

Manor St. John Christmas Newsletter 2020



Our 2020 Christmas newsletter ... written and designed for you by our younger members...Our first Christmas memories...Make your own Christmas recipes ... a message for our young people from Maria..



A Christmas Message from Maria...



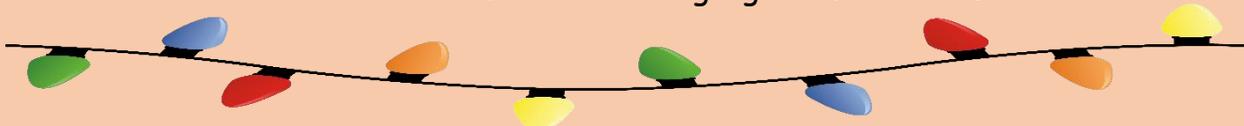
This year has been a tough year for everyone, but because we are a youth services we recognised the impact that it has had on the young people more so. In the early days of Covid 19 they got bad press about their behaviour which in my opinion was unjust. The young people that attend Manor St. John Youth Services have soldiered on taking all the restrictions in their stride, looking after their physical and mental health with all the challenges and programs that the project provided for them. They engaged in whatever way was possible for them, through social media, Zoom, Microsoft Teams, post and even over the phone.



We are now lucky enough to be able to meet in small groups, so we are back to some kind of normality but we must complement the young participants for staying compliant to the restrictions that are still in place.

We would like to take this opportunity to salute you all and wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and new year

From Maria & all the gang at Manor St. John Youth Services



First Christmas Memories – Leah.



I can remember
Christmas Eve making
cookies with my family
and watching the Mrs
Brown Christmas special
with my mam and
brother,

Then when it came for
the time to go to bed I



remember not being able to
sleep until late in the
morning When I finally did
fall asleep I woke up at 7am
and waited for my dad to
come to my house so that I

could go downstairs and open my presents. When I
walked into the sitting room I saw my rabbit which I
named Poppy.

After opening all my presents my dad went home and me, my mam and my brother made pancakes for breakfast. When I had finished eating my breakfast I played with my rabbit and got ready to go to my dad's house for a while. My nanny and granddad made me, my cousins, my aunties and uncles a Christmas dinner and we opened up the crackers then we all gave each other presents.



After I went over to my auntie's house to see the other side of my family, and we all played Christmas games together. Me and my family then went home at 4am.



Christmas Hot Chocolate! - Grace.

Ingredients!

- ½ cups of sugar
- ¼ unsweetened baking cocoa.
- 1/3 cup of water
- ¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- Whipped cream (optional)
- Candy cane (optional)
- 4 cups of milk
- As many marshmallows as you want!



WHAT YOU WILL NEED!

- Any mug of your choice.
- A spoon.
- A straw (optional)



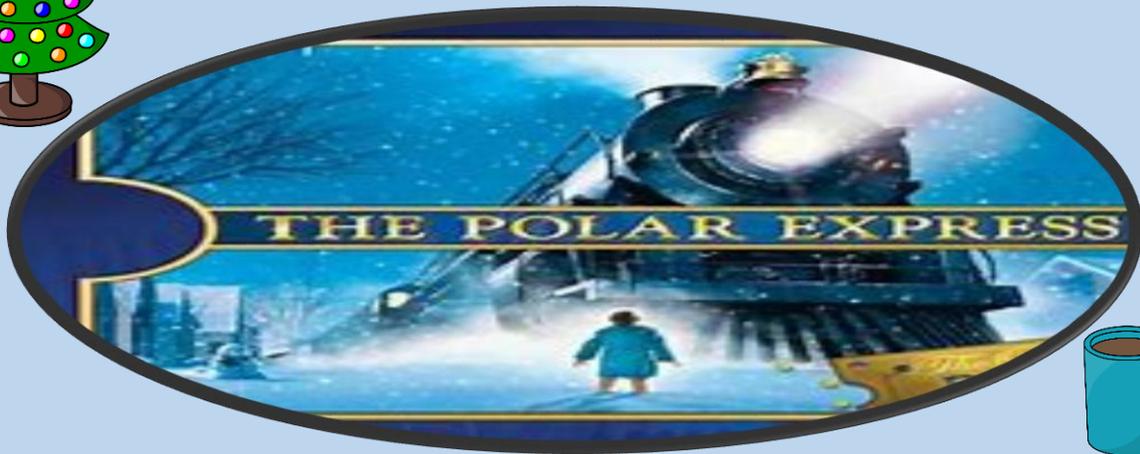
HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOT CHOCOLATE!

First get any mug of your choice. Then put your baking cocoa, sugar, and nutmeg into your mug, mix until combined. Next put your milk into the microwave for about 2 minutes (if you want it warmer put in the microwave for 3-4 more minutes). Add your milk to your dry ingredients, mix until you have a brown like colour. You can then put your marshmallows and candy cane on top, sprinkle some coco powder on top for a finishing touch!



My first Christmas Memory

My first Christmas memory is on Christmas Eve I would sit down with duck and apple sauce and watch the Polar Express with the fire lighting. I also remember bringing out the Christmas tree and all the Christmas decorations and decorating the Christmas tree. The whole town was full of colourful lights and Winterval was here. I went to the ice skating ring and went ice skating and afterwards I had a warm cup of hot chocolate.



