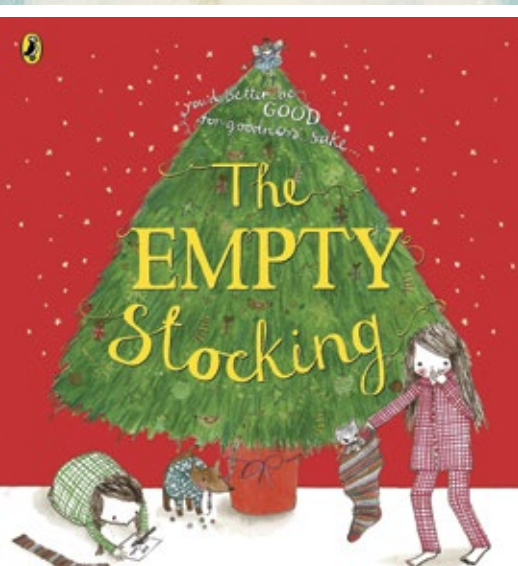
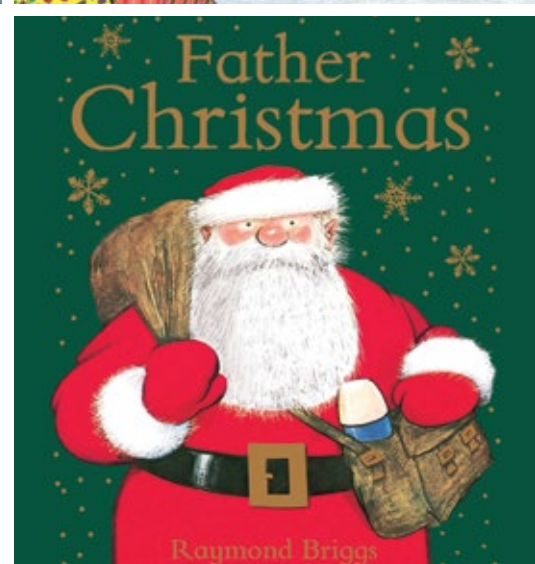
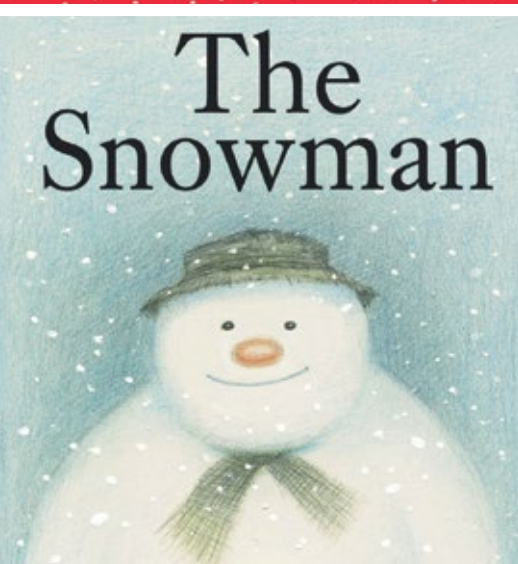
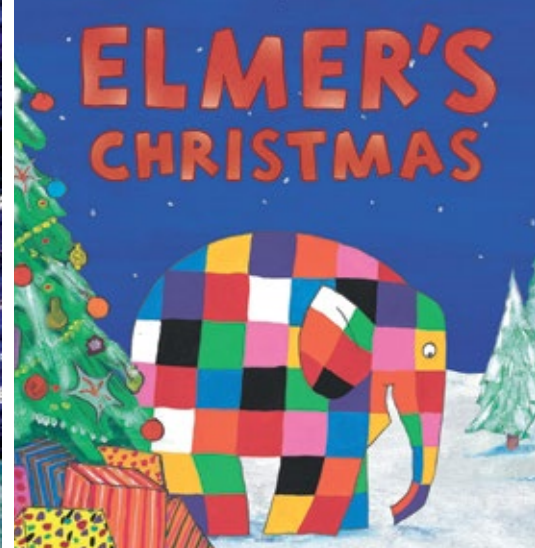
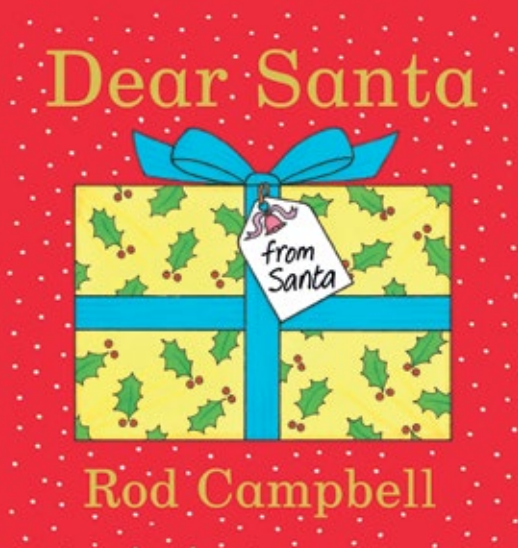




