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# Printmaking Xmas cards

A few tips for great cards

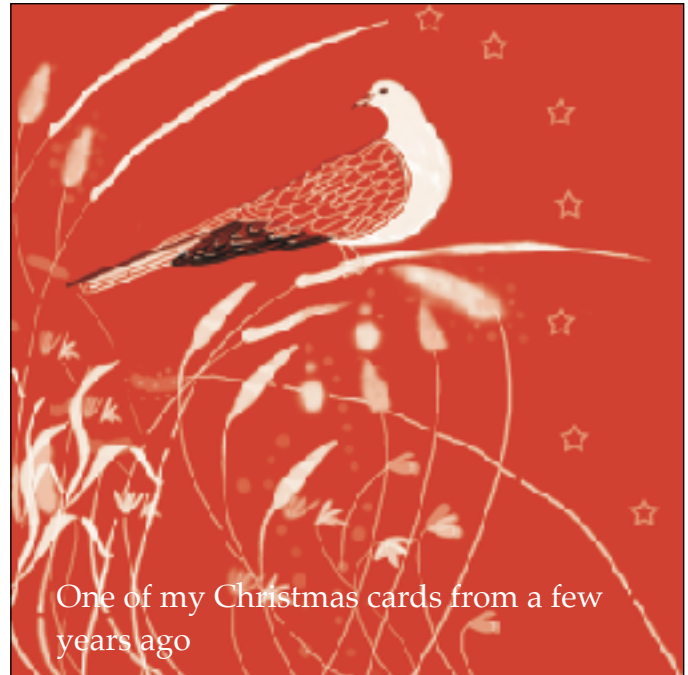
Jane's lesson plans - 3 November 2016

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## Handmade Cards are great to give

A few handy tips will help your cards stand out on the mantelpiece against all the others!

- invest in some ready made white or coloured card blanks and envelopes - saves lots of time and frustration
- ensure you place the image on the RIGHT HAND SIDE
- make sure you have the image either portrait or landscape, still on the RIGHT HAND SIDE
- try and keep the rest of the card pristine and away from any fingerprints or blobs of paint
- think in terms of multiples not singles



## Design & Ideas

- keep it simple - often 2 or three colours in high contrast work the best e.g. very dark blues with whites and a red these colours have contrast (dark against light)
- simple subjects work well - Christmas tree shapes, snowy scene, baubles, swirls, graphic swirls (ribbons)
- check out on Google by typing in Christmas cards, handmade, printmaking
- tricky subjects work well too but best try collaging or even image transfer - see previous lesson plan. Snowflakes (use doillies to printmake) church in a snowy landscape, cat by the fire, winter geese, Father Christmas\*
- draw up to 3 designs and bring with you to class with your equipment

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## EQUIPMENT:

- Hobbycraft sell ready made Christmas printmaking stamps, you can combine with other techniques on the card
- gold, silver and iridescent acrylic paints are fun
- acrylic pens works well, again in gold and even glitter
- use stencils such as paper doilies, rubber stamps, bubble wrap, anything that you can paint and print an impression with
- printmaking: a gelli plate if you have one (check out the video or YouTube to find out how this works plus roller and acrylic paints
- roller and acrylic paints, see previous for colour suggestions
- newspaper, cloths, spare sheets of plain A4 paper, masking tape
- your blank Christmas Cards and envelopes

Finally: a little planning about your design will help enormously with the card making