

CHRISTMAS MEANS... THE CHRISTMAS CARD HUNT

We send, on average, 50 cards each and the Royal Mail delivers around 150 millions cards and packets each day during Christmas. There are some Christmas cards hidden around the building in four coloured envelopes. If you find the one I'm looking for, I'd like you to bring it to the front. We get all kinds of Christmas cards; and these have got different pictures on them; each card will be an answer to question – "Christmas means...?"

The Green envelope – it has a picture of food, Christmas dinner "The UK eats around 10million turkeys & 25 million Christmas puddings at Christmas." Is this all that Christmas means? I don't think so!

The Red envelope – Santa and presents; "On Christmas Eve 7million children in the UK will leave Santa a mince pie & a drink." Is that all that Christmas means?

The Yellow envelope – a Christmas tree; "in 2001, 7.5 million Christmas trees were bought in Britain." Is that all that Christmas means?

The Blue envelope – a nativity scene; we will read the three sentences inside: "the birth of Jesus, God's Son; God with us; celebrating our glorious Saviour." Is this all what Christmas means?

Christmas means all kinds of things. These cards all tell us something about way we celebrate Christmas and enjoy them all: food, presents, Santa, tree. But the best bit of Christmas is that Jesus came to world and we tell the stories about His birth & the nativity play today has told that story and we've enjoyed that too.

The card tells us three things about Christmas:

- 1)it is the birth of Jesus, God's Son – a child is born and He is no ordinary child; Jesus is God's Son and that makes Him special.
- 2)He us God with us – John tells us that Jesus was God and that when Jesus came, God came to live in our world, God with us in our world; because God is with us in Jesus, He is now able to help us and save us; the special news is that God has come into world.
- 3)Celebrating our glorious Saviour – Jesus came to save us; this is a great story of Jesus' birth, but the story would later end when Jesus died and rose again at Easter. His birth, life, death, resurrection – all of these events and what JC did make Him our great and glorious Saviour.

This is what Christmas means, remembering Jesus.