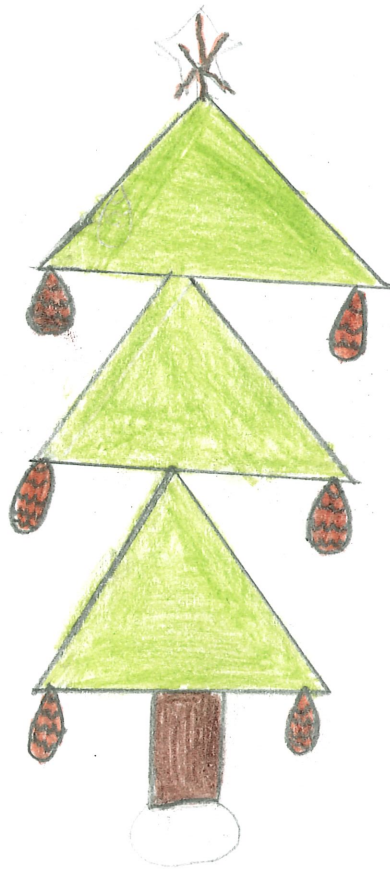




# The magical pine tree



A *Christmas tale* written and illustrated by 4th grade students

Agrupamento de Escolas de Pedrouços

E. B de Pedrouços nº 2

4º H

Once upon a time a *family* was preparing Christmas decorations. As they were a *poor* family, they had to go to the forest nearby to gather pine cones, sticks, pine leaves and acorns to decorate their house.

All that was missing was the pine tree, so the children chose the prettiest **pine tree** in sight, but one that wasn't too big to fit inside their small house.



Happy with their choice, they went back home loaded and tired. Soon afterwards, although exhausted, they decided to decorate the pine tree. With the sticks they made stars, they coloured pine cones with natural paint made from flowers and leaves, the acorns were attached with threads of roots and placed as ornaments on the pine tree.



Before Christmas Eve the children just wrote down a few simple wishes on an old piece of paper: a new **sweater** for each of them, a box of *dominoes* for the family to play with and a **BALL** because the one they had was almost worn out.



During Christmas night, while everyone was fast asleep, the Christmas Pine tree came to life and managed to read the list of wishes. He felt very *sad* and sorry for the children and decided to give them a magical **SURPRISE**.

With the *pine cones* he made a ball, with **PINE NUTS** and *acorns* he made a domino and with the leaves and roots he made sweaters, using *pine needles*.

The next morning, the children couldn't **believe** what they saw... they were happy to receive the gifts they wished for... and very curious to know what had happened to their ornaments!!!



The end