

By Tavernspite Class 4&5 and Sharron Hardwick

Christmas began early at Tavernspite CP School with a late November visit from Sharron Hardwick, Fair Trade Wales Voluntary School's Speaker.

Sharron created her own whole school assembly presentation on the school's requested theme, reminding pupils of the Christmas story, which began over 2,000 years ago. She talked about how to be more Fairtrade this Christmas, which can make the world a better place.

"Sharron asked: "What Jesus would like for Christmas this year?" My favourite part of the assembly was in the slide show when we guessed what Jesus would like for Christmas. It was fun because you didn't know what was coming up!" said Leon from Class 4.

Sharron made silly suggestions like: i Phones, bikes and Spiderman stuff, but was really looking for a different answer. Layla from Class 4 said: "I think Jesus would like love this Christmas."

Olivia, Class 4, said: "The message from the assembly was to love your neighbours and think about people around the world. It's not just about the presents!"

The school considered that neighbours are not only the people next door, in our street or country, but people across the world; and were keen to think of ways to love and care for neighbours this Christmas.

Sharron asked Tavernspite School to consider having a Fairtrade Christmas, which is one way to help people all around the World to have a better life.

Pupils shared their favourite parts of the assembly; some said it was pictures of the Fairtrade products appearing on the screen, including: chocolates, perfume, toys, footballs, even pants! Mali, Class 4, said: "My favourite part was when we saw the cat in the Santa Suit!"

The most favourite part of the presentation was Sharron's Fairtrade Christmas tree decorated with all of the things that Fairtrade promises: Fair wages, better working conditions, no slave like or forced child labour, using the best methods for the environment, providing money for the community.

Pupils learned that Fairtrade is not about charity, but giving people what they deserve for their hard work, with safe and fair conditions.

After the assembly Classes 4 and 5 worked hard with their teachers and Sharron, writing reports about the Fair Trade Wales visit.

Tavernspite School are keener than ever to buy, support, think and talk about Fairtrade to help neighbours across the world get what they deserve. Harry, Class 5, echoed many people's responses saying: "We learnt that we should buy Fairtrade products because overall it improves people's lives." with class mate Dylan saying: "Tavernspite pupils were grateful to Sharron Hardwick because she encouraged them to buy Fairtrade products".

Nina, Class 4, responded by saying: "I am going to love my neighbour and our world for Jesus this Christmas. I will get Fairtrade things to have a fair Christmas and help the environment."

Sharron was impressed with the caring response and thanks everyone at Tavernspite for their enthusiasm, support and hard work.

