

2023



The Federation of Children's Book Groups



# 'TIS THE SEASON



A magical time of year, December is full of festivals and celebrations. With the season of Advent leading to Christmas Day, Hanukkah, the Winter Solstice and Hogmanay to name a few, there is plenty going on. This selection of beautiful books has a mainly Christmas theme, but offers a wealth of stories to share and treasure.



**Celebrate! Discover 50 Fantastic Festivals from Around the World**  
Laura Mucha, illustrated by Hannah Tolson

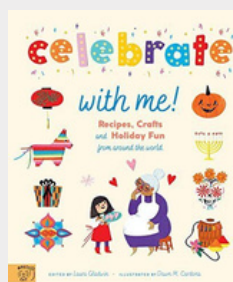


Welcome to a whole world of celebrations in this fascinating book! This beautifully illustrated book shines a light on 50 fascinating festivals from around the world.

Nosy Crow and the British Museum  
ISBN: 978-1839940415



**Celebrate with Me! Recipes, Crafts and Holiday Fun from around the World**  
Laura Gladwin, illustrated by Dawn M Cordona

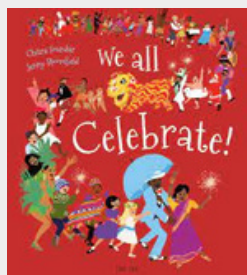


Helping the reader to discover and value celebrations from many cultures, this lovely book offers a wonderful selection of recipes, crafts, stories and games for each occasion, contributed by people who celebrate them.

Magic Cat Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1913520601



**We All Celebrate!**  
Chitra Soundar, illustrated by Jenny Bloomfield

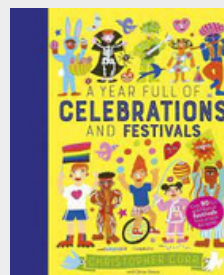


Everyone enjoys celebrations, but we don't all celebrate the same occasions or in the same way. This lovely book introduces the reader to some less familiar celebrations from around the world as well as more familiar ones.

Tiny Owl Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1910328675

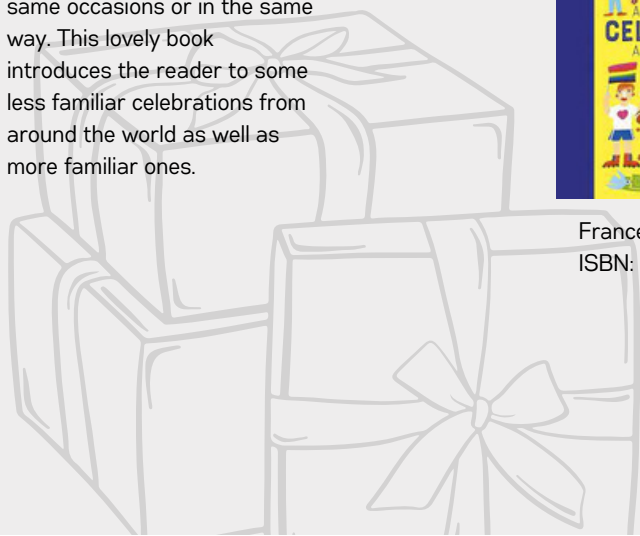


**A Year Full of Celebrations and Festivals**  
Claire Grace, illustrated by Christopher Corr

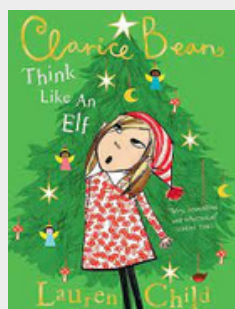


Travel around the world, celebrating a wealth of festivals with this brightly illustrated book. Explore those which are celebrated for religious and cultural reasons, to mark important historical dates or just for fun!

