus and what it means to them.

The Nativity Story – Key Events

Mary is visited by the angel to tell her she has been chosen to have God's son.

Mary and Joseph travel to Bethlehem to give their name on the Census being written by the Romans.

Mary gives birth to Jesus in a stable because there was nowhere else to stay in the city.

A star appears in the sky when Jesus is born.

Angels visit the shepherds to tell them to visit Jesus.

Much later wise men travel from the East following the star to visit Jesus and bring him gifts.

WHAT? – Key vocabulary

The Incarnation - The Christian concept of "incarnation": God becoming human or literally being "made flesh".
Symbol – something that stands for something else, examples could include pictures or objects.
Religious – relating to or believing in a religion.
Commercial – something that is to make money.
Secular – not being connected to religion.
Nativity – the story of the birth of Jesus Christ. It is found in the New Testament in the Bible.
Christmas – the Christian festival to celebrate the birth of Jesus.
Mary – a young woman who agreed to have God's son
Gabriel – the angel sent by God as a messenger to speak to Mary.
Shepherds – people who care for sheep.
Wise Men – important people who followed the star to find Jesus and give him gifts.
Gold – a precious metal.
Frankincense – is the resin of a Boswellia sacra tree. It can be dried and burned or made into an oil.
Myrrh – is made from the resin of a Commiphora myrrha tree. It can be dried and burned or made into an oil.
Bethlehem – the city where Jesus was born.
Star of Bethlehem – the star that appeared in the sky when Jesus was born.
Stable – a place where animals are housed.
Manger – a feeding box or trough for animals.
Christingle – an orange decorated with sweets or fruit and a candle in the centre.

Frankincense resin



Myrrh resin



Gold



A manger



An artistic representation the Star of Bethlehem



A Nativity scene



An example of a Christingle



Possible experiences:

Visit from REInspired

Visit with a vicar or pastor

Make Christingles

Design symbols

Design Christmas cards or decorations

Learning Objectives

I can design a symbolic object to show the significance of Christmas or the Christmas holiday to me.

I can describe one thing a Christian might learn about Jesus from a Christmas symbol.

I can ask questions about what Christmas means to Christians and compare this with what it means to me.