



**Headteacher:** Mrs G. Gibbons  
**Highcliffe Road, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9LX**  
**Telephone:** 0113 323 0554  
**E-mail:** [office@stfrancismorley.org.uk](mailto:office@stfrancismorley.org.uk)  
**Website:** [www.stfrancismorley.co.uk](http://www.stfrancismorley.co.uk)

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents / carers,

To help us remember the Christmas story, we would like to invite you to join our special project called "The Travelling Crib". The idea is that it is to help remember the journey Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem and as a family for you to take time to stop and think about the true meaning of Christmas and share this prayer time as a family. The crib will be sent home for you to share that evening and return to school the next day.



Each class has two travelling cribs, which will be coming home for the duration of Advent. The crib box includes: a small crib, a candle, a cloth, the story of the first Christmas, a prayer, a sheet for the children to write/draw about the crib which will be displayed in school and some instructions.

We hope you enjoy The Christmas Crib!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Gibbons  
Headteacher

Miss Goodall  
Religious Education leader

## A bit of background information...

There is an old Mexican custom where, during Advent, people dressed as Mary and Joseph and travelled around their villages knocking at peoples' doors to see who would give them hospitality. This custom has been adapted around the world through the idea of a 'Travelling Crib', which involves the model figures of a nativity scene being passed from house to house each night during Advent, before being brought to Church on Christmas Eve.

This journey symbolises Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem before the birth of Jesus. On their designated night, host families set up the crib in their homes and use the opportunity to stop what they were doing and think as a family about the true meaning of Christmas. It is a lovely, unique way to help families prepare for Christmas, that schools and churches have been facilitating for years.

*Together in truth and faith we learn and grow as God's family*