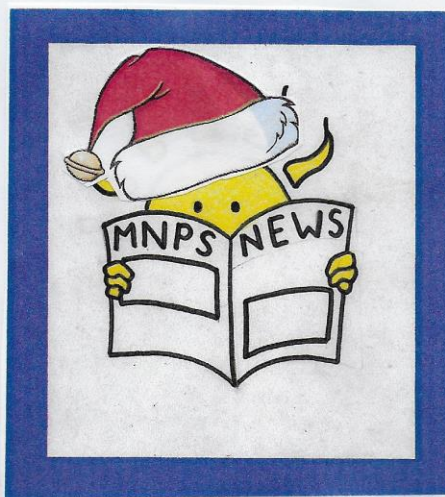


Midsomer Norton Primary School News

Issue 8

Autumn Term/Term 2/2022



Welcome to our School Magazine

In this issue:



School News – what's been going on?

Christmas Hit List

Unusual Pet

Bumper Word and Vocabulary Pages!

History of Candy Canes and Christmas Trees JOKES

Meet the Teacher Interview

Art and Craft

Christmas Cookery KS1 & KS2 Competition!

Christmas Film Reviews

Chinese New Year Short Story

Christmas Traditions

LOTS OF PUZZLE FUN!

and lots more!

Armistice Day

by Elliot Gregory (Earth)

On Friday 11th November 2022 Ms Biss took the Champions for Change down to the War Memorial on the High Street just outside of our school.

Just after they arrived, Reverend Balliston-Thicke conducted a short service just before the two minutes' silence.

Shortly after the service, the Champions placed wooden crosses down at the Memorial. The Champions had a huge surprise as they got interviewed by Dom Chambers for the Somer Valley FM radio.

After the service finished, a man in a wheelchair told the Champions he always wanted to drive around in a wheelchair when he was younger because it looked so fun, and he confirmed that it is. He added, "Work hard and stay in school so you can get a good job and buy one." He added that he hoped the children would not be like him, falling ill and having to drive in one.



STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Thanks to your wonderful generosity, a fantastic

£299.99



has been sent from Midsomer Norton Primary School
to The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
Thank You!

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Report of the Midsomer Norton Carnival

by Jenny Fry and Amelia Nguini-Amogou (Uranus) and Mrs Josham

On the evening of Monday 14th of November 2022, a carnival took place in Midsomer Norton starting in Westfield, coming down Silver Street and then going the wrong way up the High Street.

Although it had been raining for most of the day, it stayed dry during the carnival but it was a bit cold.

There were lots of pretty floats (some really huge ones) and most people's favourite was the float called Jubilation that formed part of the parade down The Mall in front of Buckingham Palace and the Royal Family during Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee last June. This enormous cart was made by 15 rival Carnival Clubs from Somerset all joining together.



The photo on the left shows Jubilation as it travelled down The Mall.

There were also dancing groups and majorettes and charity collection floats that people could throw money in, as well as single masqueraders dressed up in hand-made costumes. The fire brigade also went round in a fire engine and fire fighters collected money in buckets.

You could buy sweets, glowing things or light-up masks if you had enough money - they were very expensive. There were also vans selling burgers, candy floss and chips, if you wanted.

Did you know that the carnival didn't take place in 2020 or 2021 because of Covid?

Joker Page

by Sam McGroarty (Uranus)

- How do elves learn to spell?
They use the elf-abet!
- How does a bee get to school?
They take the buzz!
- How do you make the number seven even?
Just take the 's' off the front!
- Why might grass cut you?
It is full of blade!



Why do Vampires need mouthwash?
They have bat breath!

- Knock, knock.
- Who's there?
Merry.
Merry who?
Merry Christmas!



Chinese New Year

By Isabelle B. Saturn Class.

What is Chinese New Year?

Chinese New Year is a festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional lunisolar and solar Chinese calendar. The date can vary between the 21st of January and the 20th of February.

How do people celebrate Chinese New Year?

People celebrate Chinese New Year by going to their families houses and having yummy food. People wear lots of red clothes and put up red decorations. They go to festivals and watch fireworks.