Christmas Booklist for Children

24 books to get everyone in your school in the festive spirit.

At BookSpace we enjoy putting together booklists to celebrate special days, anniversaries and celebrations, but of course the one we all look forward to most is our Christmas book selection. It's an opportunity to not only focus on new books that children will love but, as it's Christmas, we've also included some classics which the BookSpace team remember from childhood and still read with their own children today.

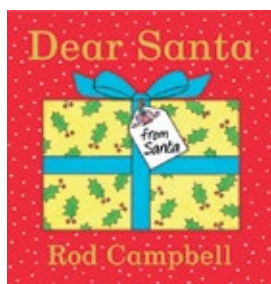
As with all our booklists we've gone for range and depth including books for Foundation through to Year 6. There are books which can be shared as a whole class story and books that will encourage even the most reluctant reader to read independently. There are interactive lift-the-flap style books for younger children and some great books, including ones that will especially appeal to boys, for older readers.

We hope you enjoy browsing through the list as much as we enjoyed compiling it.

Best wishes,

The BookSpace Team

The logo for BookSpace, with 'Book' in a dark grey sans-serif font and 'Space' in a bright blue sans-serif font.



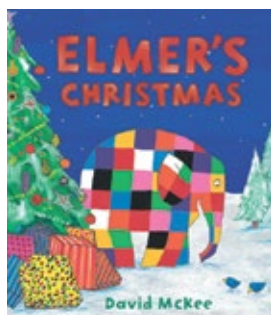
Dear Santa

Author: Rod Campbell

Publisher: Macmillan Children's Books

Interest age: 3-5

What exciting surprises does Santa have this year? With simple, easy-to-follow sentences and bright, bold artwork 'Dear Santa' is Ideal for Foundation and Reception children. There's also plenty of opportunities to develop vocabulary and conversation.



Elmer's Christmas

Author: David McKee

Publisher: Andersen Press

Interest age: 3-5

It's two days before Christmas Eve, the night Papa Red visits, and the young elephants are very excited. They choose a tree to decorate and prepare the presents for Papa Red to collect during the night to take to those who need them. But this year Elmer has a special treat in store for the young elephants, if they can keep quiet and out of sight...



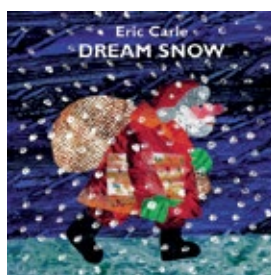
Pick A Pine Tree

Author: Patricia Toht

Publisher: Walker Books

Interest age: 3-5

Brimming over with the excitement of being with family at the festive season, a gorgeously rhythmical, read-aloud narrative accompanied by warm, joyful art celebrates all the familiar rituals of decorating the tree – from digging out jam-packed boxes of trimmings, stringing tinsel, to, at last, turning on those twinkly fairy lights.