Frances Lincoln  
ISBN: 978-0711245426



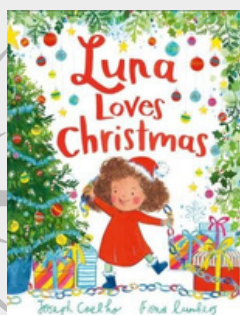
Clarice Bean: Think Like an Elf  
Lauren Child



Harper Collins  
ISBN: 978-0008472337

Clarice Bean is back to save her family's Christmas. She usually looks forward to the festive season, but this year is going to be a quiet-ish Christmas in her house, which doesn't feel right- so she's going to think like an elf...

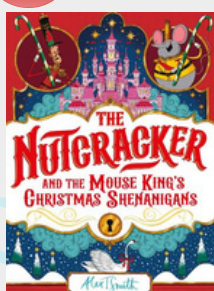
Luna Loves Christmas  
Joseph Coelho, illustrated by Fiona Lumbers



Andersen Press  
ISBN: 978-1839131660

This is the fourth book of the 'Luna Loves...' series. Sometimes Luna spends Christmas with Mum, sometimes with Dad, but this year, things will be different as they are volunteering. Full of festive spirit!

The Nutcracker And the Mouse King's Christmas Shenanigans  
Alex T Smith



Macmillan  
ISBN: 978-1035028177

A captivating interpretation of the Christmas classic, Alex T Smith's 'The Nutcracker' is perfect for sharing with the whole family. 'The Twelve Days of Christmas: Grandma is Overly Generous' (ISBN: 978-1529043372) is another seasonal treat from the same author.

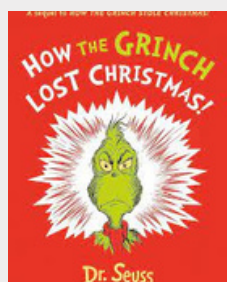
First Festivals: Hanukkah  
Illustrated by Kathryn Selbert



Ladybird  
ISBN: 978-0241629611

Clear, simple text, appealing illustrations and flaps to lift combine to make this an engaging way of exploring common Hanukkah traditions and developing understanding of this important festival.

How the Grinch Lost Christmas  
Dr Seuss, Alastair Heim, illustrated by Aristides Ruiz



Harper Collins  
ISBN: 978-0008626013

In this sequel to 'How The Grinch Stole Christmas' (ISBN: 978-0007365548), the Grinch's newfound Christmas spirit is threatened by the arrival of Whoville's Christmas tree competition. Will he return to his grinchy ways or will he remember the true meaning of Christmas?

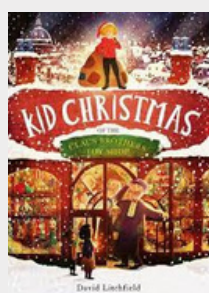
The Robin Who Stole Christmas  
Rachel Morrisroe, illustrated by Richard Merritt



Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0241489048

Rotten Robin and his gang of feathered friends hatch a plan to steal Christmas, but when he's forced to give back everything he's stolen, he realises that Christmas might not be that bad after all...

Kid Christmas of the Claus Brothers Toy Shop  
David Litchfield



Frances Lincoln  
ISBN: 978-0711262942

Nicky Claus works with his three uncles in the Claus Brothers Toy Emporium. When he meets a little girl and her friends who can't afford any toys, Nicky vows that for one night, every child will have the toy of their dreams and-with the help of his uncles and some flying reindeer-the legend of Father Christmas is born.

You Choose Christmas  
Pippa Goodhart, illustrated by Nick Sharratt



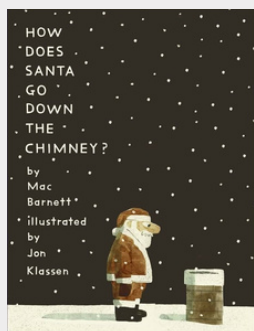
Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0241556016

Make up your own Christmas stories again and again with this magical, festive book where YOU CHOOSE what happens!