How long is the festival?

Most people in China take at least 7 days off work.

What is the 2023 Chinese New Year animal?

2023 Chinese New Year falls on the 22nd of January and it is the year of the rabbit.



Rudolf Maze

By Phoebe Taylor (Uranus)



What people do with their family at Christmas

By Inayah in Jupiter class

"We go to our grandparents' house and open lots of presents." Isabelle Bengey.

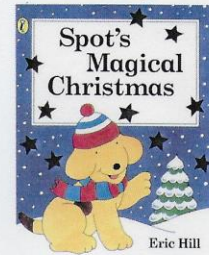
"We normally open our presents as soon as we wake up and then we eat."
Phoebe Taylor.



"First we wake up and then we open our stockings and then we call all of our family to say Merry Christmas. After that we open some presents then eat and finally play board games." Hollie Smith.

"Straight away we open presents with family and then we have a buffet throughout the day and then relax with the family." Elliot Gregory.

"It's a family tradition that we watch Spot's Magical Christmas on Christmas Eve, just like we used to when my boys were tiny, even though they are now 27 and 25!" Mrs Josham.



"We visit our grandparents and open our presents and finally we all have a family dinner." Lucas Ball.

"Straight away in the morning me and my sister run downstairs to open our presents then eat breakfast." Alfie Colfer.

"I usually have a BIG Christmas meal and go see family and friends." Jenny Fry.



"We usually have a full English vegetarian breakfast with my family." Will Vale.

"First, I go to my grandparents' house, eat a big lunch and then go for a walk and sometimes I sleep over." Olivia Merko.



The Lost Reindeer

Walking down the street comes a lost reindeer looking for a way home. The cascading snow layering flake by flake, but there he is wondering where home is - the lost reindeer still looking for a way back to his warm, snugly bed.

Not a sound to be heard as minds continue to dream of the presents they will get, but there stood a reindeer still confused, lost and looking for a way home.

The sun is rising, no shelter to be seen, this reindeer can't find his way home. He knows to follow north but which way could this be? Santa is probably scared, confused or has he not noticed at all and is still riding along singing Christmas tunes? This little lost reindeer really misses home.

Now here he comes, so he has been looking all along! It's Santa and his elves; Hip, hip, hooray! This reindeer can finally go back home where he belongs, for he is no longer a cold little reindeer lost and all alone in a small village.

By Elliot Gregory (Earth)



My Leopard Gecko, by Elle Hudson Year 4

For my Birthday this year I asked for a Leopard Gecko!

I had to go to a special Reptile shop to pick the one I wanted.

I called her Pumpkin. I chose this name because I like Halloween and my Birthday is in October too!

Pumpkin is 14 months old.

She eats three times a week and she likes to eat Locusts.

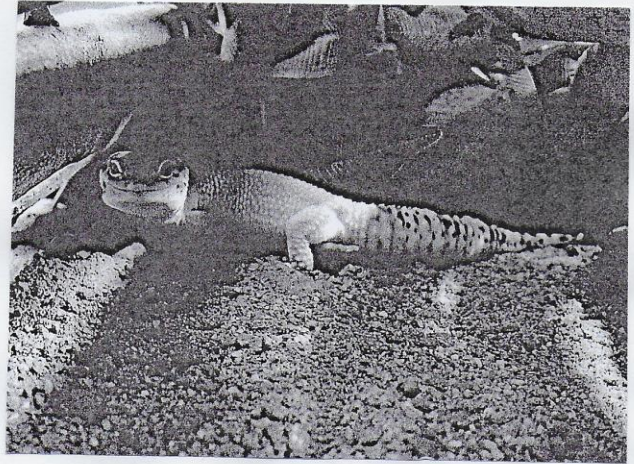
She lives in a Vivarium and has two hideouts that look like little caves that she loves to hide inside.

Pumpkin is nocturnal, which means she sleeps when I am at school during the day, and she wakes up at dinner time and stays awake all night!

Leopard Geckos can live for up to 20 years, which means Pumpkin will be my pet until I am almost 30 years old!

