



Killamarsh Infant and Nursery School Reading Newsletter



The National Year of Reading 2026!!

The **National Year of Reading (NYR) 2026** is a major UK-wide campaign led by the [Department for Education and National Literacy Trust](#) to inspire all ages to rediscover reading for pleasure, addressing a decline in reading enjoyment by making it relevant to modern life and personal passions, under the theme "**Go All In**," connecting books to hobbies like music, film, or gaming. This initiative aims to boost literacy, empathy, and wellbeing across communities.

As part of our commitment to NYR 2026 we have lots of activities planned so watch this space...

Christmas Recommendations



Mrs McMordie recommends

'*Little Robin Red Vest*' by Jan Fearnley. I love this story because it reminds me how much I enjoying giving gifts to the people I love as well as receiving gifts. My children loved to read this story in the winter snuggled up under a blanket keeping toasty warm.

Little Robin washes and irons seven warm vests to keep him cosy in lead up to Christmas. As each day goes by, Robin encounters a different shivering animal generously offers each animal one of his vests to wear.

When Christmas Eve arrives, he finds himself with nothing warm left to wear. Fortunately, a festive visitor in a red suit and a soft, white beard spots Robin and finds a joyous way to reward him for his kindness to others.



Mrs Skingle recommends

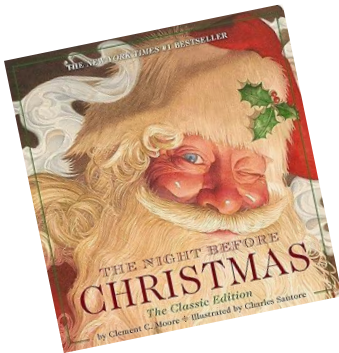
'How Winston Delivered Christmas' By Alex T Smith. I love reading this book with my family daily throughout December, right up until Christmas Day. It has been a tradition in my house for many years and we love sharing the story and completing the activities.

An advent story told in twenty-four-and-a-half chapters! When a mouse named Winston finds a lost letter addressed to Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, he sets off on an unforgettable journey to personally deliver the letter to Santa! *How Winston Delivered Christmas* is a heart-warming story, organized in twenty-four-and-a-half chapters, to share during the countdown to Christmas. Starting on December 1, children can read a chapter a day, and each chapter is followed by a fun and festive holiday activity to complete. This illustrated advent story tells of the adventures of an adorable mouse and how a good deed can lead to a very happy ending.

Mrs Crookes recommends

'The Night Before Christmas'. This book has been read to the children in my family on Christmas Eve for many years. My mum read it to myself and my sister and now I read it to my children. It really brings the magic of Christmas Eve alive! We love it!

The Night Before Christmas is an enchanting Christmas story that has brought Santa Claus to life for generations. Celebrate the holiday season with a New York Times bestselling classic poem written by Clement C. Moore.



Miss Judson recommends

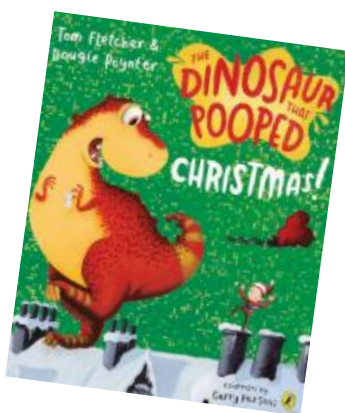
'The Dinosaur That Pooped Christmas'...a roaringly festive read! Get ready to unwrap a truly hilarious and modern Christmas story!

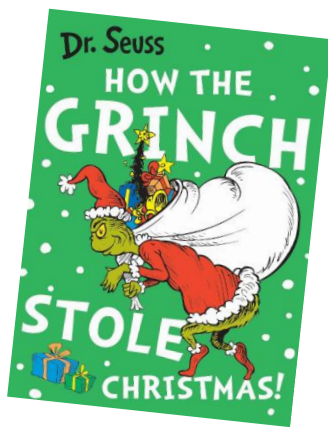
This book is one of mine and Nursery's favourites...perfect for sharing a few giggles during the most wonderful time of the year!

The story follows the familiar duo, Danny and his pet dinosaur. Danny is desperately looking forward to Christmas morning, but things go terribly wrong. Father Christmas appears to have skipped his house, and Danny is left with no presents and a very grumpy, hungry dinosaur.

I love this book as you can tell the McFly boys, Tom Fletcher and Dougie Poynter, are behind the text. The writing has a brilliant musical quality, filled with rhyme and rhythm that makes reading it aloud an utter joy. The verses bounce along perfectly, making it easy to create an exciting story time. What truly makes this book a Christmas cracker for the nursery kids is the humour. There is simply nothing funnier to a three or four year old than the word "poop!". Best of all, our nursery kids are always keen to join in - whether it's making roaring sounds when the dinosaur appears or enthusiastically shouting out the rhyming words.

It's a wonderful, modern alternative to classic Christmas stories...I definitely recommend adding it to your Christmas reading list!





Mrs Whittingham recommends

Dr Seuss - 'How the Grinch stole Christmas'. I always enjoy reading this story to my little boy at Christmas, he finds the grumpy Grinch very funny! I love how the book rhymes and has a wonderful flow to it. Every time I read this story it feels like it is the beginning of Christmas.

The timeless Christmas classic from the iconic Dr. Seuss! Read this favourite story of joy, love and acceptance anytime, anywhere!

"The Grinch hated Christmas! The whole Christmas season! Now, please don't ask why. No one quite knows the reason..." With a heart two sizes too small, the Grinch is the meanest creature you'll ever meet. He hates Christmas and the whole festive season. But when he hatches a dastardly plot to steal Christmas, he's in for a big surprise! With hilarious rhymes and beautiful illustrations, this classic seasonal story has become a favourite for good reason and teaches readers the true meaning of Christmas.

Mrs Weretelnikow recommends

'The Christmasaurus' by Tom Fletcher. We have loved this book in our house, from reading the picture book to now reading the chapter book. It is great to read throughout December, up to Christmas Day. A story all about the magic of believing!

This story starts, like all good stories, a long time ago. Not just a long time ago, a very, very, very long time ago. Squillions of years ago, in fact. Full of innocent charm and humour, The Christmasaurus follows the adventures of a little boy named William Trundle who travels to that most magical home of Santa Claus, The North Pole, where he meets a dinosaur. This is not the North Pole as you may have imagined it before: there are elves with names like Snozzletrump speaking entirely in rhyme, Santa has a vinyl-powered sleigh, and, most importantly, there is a dinosaur in residence: a dinosaur who wishes he was a reindeer.

Miss Clegg recommends

'Mog's Christmas'. This has always been a favourite story of mine, as I used to read the Mog collection when I was a child. I love that it shows the changes around Christmas from the perspective of a cat. Mog is part of the Thomas family and is always getting herself into a bit of bother. In this particular story, Mog is confused by the walking and talking Christmas trees, melting clouds and the white things that fall out of the sky. She does not like all these changes, so hides on the roof and will not come down... by the end of the story, Mog realises that there was nothing to be afraid of, and that all the decorations look lovely. Mog even gets a Christmas dinner of her own!