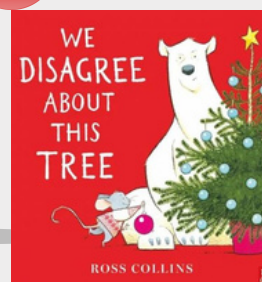
How Does Santa Go Down the Chimney?  
Mac Barnett, illustrated by Jon Klassen



Walker Books  
ISBN: 978-1529512779

Exploring both ridiculous and plausible solutions to this perennial question, this humorous book is sure to become a firm favourite.

We Disagree About This Tree  
Ross Collins



Nosy Crow  
ISBN: 978-1839948602

Bear and Mouse have overcome their differences and are happily living together until the time comes to put up the Christmas tree. Can they reach a compromise before Christmas is ruined?

Gaspard's Christmas  
Zeb Soanes, illustrated by James Mayhew



Graffeg  
ISBN: 978-1802586145

A heart-warming story about the importance of kindness. When Gaspard finds a man lying in a doorway, he quickly rounds up his friends to help him save the man from the freezing cold.

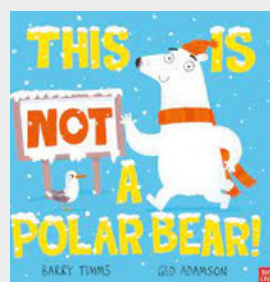
The Christmas Owl  
Ellen Kalish and Gideon Steer, illustrated by Ramona Kaulitzki



Andersen Press  
ISBN: 978-1839132421

When Little Owl's home is cut down by people saying it will make a beautiful Christmas tree, she finds herself far from home. 'The Christmas Owl' was inspired by the real owl found inside the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree.

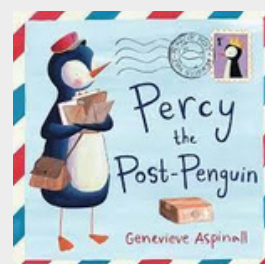
This is NOT a Polar Bear  
Barry Timms, illustrated by Ged Adamson



Nosy Crow  
ISBN: 978-1839948930

This is NOT a polar bear-well, maybe it is! But this bear can do all sorts of things, including offering the best cuddles. 'This is NOT a Dinosaur' (ISBN: 978-1839944956) and 'This is NOT a Unicorn' (ISBN: 978-1839942884) are also available.

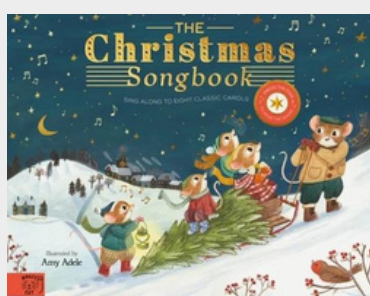
Percy the Post Penguin  
Genevieve Aspinall



UCLan  
ISBN: 978-1915235794

Percy lives at the South Pole where he runs the Post Office, but no one seems to know that he is there. Determined to make a go of his business, he sets about changing things!

The Christmas Songbook  
Amy Adele



Magic Cat Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1915569035

As the Mouse family enjoy preparing for Christmas, enjoy listening to, and singing along with, eight festive tunes. The sheet music and lyrics are included for each song, allowing budding musicians to follow along.



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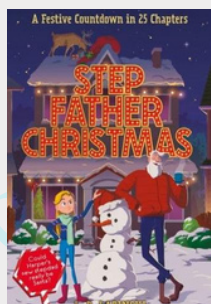
**The After Christmas Tree**  
Bethan Welby



When Brian sees a discarded Christmas tree by the side of the road, he can't bear to leave it abandoned there and takes it home to his family so he can look after it. But will his family be pleased with his after Christmas tree?

Sallywag  
ISBN: 978-1912650989

**Step Father Christmas**  
L D Lapinski



10-year-old Harper gets a surprise when Mum announces she's bringing her new boyfriend Nick home for the holiday. As Christmassy things start to happen, she becomes convinced that Nick must be Father Christmas! And if her mum and older brother won't believe her, she'll just have to find a way to prove it herself...