She likes to be held, and feels prickly to touch! She is very fast and always looks like she is smiling.

I love my new pet!



History of the Christmas Tree

In the early 16th century the Germans had begun the tradition of the Christmas tree, adoring the aspect of the wonderful invention, they brought it over to England and many countries in the Victorian Era!

To this day we decorate trees with modern decorations but traditionally they had their own ways to sparkle up the trees in a strange way.

This included:

Roses made out of pink and red paper (also known as origami)

Apples, wafers tinsel and sweetmeats which is like churros covered in sweet sauces



REINDEER	JINGLE BELLS
NORTH POLE	SANTA CLAUS
TURKEY	ELVES
PRESENT	CRACKERS
NATIVITY	BAUBLES
ANSWERS TO CHRISTMAS JUMBLE	

How It Snows

by Jenny Fry (Uranus)

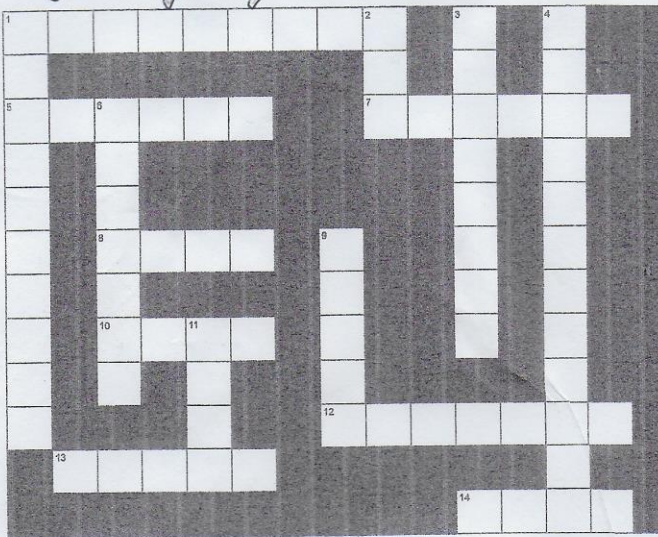
It starts in the sky, when rain gets cold enough to freeze. When the rain is frozen it'll start to crystallize. When the snow has formed, it'll start to fall. We don't see the snow flakes, we only see little white dots depending on how hard it's snowing. If it doesn't melt, there will be a winter wonderland.

Did you know, no two snowflakes are the same?
Did you know that a snowflake always has 5 points?

Hope you learned how a snowflake forms?



By Jenny Fry (Uranus)



ACROSS

1. where does santa live? (5,4)
5. what's a decoration you put on your christmas tree? (6)
7. who's the famous snowman? (5)
8. what do you get from family and friends? (4)
10. what do kids play with? (4)
12. what do kids make when it snows? (7)
13. what's one of santa's reindeer v---- (5)
14. what do you decorate every december? (4)

DOWN

1. what is the famous christmas play? (10)
2. what are santa's helpers called? (3)
3. what does santa put presents in? (8)
4. what's santa's favourite drink? (3,9)
6. if your not on the nice list your on the _____ list (7)
9. jingle _____ the christmas song (5)
11. ---- log (4)



Christmas film reviews

By Olivia (Earth)

Christmas Chronicles

This is a fantastic family movie about a brother and sister meeting Santa Claus and ruining Christmas for the world then trying to make up for it by delivering presents to everyone.



Arthur Christmas

Arthur Christmas is a comedy movie set in Santa's workshop which is unusually high tech. Santa missed one child and someone had to fix that this is where Arthur comes along to save the day!



Home Alone

This is a comedy movie about a boy whose family leaves him at home by mistake and he gets into all sorts of trouble!



The Grinch

The Grinch is a comedy movie about a green monster called the Grinch who hates Christmas and tries to steal Christmas from a town called Who-Ville!



Elf

This is another comedy movie about an Elf called Buddy who accidentally got transported to the north pole at birth but he doesn't feel like he fits in so he goes to New York and makes some mischief!



