

X112 mixed, class activity.

ASH CLASS: 21/11/17

Looking at Botticelli's The Mystic Nativity.

What can you see?

Ethan: In the background there is a cow, a donkey and at the front a baby- might be Jesus. It looks like Jesus because of the way it is.

Asher: It looks like the baby is holding some straw. There is a curved rock, but the wood sticks look like a stable. There is a donkey with Mary, Joseph and Jesus.

Floss: There's a ribbon or a branch. There is a halo or thorn thing, I don't know what it is, it got nailed to the cross.

Jack: Crown of thorns- Jesus. On the left hand side there is a hand. There is a halo round Mary's head.

Noah: It looks like there's someone like Mary because there's blue. The man might be Joseph. The baby might be Jesus. We might see Three Kings or shepherds visiting. In the sky there are angels, celebrating and singing because Jesus is born.

Ahana: There is straw in the stable and the donkey is eating it. We might see Wise Men visiting. There are angels and shepherds at the bottom, hugging.

Milly B: It looks like the baby is sucking its thumb. I think it's the naughty King...

Jack: King Herod



Millie N, Joe, Lilly S, Tia, all noticed the sticks, hands and ribbons and wondered what they were.

Lily G saw a man.

Phoebe saw what looked like a forest.

Harley: There's a box underneath where the baby is sleeping. It looks like everyone is praising or praying from the way they are holding their hands and bowing their heads. There are angels on the top of the roof. The people on the left are wearing posh clothes.

Isabella: There is a piece of silk that the baby is sitting on.

Jak; There is a massive rock in the corner and the baby is leaning on a box

Grace: I can see a cow, and a donkey. There is angel with pink wings.

The children were surprised to see angels of different colours- not just white.

Lucas showed me his picture response to this which included a donkey, a cow and baby Jesus.

Ehsan: This (pointing to Mary's cloak) looks like curtains. The man is wearing one too. Ehsan compared this painting to the stables that the class have been making in DT lessons this week.

Zoe spotted shepherds in the painting.

Jake could see the three wise men, a cow and a donkey.

Felix: I can see angels at the bottom of the picture. There is Mary wearing blue cloth.

Freya spotted the donkey, with straw round its mouth to stop it from biting the baby. (A bridle)

What is at the top of the painting where the angels are? It is not just the sky....what else can you see?

Zoe: There are lots of halos falling down.

Jack: Heaven!

Assessment points:

Recall characters in the Nativity.

Relate symbols, such as blue cloth, manger, stable to the Nativity.

Find indications of Christian practice, eg praying, worship.

Use religious language, eg celebrate, praying, halo, crown of thorns.

Be able to say why this painting is of the Nativity, justify your observations.

Make links to own lives.