



## Christmas Party

Christmas is an annual festival commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed primarily on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. Popular modern customs of this celebration include gift giving, completing an Advent calendar or Advent wreath, Christmas music and caroling, an exchange of Christmas cards, church services, a special meal, and the display of various Christmas decorations, including Christmas trees, Christmas lights, nativity scenes, garlands and mistletoe. In addition, several closely related and often interchangeable figures, known as Santa Claus, Father Christmas and Saint Nicholas are associated with bringing gifts to children during the Christmas season and have their own body of traditions and lore.

Our first children performance each year falls right before Christmas so we connect it to our Christmas celebration. We follow the popular modern customs such as decorating an Advent wreath with the children, playing Christmas music, learning many songs and caroling.

We prepare Christmas cards for the parents; we decorate the Centre with various Christmas decorations, including Christmas trees, Christmas lights and garlands. Each class has a separate Christmas party, where the children perform various songs, rhymes, poems learned previously. After the show, the children give gifts to their parents, which they in secret, very carefully made before. These gifts can show how their skills have improved since the beginning of the year.

Our aim with the performance is to show the parents what kind of skills the kids have developed so far, what kind of art techniques they can use and how they can perform in front of many adults. The repertoire always include various songs learned previously in the year and some rhymes, poems depending on the age group and obviously some event related songs as well. All children make an invitation card for the party and two separate presents with two different art techniques for their parents to present their skills and to show their love and appreciation.

We look forward to seeing you at the party in your favorite party outfits.