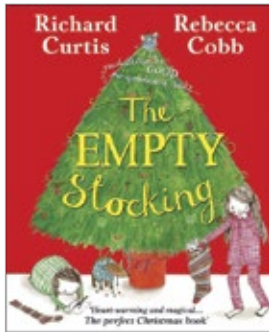
Dream Snow

Author: Eric Carle

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 3-6

'Dream Snow' has become a contemporary Christmas classic since it was published more than a decade ago. With peekaboo animals hidden under the snow, the shimmering tree decorated for the holiday and glittery snowflakes on the cover, this book is a delight. It's full of surprises as the Santa-like farmer dreams of snow on Christmas Eve, and wakes to discover real snow has fallen, just in time for him to give gifts to his cherished animals. Imaginative and multi-sensory, it's a Christmas book that KS1 children will love.



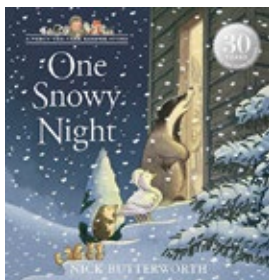
The Empty Stocking

Author: Richard Curtis

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 3-6

A favourite with teachers this story encourages good behaviour for the entire Christmas period. It's Christmas Eve and there's one very important question on everyone's mind - have YOU been good this year? For twins Sam and Charlie this is a big worry. Charlie has been especially naughty and everyone is sure that she won't get any presents AT ALL. But when Santa makes a mistake, it's up to Charlie to put things right...



One Snowy Night

Author: Nick Butterworth

Publisher: HarperCollins

Interest age: 3-7

Percy the park keeper always feeds the animals in the park where he lives. But one cold winter's night Percy discovers that his little friends need more than food and he must find a way to help them. This is one of those heart-warming Christmas stories we all love and it teaches children about animals in winter and how to understand and think about the world around them.



The Christmas Pine

Author: Julia Donaldson

Publisher: Scholastic

Interest age: 3-7

Not only is this a magical picturebook, the origins of The Christmas Pine provides lots of content for classroom discussions. Based on a true story, it celebrates a special tradition that stretches back over seventy years. Every year, the Mayor of Oslo in Norway presents the British people with a spectacular Christmas tree. The tree is a symbol of peace and friendship, and a thank you for the UK's support during World War II. Each year, the UK Poetry Society asks a poet to write a poem to welcome the tree. Julia Donaldson originally wrote The Christmas Pine to celebrate the 2020 Christmas tree.



The Snowman

Author: Raymond Briggs

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 4-7

Another Raymond Briggs' Christmas classic that the BookSpace team love. One winter's night, a snowman comes to life and an unforgettable adventure begins... Narrated entirely through pictures 'The Snowman' is the perfect book to engage younger children in storytelling and to help develop KS1 pupils' vocabulary.



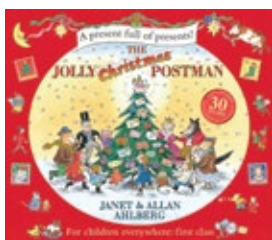
The Gruffalo's Child

Author: Julia Donaldson

Publisher: Macmillan Children's Books

Interest age: 4-7

Every member of the BookSpace team is a massive Gruffalo fan and The Gruffalo's Child is one of our favourites. The Gruffalo said that no gruffalo should ever set foot in the deep dark wood. But one wild and windy night the Gruffalo's child disobeys her father's warnings and ventures out into the snow. After all, the Big Bad Mouse doesn't really exist... does he?



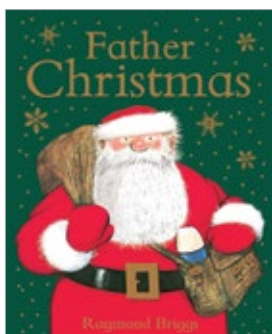
The Jolly Christmas Postman

Author: Allan Ahlberg

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 4-8

It's Christmas Eve and our favourite postman sets out on his round to deliver greetings to some well-known characters. Find out what's on Humpty-Dumpty's get-well jigsaw and who has sent Red Riding Hood a board game for Christmas. Children will love exploring what's in the envelopes; KS1 children will enjoy the rhyming text and KS2 children can start to read the letters for themselves.