Orion  
ISBN: 978-1510112698

**The Miracle on Ebenezer Street**  
Catherine Doyle



When he stumbles across Marley's Curiosity Shop, George finds a mysterious, magical snow globe which takes him and his dad on an incredible adventure to Christmases past, present and future. Can he find a way to bring the joy of Christmas home again?

Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0241435250

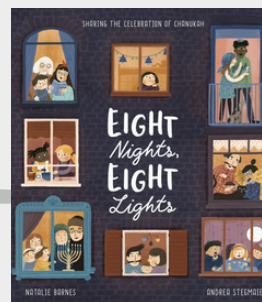
**Tinsel: The Girl Who Invented Christmas**  
Sibéal Pounder



Victorian orphan, Blanche, hates Christmas as she has no one to share it with. However, when a mysterious old lady gives her a bauble with a strange vision of a bright world inside it, Blanche is set on the path to creating Christmas as we know it. A magically imaginative festive treat!

Bloomsbury  
ISBN: 978-1526619266

**Eight Nights Eight Lights**  
Natalie Barnes, illustrated Andrea Stegmaier



With beautiful illustrations and lyrical text, 'Eight Nights, Eight Lights' follows the lives of eight families across the eight nights of Hanukkah. It is perfect for anyone who wants to learn more about this special festival.

Little Tiger  
ISBN: 978-1801042925

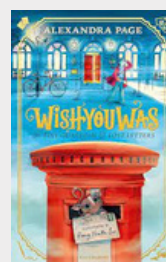
**Operation Nativity**  
Jenny Pearson, illustrated by Katie Kear



When they investigate a crash in the night, Oscar and Molly are amazed to find a dazed Angel Gabriel wandering around their grandparents' back garden. Before they know it, they find themselves in a race to save Christmas.

Usborne  
ISBN: 978-1801315111

**WishYouWas: The Tiny Guardian of Lost Letters**  
Alexandra Page, illustrated by Penny Neville-Lee



With her mum away and Uncle Frank busy running the post office, Penny Black is facing a lonely Christmas. However, when she finds a small, fluffy creature which talks trying to make off with a letter, she finds herself in the world of the Sorters, self-appointed guardians of lost mail. But with Stanley Scrawl, the sinister Royal Mail Rat Catcher, on the prowl, can she protect them?

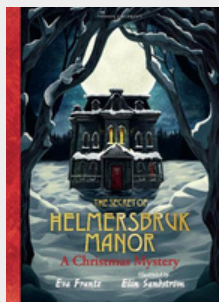
Bloomsbury  
ISBN: 978-1526641229



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The Secret of Helmersbruk Manor  
Eva Frantz, illustrated by Elin Sandstrom



Pushkin  
ISBN: 978-1782694182

Told in 24 chapters, this is an enchanting Christmas mystery. Flora Winter and her mother are off to a small seaside town for Christmas where Flora discovers an abandoned mansion. As mysterious things happen, Flora is determined to unravel the secrets of Helmersbruk Manor.

Juniper's Christmas  
Eoin Colfer, illustrated by Chaaya Prabhat



Harper Collins  
ISBN: 978-0008475536

When Juniper's mum goes missing, she seeks help from Niko, who lives in her local London park surrounded by Christmas trees and reindeer that can fly. She suspects he is actually Santa himself and together, they must find Juniper's mother and restore the festive spirit.

Welcome to the Museum:  
A Christmas Pop-Up Advent Calendar  
Royal Botanic Gardens, illustrated by Emily Carter



Big Picture Press  
ISBN: 978-1800784369

Countdown to Christmas with this beautiful pop-up advent calendar. Hidden in compartments are 25 removable cardboard ornaments, perfect for displaying.

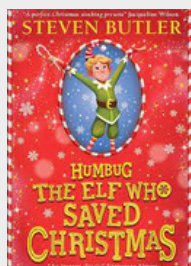
A World Full of Winter Stories  
Angela McAllister, illustrated by Olga Baumert



Frances Lincoln  
ISBN: 978-0711277908

A wonderful collection of wintery folk tales, myths and legends from around the world. This is one of 'The World Full of...' series.