I remember waking up on Christmas morning so happy and excited. There was so many presents and among the presents was an envelope and in that envelope was the best Christmas present I ever got I looked and it was 4 tickets to go and see Mrs Brown's boys. I was so excited and happy. My other favourite Christmas present that I ever got was a phone. I was so happy with it I set it up straight away.

Nathan.



Christmas Cookie Recipe

By Leah

Ingredients

- 3 x $3\frac{1}{4}$ cups of all-purpose flour.
- 1 Teaspoon of baking powder.
- $1\frac{1}{2}$ Teaspoon of salt.
- 1 cup margarine (softened).
- 1 $1\frac{1}{2}$ Cups of white sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons of vanilla extract



Method

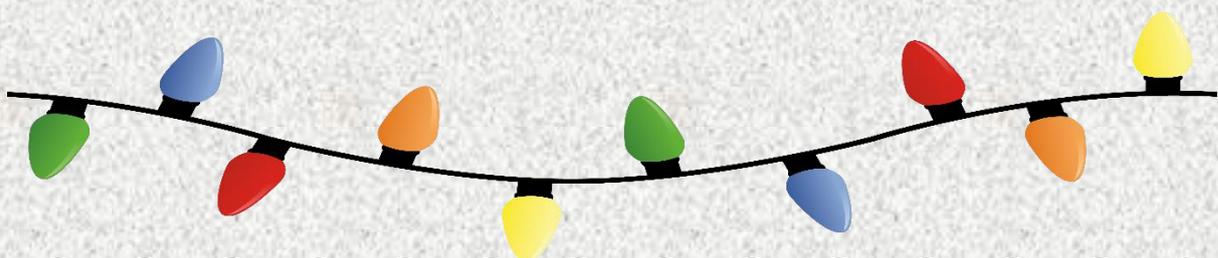
1. Sieve your flour, baking powder and salt together and then set it aside. In a large bowl cream your margarine and sugar together, until light and fluffy. Beat your vanilla. Gradually blend in the sifted

ingredients until fully absorbed. Cover dough and chill for 2 hours.

2. Preheat your oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees c). Then grease your cookie sheets, and then on a clean floured surface, roll out small portions of chilled dough to about 1\4 inches thick. Cut out shapes using any sort of cookie cutters.

3. Bake to about 6-8 minutes in your preheated oven, or until the edges of your cookies are barely brown. Remove your cookies from the cookie sheet to cool on wire racks.

4 Last step, after your cookies have dried on your wire racks is to decorate them with icing sugar - enjoy your cookies!



My first Christmas Memories – Grace.



I can remember putting out the cookies and carrots for

Santa. I had

my stocking in the sitting room, when I woke up I went straight into my Mam and Dad.

We went down stairs and I and my sister

were shocked with all the presents, we ran straight over to all the presents.

There was wrapping paper all over the place, we were so happy with all the presents. Then we went out for breakfast and had lots of chocolate and put on Christmas movies. I and my Sister were playing with our toys, then my Nanny and Grandad came up and gave us money. We went out to the kitchen and showed them all our toys. My favourite toy was my teddy and dolls.





While they were down stairs we went upstairs and got dressed into my Christmas clothes. I was wearing a reindeer jumper, his nose lit up when you touched it.

Then my Mam did my hair in curls.

We then went downstairs and my Dads friend came along he also had presents for us.

My aunty came up with my nanny and grandad. We had turkey for dinner with roast potatoes and veg. They stayed for most that night and we were chatting and watching and singing along to Christmas movies.



My first Christmas Memory - Ben

My first Christmas memory is watching Home Alone film on Christmas Eve in my house.



My favourite Christmas movie of all time is the also Home Alone film.

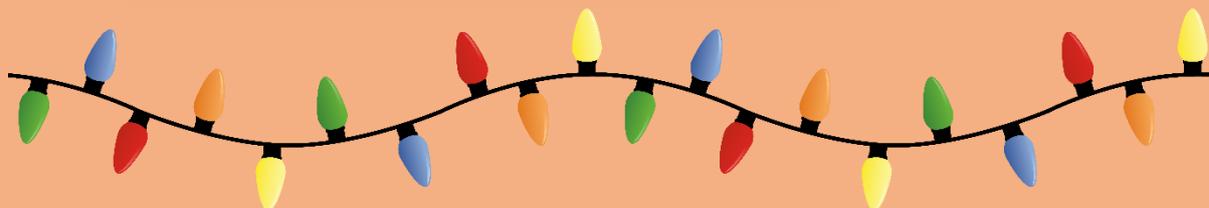


Everybody from Waterford loves Winterval Festival on the Quays. My first memory of Winterval is going to look at the Christmas lights and getting McDonalds after it.

My best Christmas present ever was an Xbox.



Written by Ben



My First Christmas Memory By Eli.

My first Christmas memory is waking up really early and asking my parents if Santa came. And if I can go down stairs to see if there were any presents under the tree. They said it was too early and Santa might not have arrived yet and to go back to bed. So I went back to bed trying to hear Santa and his reindeer if he landed on the roof. I laid there in complete silence.



After about an hour of waiting my parents said I was allowed to go downstairs and see what Santa left me. I ran downstairs and saw a load of presents. I also remember watching the Grinch on TV and how at first he hated Christmas and then he started to like it. I also remember watching Polar Express.

That was my first Christmas memory.