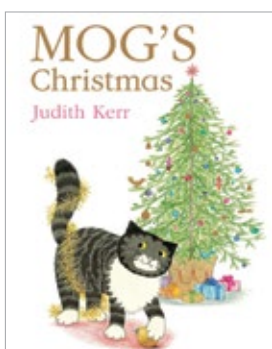
Father Christmas

Author: Raymond Briggs

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 4-8

No Christmas booklist would be complete without Raymond Briggs's classic, 'Father Christmas.' Christmas Eve morning, a very grumpy Father Christmas is dreaming about summer, and certainly doesn't want to get up in the cold to deliver presents! Your class will love to follow his journey through the night, as he battles the elements to deliver his presents.



Mog's Christmas

Author: Judith Kerr

Publisher: HarperCollins

Interest age: 4-8

Mog must be one of our most popular picturebook characters and 'Mog's Christmas' is probably our favourite Mog story. The house is full of strange bustling, there are new noises and new smells, and where is that tree going? Disconcerted by all the unusual activities, Mog escapes to the roof, and there she stays... until, unexpectedly, she returns with a bump!



Mrs Pepperpot's Christmas

Author: Alf Proyson

Publisher: Red Fox

Interest age: 4-8

We all really loved this classic Christmassy Mrs Pepperpot adventure. Mrs Pepperpot is looking forward to the Christmas Market, and plans to buy lovely presents, but Mr Pepperpot isn't so keen. But when Mrs Pepperpot shrinks, and hides in his rucksack she is able to use her persuasive powers to convince him otherwise.



How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Author: Dr Seuss

Publisher: HarperCollins

Interest age: 4-8

We couldn't leave out Dr Seuss from our Christmas booklist as he's a firm favourite with the BookSpace team. 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!



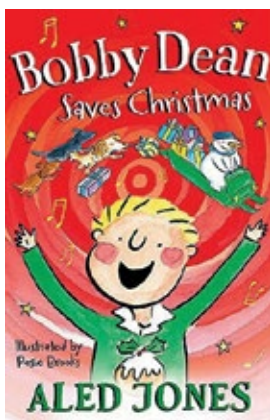
The Night Before Christmas

Author: Clement Moore

Publisher: Orchard Books

Interest age: 4-9

We think no festive season is complete without a copy of 'The Night Before Christmas.' All the excitement and anticipation of Christmas Eve is captured in this magical version of this popular festive verse. There are many versions of this book but we especially like this one because the detailed illustrations depict a wonderful, snow-covered world that sparkles with excitement.



Bobby Dean Saves Christmas

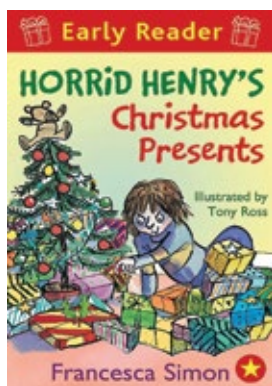
Author: Aled Jones

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton

Interest age: 5-7

Sent off to school for the first time in his life, nine-year-old Bobby Dean is busy making new friends, learning lines for the Nativity Play, and trying to not laugh at the head teacher's terrible jokes. But then Bobby Dean discovers that when he sings magical things can happen!

From rescuing kidnapped dogs, helping Santa, and even travelling back in time - Bobby Dean's first term is going to be one full of wonder, adventure, and the magic of song!



Horrid Henry's Christmas Presents

Author: Francesca Simon

Publisher: Orion

Interest age: 5-8

An 'Early Reader' story that's perfect for developing readers, written to act as a stepping stone from picture books to copy-heavy reading books but packed with Horrid Henry's inimitable escapades and schemes. Hurrah – Horrid Henry has come up with a great plan to get out of buying Christmas presents for his family!