Humbug The Elf Who Saved Christmas  
Steven Butler, illustrated by Kenneth Anderson



Scholastic  
ISBN: 978-0702315879

The Humbugs are a family of Christmas elves who work in the Reindeer Poo Disposal Department. However, when mishaps see them exiled from their home, they go on an amazing adventure where they discover the true meaning of Christmas.

The Snow Girl  
Sophie Anderson, illustrated by Melissa Castrillon



Usborne  
ISBN: 978-1803704357

Inspired by the traditional Russian fairy tale, 'The Snow Maiden', 'The Snow Girl' is about Tasha who has come with her parents to live on her grandpa's farm. Withdrawn and very lonely, Tasha longs for a friend. When she builds a snowman with her grandfather, Tasha wishes for a real friend- and then she meets Alyana.

The Ice Children  
M G Leonard, illustrated by Penny Neville-Lee



Macmillan  
ISBN: 978-1035014217

Inspired by 'The Snow Queen', 'The Ice Children' is a magical tale. When five-year-old Finn Albedo is found frozen, but alive, his big sister, Bianca, suspects that the beautiful sparkling book Finn got from the library has something to do with it. Each day, more children are found frozen and Bianca realizes she's running out of time to save the Ice Children before all is lost.

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# POETRY

**'Tis the Season: A Lift-the-Flap Advent Calendar  
Full of Christmas Poems**  
Richard Jones



This beautifully illustrated board book folds out to show a wonderful wintry scene. Alongside the poem for each day is a lift-the-flap, revealing the picture of the day.

Nosy Crow  
ISBN: 978-1839946868

**100 Best Christmas Poems for Children**  
Edited by Roger McGough, illustrated by Beatriz Castro



A wonderful collection of traditional verse and more modern works, this selection covers a wonderful range of Christmas themes and festive fun!

SPCK Publishing  
ISBN: 978-0281084692

**We Wish You a Merry Christmas and other festive poems**  
Chosen and illustrated by Chris Riddell



Perfectly capturing the spirit of the season, this is a wonderful mix of traditional favourites and modern works, all beautifully illustrated by Chris Riddell.

Macmillan  
ISBN: 978-1529086423

**A Poem for Every Winter Day**  
Edited by Allie Esiri

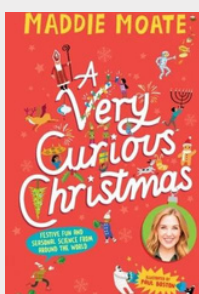


Evocative verse takes you through the winter months in this collection of poems taken from the anthologies, 'A Poem for Every Day of the Year' (ISBN: 978-1509860548) and 'A Poem for Every Night of the Year' (ISBN: 978-1509813131)

Macmillan  
ISBN: 978-1529045253

# NON-FICTION

**A Very Curious Christmas**  
Maddie Moate, illustrated by Paul Boston



'A Very Curious Christmas' answers all those seasonal science questions you have always wanted the answers to as well as offering a range of wintry activities and craft ideas.

Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0241652541

**All About Hanukkah: Things to Make and Do**  
Shoshana Boyd Gelfand, illustrated by Kathryn Selbert



Find out about the festival of Hanukkah, a festival observed by over fifteen million Jewish people around the world. Bursting with crafts and recipes, 'All About Hanukkah' is full of activities to develop understanding of this fascinating festival.

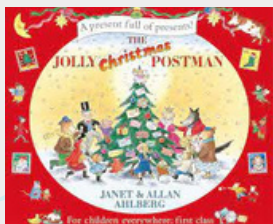
Scholastic  
ISBN: 978-0702315848






# CLASSICS

 The Jolly Christmas Postman  
Janet and Allan Ahlberg



Join the Jolly Postman on his Christmas round as he delivers the post in Fairy-Tale Land. Discover what is inside the envelopes in this story full of surprises!


Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0141340111

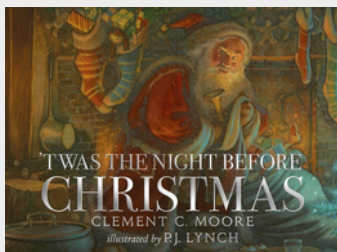
 Father Christmas  
Raymond Briggs



Follow a very grumpy Father Christmas as he spends Christmas Eve, travelling the world to make sure everyone gets their presents. It's the 50th anniversary of this wonderfully irreverent Christmas classic!


Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0723277972

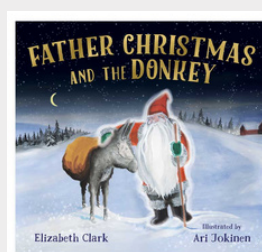
 'Twas the Night Before Christmas  
Clement C Moore, illustrated by P J Lynch



This classic Christmas favourite has been beautifully brought to life by P J Lynch's rich atmospheric artwork.


Walker Books  
ISBN: 978-1529504354

 Father Christmas and the Donkey  
Elizabeth Clark, illustrated by Ari Jokinen



On Christmas Eve, a lonely old donkey is searching for food when he hears galloping hooves. Might it be Father Christmas and his reindeer? The true spirit of Christmas lives on in this heartwarming tale.

Pikku Publishing  
ISBN: 978-1999639822

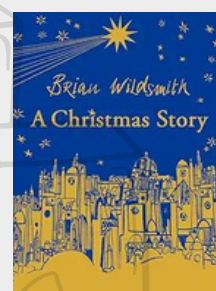
 A Christmas Carol  
Charles Dickens



Containing the complete unabridged text of *A Christmas Carol* and other Christmas stories written by Charles Dickens, this edition also offers insights for readers, facts, and activities.

Oxford Children's Classics  
ISBN: 978-0192789044

 A Christmas Story  
Brian Wildsmith



Told through the eyes of a little girl as she travels to Bethlehem, this is a beautifully illustrated re-telling of the story of the Nativity.

OUP  
ISBN: 978-0192768728



Jesus' Christmas Party  
Nicholas Allan



A wonderful re-telling of the Christmas story, told from the viewpoint of a very grumpy innkeeper

Red Fox  
ISBN: 978-1849415262

Refuge  
Anne Booth, illustrated by Sam Usher



Inspired by refugee children everywhere, this is a timeless retelling of the Christmas story, accompanied by striking illustrations.

Nosy Crow  
ISBN: 978-0857637710

The Snowman  
Raymond Briggs



This classic wordless picture book shares an unforgettable adventure as one night a snowman comes to life. 'The Snowman and the Snowdog' (ISBN: 978-0241604564) is also available.

Puffin  
ISBN: 978-0723275534

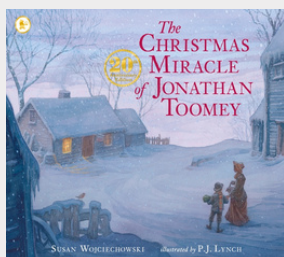
Leah's Star  
Margaret Bateson-Hill, illustrated by Karin Littlewood



Leah is rushed off her feet as she helps her father at his Inn when a young couple come looking for somewhere to stay. A tender re-telling of the Nativity through the eyes of a child.

Alanna Max  
ISBN: 978-1907825255

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey  
Susan Wojciechowski, illustrated by P J Lynch



Jonathan Toomey is the best woodcarver in the valley, but never smiles. But when a widow and her young son approach him with an appeal for help, things change. A deeply poignant Christmas story, beautifully illustrated by P J Lynch.

Walker Books  
ISBN: 978-1406360387

How Winston Delivered Christmas  
Alex T Smith



When Winston the mouse finds a lost letter addressed to Santa Claus on Christmas Eve, he sets off on an unforgettable journey to make sure it is safely delivered. Each chapter includes its own festive activity to enjoy in the run-up to Christmas Day. His adventures continue in 'How Winston Came Home for Christmas' (ISBN: 978-1529041576)

Macmillan  
ISBN: 978-1529010862