I recommend all these Christmas movies, but especially Christmas Chronicles because it's a heart-warming family movie.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

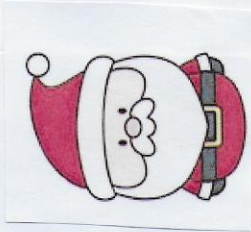


CHRISTMAS JUMBLE

By Phoebe Taylor (Uranus)

Rearrange these jumbled letters to spell out ten Christmas themed words.

TIVTANIV	UBELSBA
SREEPTN	CKERCSAR
KEYRUT	VEELS
THNRO LEPO	TAANS SLAUC
EEEIDRRN	GLNIE LBSL



Gifts to get people

By Olivia (Earth) Inayah (Jupiter)

Inayah and Olivia went around school asking people what they wanted for Christmas and have put it on a list so you can get ideas.

Year 1-2:

Hungry Caterpillar book

Toy Unicorn

Toy car

Barbie doll

Year 3-4

TECHDECK

Arts and crafts supplies

Football boots

Year 5-6

Football

Phone case

Slippers

Books

Fluffy Socks

Remote control car



Meet the Member of Staff

This time, Miss Higgins takes the hot seat!

Adult's Name: *Shannon Higgins*

Where were you born? *Shepton Mallet*

Where did you go to university? *Oxford Brookes University and Bath Spa University.*

Where do you live now? *Still in Shepton Mallet, but I have lived in America for 2 years and Oxford for 3 years.*

Do you have any children? *No, but I look forward to having children one day.*

Do you have any brothers and/or sisters? *Yes. A brother and a sister, both older than me.*

What did you want to do for a job when you were growing up? *All my life I wanted to be a teacher! When I was younger I practised being a teacher at home using all my cuddly toys (they were fantastic listeners).*



Do you like your name? If you could change it, what would you like to be called? *I do like my name, I couldn't imagine being called anything else!*

What is one thing you would like to change about yourself? *I would like to be able to play a musical instrument.*

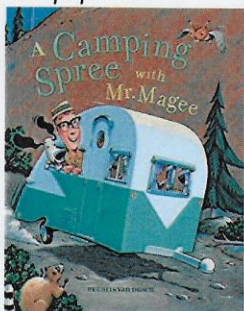
Where is your favourite holiday destination? *Colorado in the USA because we go snowmobiling in the mountains.*



What is your favourite food? *That is a difficult question, but I think my most favourite thing to eat is chocolate. Although I do love roasted vegetables a lot too!*

What's your favourite colour? *Lilac or sage green.*

What is your favourite music genre/band? *I enjoy lots of music genres but I usually listen to alternative and pop.*



What is your favourite book and who is your favourite author? *My favourite children's book is A Camping Spree with Mr Magee by Chris Van Dussen. I used to read this story to the children I looked after in America. I read it to my class now and they love how it rhymes.*

What is your favourite subject to teach and why? *I enjoy teaching Phonics and English and seeing how children apply what they have learnt in phonics to their amazing writing.*

What is your least favourite subject to teach and why? *This is a tough one to answer. Maybe music because I am not good at singing in tune!*

What's the silliest thing that has ever happened to you? *I struggled to get into my car once, then realised it was not my car at all - it was just one that looked like mine.*

Do you have any fears or phobias (eg spiders, heights)? *I am sure the children in Pluto class would tell you I am afraid of spiders, although I try to act brave.*



What was the last thing you bought? *I just bought 2 books and some chocolate.*

Do you have any hobbies? *I love reading! I also enjoy anything crafty like sewing, knitting and painting.*

Do you have any pets? *My family has a fox red labrador called Alby.*

What do you do to relax? *Read/listen to an audiobook or cook delicious meals.*

Which is your favourite season and why? *Autumn is the best season. I love the orange foliage, crisp leaves and Halloween!*

Which is your favourite: tea or coffee? *Tea, but only when accompanied by biscuits.*

What superpower would you like to have and why? *Probably to be able to fly, I would travel all over the world.*

What would you do with £1,000,000? *The first thing I would do is pay for all my family to go on holiday together. And then I would like to buy a big property so I can foster/ care for children in need.*

