Our Christmas Party marks the end of our winter term and is a fun party with exploratory play and party games. Our format still follows, play-restplay and during the rest section, there are cakes to hand out



## exploratory play

Three exploratory sensory play areas from the selection available

<u>Santa area</u> - red blankets, santa plush toys, cushions, hats and stockings, links and starlinks, inflatable Santas

<u>Elf area</u> - green, red and white area, with plastic toys, elves and some dressing up props, inflatable reindeers

<u>Snowman/icy area</u> - inflatable snowman, blue blankets, silver blankets, snowflake props, blue toys.

<u>Balloons & festive inflatables</u> - selection of Christmas inspired toys and decorations

<u>Santa sled</u> - inflatable air bed, covered in blankets with Santa & Christmas props

<u>Igloo</u> - white sensory tent, white ball pool balls, links, starlinks and Christmas props

Snowball pool - ball pool with white and clear balls.

Some classes may have 4th area depending on numbers attending - Santa's sleigh - inflatable bed, inflatable reindeer and Santa

### break

serve Christmas cupcakes, ensure that packaging is obvious and available for those who need allergy information - no hot drinks to be provided.

### party games

pass the parcel with babies sitting on their parent's knees (four layers of paper on parcels)

musical statues - parents holding babies and 'freezing' when the music stops, (the babies freeze too!)

#### christmas tree

Ikea fabric Christmas tree laid out on mats. Place Christmas presents at the bottom of the tree and sit babies on fabric Christmas tree for a class photo. After photos ask parents to hand out toys from the bottom of the tree one for each baby.

## calming cuddle

#### notes

This is likely to be the first Christmas event that parents have attended with their babies and such a special event for them, so creating the most positive and welcoming party environment is essential.

Please bring everyone onto the mats and talk them through the play-rest-play format. There are some babies joining us for the first time so please be really clear with safety instructions. Ensure that we let everyone know that they are responsible for their babies at all times and they should keep their little ones in eye sight and arms reach at all times.

### notes continued

There are lots of decorations e.g beads, plush decorations and baubles at the party which are amazing to look at & hold and touch but they should not be mouthed by the babies.

Presents are finger puppets, prizes are maracas or the large teddy bear finger puppet. Pass the parcel present is a sensory ball wrapped 4 times. Please make sure that everyone knows not to leave their little one unsupervised with any of the presents at any time.

Please take photos and let everyone know we'll be sharing a copy of the group photo on our facebook page/group. We'd love to flood our feeds this week with party images. It is a lot of fun and the outfits are amazing so have a great time!

Timings - exploratory play (25-30 mins), break with cake (5 mins), games (10 mins) photo on Christmas tree (10 mins) and santa presents.

At the end of the calming cuddle, thank everyone for coming and take the opportunity to thank everyone who has spent the term with us.

e.g. 'thank you so much for coming, we have loved having you along at our party. If this is your last sessions with us, thank you so much for joining us, we really appreciate that you came and joined us to play. if you are coming back next term we start week beginning 6th of January and we can't wait to see you back then! please remember that your little one may be hungrier than usual and more tired than usual, so don't be surprised if they have a big feed and then a big sleep. Have an amazing Christmas and thank you so much for coming!'