

You can...it's the holidays!

WHY CAN'T I JUST  
READ ALL DAY,  
EVERYDAY?



# Northmead's

# Reading Newsletter

December 2020

10<sup>th</sup> Edition

Thank you for your support with reading over this term.

Christmas is a great time to continue reading with your children. Perhaps Father Christmas will deliver them a new book to read. In this newsletter I have included ideas of what to read and fun activities for reading over the festive period.

If you have a clear out of books in the New Year, we will happily receive any good quality second hand books to supplement our library. Please email Miss Lewis on [denise.lewis@northmead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:denise.lewis@northmead.surrey.sch.uk) if you have donations and we can discuss how to receive these safely in school.

Because of COVID disruption this term, not all classes will have taken their star reader assessments before Christmas, so any new colour bands will be decided in the New Year.



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## CHRISTMAS READING CHALLENGE

### THE 12 CHALLENGES OF CHRISTMAS

Read a Christmas themed book	Have a whole family bedtime story	Create a puppet show of a book
Read a story by the Christmas tree	Read a book that is older than you	Build a den and share a story in it
Read a story about an animal	Read a book about kindness	Share a story with someone over Zoom
Draw a picture from your favourite book	Share a poem with someone	Read a book that makes you laugh

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**TIS THE SEASON TO GET READING!**

@MISTERBODD



Inspiration from Penguin Books

## Ade Edmondson's guide to reading stories over Christmas

*There's no better time to share stories as a family than at Christmas. So, author and actor Ade Edmondson has given us his tips on the best ways to enjoy them...*



My friend Rachel says her Gran won't allow anyone to use phones or even watch the TV on Christmas Day. Her Gran says it's a day for sharing with the rest of the family, for eating too much and for playing board games. And why not for reading to each other as well?

Here's an idea. Instead of watching the same old films that are always on the telly at Christmas, why not practice reading a chapter from your favourite book (or a whole

book if it's not too long) and read it out loud to the rest of the family.

### The best times to read over Christmas

1. On Christmas Eve, just before bedtime.
2. On Christmas Eve, just after bedtime (remember to take a torch to bed).
3. On Christmas morning outside your parents' bedroom door. Instead of waking them up shouting, 'Has he been? Has he been?' you could read them *A Visit from St. Nicholas* by Clement Clarke Moore. It's only three minutes long!
4. After everyone's stuffed themselves with turkey and pudding, and everyone's in a brilliant mood – read them the funniest chapter of a book you've ever read.

Here's a handy guide to how long it takes to read some Christmas classics:

**3 mins:** *A Visit from St. Nicholas* by Clement Clarke Moore. This is the one that starts, "Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse."

**8 mins:** *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss. Or double that if you stop and examine all the pictures, which is worth doing.

**20 mins:** *A Child's Christmas in Wales* by Dylan Thomas. This one will have your parents weeping in no time at all, a) because they will be remembering the Christmases of their youth, or b) because they are Welsh.

**2 hrs:** [\*A Christmas Carol\*](#) by Charles Dickens. Or, as it is written in five chapters, you could read a chapter each evening in the run-up to Christmas. Or maybe take it in turns to read a chapter each?

### Getting ready to read out loud



Did you know that Charles Dickens used to really enjoy doing public readings of *A Christmas Carol*? He crossed out about 25% of the book and made it about 85 minutes long. You can see this edited copy in the New York Public Library, or there are pictures of it online.

If you're going to read something aloud, don't be afraid of editing it yourself. Books are generally written to be read to yourself, and reading aloud you often find that sticking to the main story is more exciting for the listeners.

# Primary School Book Gift Guide 2020



Recommended for ages 7-9

## NEW for this Christmas



## Recommended Bedtime Stories



## Super-fun stories



## Classic Stories



## Non-Fiction Books



## Award Winning Books



## Gorgeous Gift Books



# Primary School Book Gift Guide 2020



Recommended for ages 9-11

## NEW for this Christmas



## Classic Stories



## Non-Fiction Books



## Award Winning Books



## Gorgeous Gift Books



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

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