If you could have dinner with anyone you choose (dead or alive) who would that be and why? *My grandfather because he was a really funny and inspirational man.*

Do you have a special skill, for example juggling or being able to recite the alphabet backwards really quickly? *I know a song with your name in it. If you don't believe me, come and ask me to sing it!*

What 3 things would you take with you if you had to go and live on a desert island? *Books, suncream, water.*



Have you ever met a famous person and if so, who? *Stephen Mulhern when I was really little.*

Tell us a Wow fact about yourself...have you ever broken a World Record or you are related to a pop star, for instance? *When I was young I came 2nd in Great Britain at a trampolining competition.*

Thank you Miss Higgins.

Who will feature in the next issue? Find out next Term.



WORD and VOCABULARY PAGES

Just before Half Term, staff had Inset Day training on teaching vocabulary and being word aware. Words are just so exciting!

Why not have a go at some of these fun games and challenges? *Answers at the back of the Magazine.*

PLAYING WITH WORDS

A fun game to play with your family:

1. Choose a letter of the alphabet
2. Can you think of 5 adjectives, 5 nouns, 5 verbs and 5 adverbs beginning with that letter?

(Adjectives are describing words, nouns are things, verbs are doing words and adverbs describe how you do something.)

For example, letter S.

Adjectives = small, silly, soft, scarlet, silky

Nouns = skirt, shirt, slippers, sofa, sardine

Verbs = sit, sleep, skip, sprinkle, spread

Adverbs = slowly, softly, swiftly, sleepily, sneakily



Seeing Red

How many words can you think of for red?

Word Order

Can you put these words in order from coldest to hottest?
chilly, scorching, freezing, boiling, icy, tepid, cool, warm, hot, cold



Audiobooks

Audiobooks are a great way to listen to stories as you lie in bed, do some colouring, travel a long journey or just fancy hearing a great story being read to you. Try the following sites to find some that interest you:

- getepic.com
- calibreaudio.org.uk
- listening-books.org.uk
- librivox.org
- borrowbox.com

Favourite Words

Can you match the member of staff to their favourite word?

Miss Hardisty	unmitigated
Mrs Knightly	perseverance
Tina Smith	ominous
Katie Cross	sensational
Mrs Hamilton	controversial
Miss Derrick	awesome
Mrs Josham	intrigued
Sherri Rogerson	cahoot
Ms Biss	scallywag



Dictionary Definitions

A really fun way to learn new words that maybe you could use in your writing or speech.

Get a dictionary and find out how many pages it has.

Person B has the dictionary.

Person A chooses a letter.

Person B turns to any page with words starting with the chosen letter.

Person A chooses a number between 1 and 10.

Person B counts down the chosen number of words on that page and reads the definition of that word.

Person A has to guess what the word could be.

(Person B may need to give extra clues such as the second letter.)

For example, the letter chosen is S.

The definition is read out: "When there is not enough of something."

Answer: the word is shortage.

Analogies

Hammer is to nail as comb is to?

White is to black as up is to?

Swans are to birds as trout are to?

Moon is to night as sun is to?

Apples are to fruit as potatoes are to?

WORD LINK

What word links these words? The first one has been done for you. (They may be compound words or two separate words.)

silent
blue
planet
foot
rocking
jelly
ice
bubble
moon
black

night

mare
neck
worm
room
man
powder
tea
towel
switch
cube

(silent night/night mare)

Odd Word Out

Which word is the odd one?

glance, stare, scan, glide, look, peep, glimpse
rain, grey, drizzle, downpour, monsoon, shower
run, sprint, walk, crawl, amble, creep, see, saunter

My Big Brain

Another fun game to play: a bit like Eye Spy, but giving a clue and using your phonics knowledge! You say something like ...

"I think with my Big Brain, something you can eat beginning with ch."

Preceding Words

What word comes before these words?

- powder, bath, blue, teeth, grow
- Christmas, board, wash, House
- bulb, switch, lunch, weight
- bottle, teeth, man, shake, maid

Homophones

Words that sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings. Can you think of the words these definitions are referring to (the first one has been done for you)?