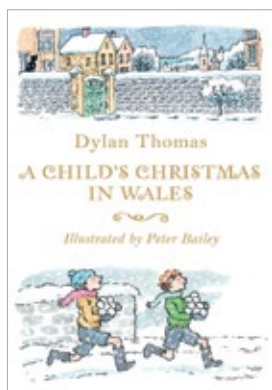
The Snowman

Author: Michael Morpurgo

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 6-11

Written to mark 40 years since Raymond Briggs' 'The Snowman' was first published, Michael Morpurgo's chapter book is perfect for KS2 readers who loved the picturebook version when they were younger. Morpurgo's book provides the back-story to James, the little boy. He has a stutter, which is why he doesn't talk much. Friends have excluded him from things because of this stammer, so he often feels lonely. All of this gives another reading to the tale which only makes it feel even more magical.



A Child's Christmas in Wales

Author: Dylan Thomas

Publisher: Orion

Interest age: 6-11

We love this retelling of family Christmases with snoring uncles among handmade decorations and the hilarious debacle of the fire in Mrs Protheroe's house on Christmas Eve. This classic book is the ideal introduction for KS2 children to Dylan Thomas' work, with rich language to expand your pupils' vocabulary.



The Three Wishes

Author: Alan Snow

Publisher: Pavilion

Interest age: 7-9

The stunning illustrations in 'The Three Wishes' make this a firm favourite with the BookSpace design team. The story explains how Father Christmas can visit so many children in one night and why he has a red coat. Set long ago in a country that is far off in the frozen north where there is a strong community of families who live by hunting and foraging while their children look after the reindeer, it tells how a young boy, lost in deep snow in the forest, is saved from death by finding a mysterious cave full of magic and wonder from another world.



The Christmasaurus

Author: Tom Fletcher

Publisher: Puffin

Interest age: 7-11

This is a story about a boy named William Trundle and a dinosaur named the Christmasaurus. It's about how they meet one Christmas Eve and have a magical adventure. It's about friendship and families, sleigh bells and Santa, singing elves and flying reindeer. It's about discovering your heart's true desire, and learning that the impossible might just be possible...



A Christmas Carol

Author: Charles Dickens

Publisher: Pavilion

Interest age: 8-11

It's not often you'll find a Charles Dickens' title on a BookSpace booklist, but what Christmas would be complete without one of the most festive stories of all time. 'A Christmas Carol' is the book that defines the Christmas spirit. Ebenezer Scrooge, a mean-spirited miser, is visited by three ghosts one Christmas Eve. The ghosts show Scrooge the true value of Christmas: charity, good humour and love for his fellow man.



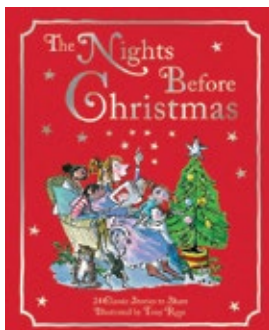
A Boy Called Christmas

Author: Matt Haig

Publisher: Canongate

Interest age: 9-11

Father Christmas was not always an old, jolly man with a white beard, he was once just a little boy. Little Nikolas's life was not easy. Rarely receiving any kind of gift at Christmas, he certainly believed in happiness...yet he didn't experience very much of it. Until one day, something magical happened. Nikolas' life-changing adventure, is full of fantastic characters and beautiful moments.



The Nights Before Christmas

Author: Tony Ross

Publisher: Andersen Press

Interest age: 9-11

'The Nights Before Christmas' is a great addition for any primary school library or classroom, featuring a story, poem or carol for each of the 24 days of Advent this book includes both modern tales and traditional classics. Illustrated through by the award winning illustrator, Tony Ross, this anthology will encourage children to reflect on the Christmas period.