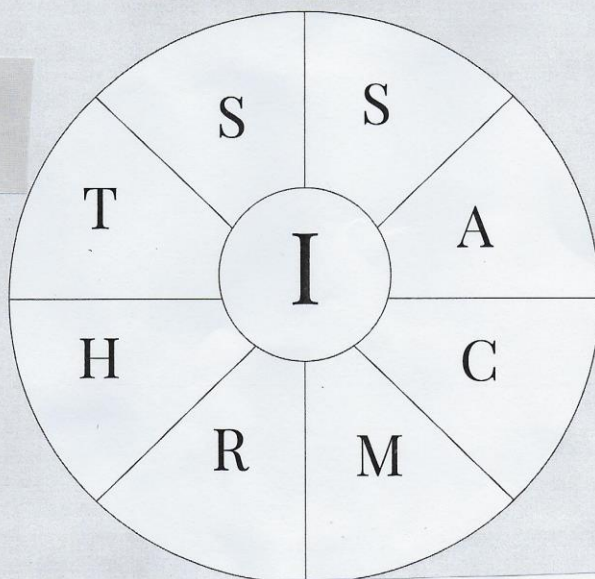
Blue
B
K
H
H
G
F
K

past tense of blow
to get onto a vehicle/flat material
a fastening made by looping/tying rope/string
sound perceived with the ear
a hollow place in a solid body or surface
estimate or conclude something
a powder made by grinding grain/wheat
a mounted, armoured soldier in Middle Ages

Blue
B
N
H
W
G
F
N

a colour
having nothing interesting to do
used to make a negative
in, at or to this place or position
something that is complete or entire
an invited visitor
seed-bearing part of a plant, a bloom
the period of sunset to sunrise

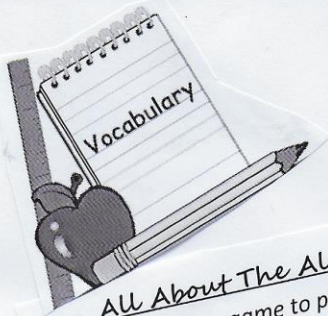
Word Wheel



Can you find the 9 letter word?

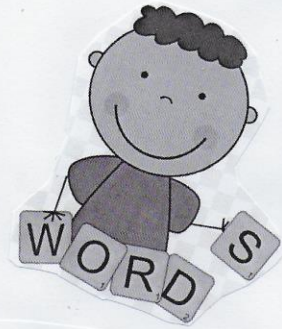
How many words of 3 or more letters can you make out of these 9 letters?

Each word must contain the letter in the middle of the Word Wheel (I) and you can only use each letter once in each word.



All About The Alphabet

Another fun game to play: Choose a category (eg boys' names, girls' names, flowers, food, animals) and work through the alphabet listing them (eg apple, bread, chocolate, doughnut, etc).



Homonyms

Words that sound the same, spelt the same but have different meanings. Can you think of a definition for these (the first one has been done for you)?

Bat
Letter
Key
Light
Can
Sign
Park
Back

small flying mammal

used to play sports

Word Match

Can you match the word to the definition?

Carriage
Harp
Friday
Ice
Book

a musical instrument
frozen water
something you might write or read
a mode of transport
a day of the week

Heteronyms

Words that are pronounced differently, spelt the same but have different meanings. Can you think of a definition for these (the first one has been done for you)?

Lead
Contest
Desert
Excuse
Minute
Object
Permit
Refuse
Row
Tear

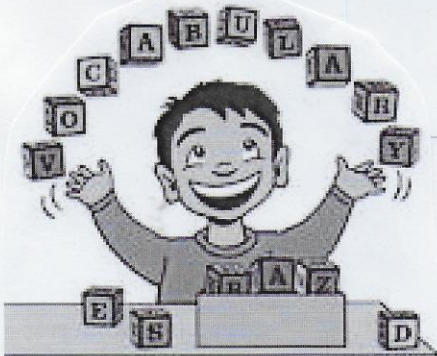
to be ahead of others

a metal

HINK PINK

All of the answers consist of two rhyming words with equal number of syllables.

- What do you call a naughty father?
- What do you call a distant vehicle?
- What do you call a young person running free?
- What do you call a mad flower?
- What do you call an incorrect tune?
- What do you call a nice gift?



EXPAND VOCABULARY
I know, find, and use interesting words.

THE PARTS OF SPEECH

Every name is called a **NOUN**,

As field and fountain, street and town;



In place of noun the **PRONOUN** stands
As he and she can clap their hands;



The **ADJECTIVE** describes a thing,
As magic wand and shiny ring;



The **VERB** means action, something done -



To read, to write, to jump, to run;
How things are done, the **ADVERBS** tell,
As quickly, slowly, badly, well;



The **PREPOSITION** shows relation,
As in the street, or at the station;



CONJUNCTIONS join, in many ways,
Sentences, words, or phrase and phrase;

The **INTERJECTION** cries out, 'Hark!

!!! I need an exclamation mark!

Through poetry, we learn how each
of these make up **THE PARTS OF SPEECH**.

THINGS WE SAY TODAY, WHICH WE OWE TO, SHAKESPEARE:

"KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE?"

"IN A PICKLE" "SET YOUR TEETH ON EDGE" "HEART OF GOLD"

"FAINT HEARTED" "SO-SO" "GOOD RIDDANCE"

"LIE WITH FIRE" "BAITED BREATH" "SEND HIM PACKING"

"WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE" "THE GAME IS UP"

"NOT SLEPT ONE WINK" "FULL CIRCLE" "OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH"

"WHAT'S DONE IS DONE" "NAKED TRUTH" "TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING"

"LAUGHING STOCK" "BREAK THE ICE" "WILD"

"HEART OF HEARTS" "VANISH INTO THIN AIR" "GOOSE"

"SEEN BETTER DAYS" "MAKES YOUR HAIR STAND ON END" "CHASE"

"DEAD AS A DOORNAIL" "FOR GOODNESS' SAKE" "LOVE IS BLIND"

"GREEN EYED MONSTER" "FAIR / FOUL" "OFF WITH HIS HEAD"

"THE WORLD IS MY OYSTER" "BRAVE NEW WORLD" "BE ALL / END ALL" "A SORRY SIGHT"



Enter our KS1 or KS2 'Spot the Mistakes' Competition and win a fabulous book!

KS1 Quiz

Can you spot the mistakes?

By Will Vale

PRIZE = *Thesaurus Rex Book*

- Write your answers on a piece of paper with your name, year and class.
- When finished, place in the PINK BOX outside Saturn Class.
- There are 10 spelling mistakes. Can you find them all?

My Dad Wud Like Too Be Santa

His bely's getting bigger,
And his hair is turning white.
His eyes shine and sparkle
Lik the stars on Christmas nite.

He cudn't fit down chimneys
When he can just fit threw a door.
One mince pye would never do
He'd only ask for moore.

By Graham Craven

QUIZ!

KS2 Quiz

Can you spot the mistakes?

By Will Vale

PRIZE = *Storyteller's Dictionary*

- Write your answers on a piece of paper with your name, year and class.
- When finished, place in the PINK BOX outside Saturn Class.
- There are 20 spelling mistakes...can you find them all?

Christmas puddings taiste realy great,
Hollie decirations on my plate,
Reindear flying threw the skye,
Ice creem on me warm mince pye,
Sleddges slushing through the snow,
Time stands stil as we go withe the flow,
Multicolored presents around the tree,
Advent calenders with treetts for free,
Santar Claws is coming!

CLOSING DATE - 3.15PM ON MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER





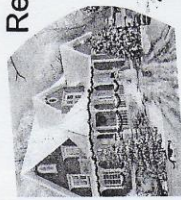
By Elliot Gregory (Earth)

Are you ready for Christmas because this is sure to get you ready.

Hit it!



1. It's beginning to look a lot like christmas (Michael Bubl )
2. All I want for Christmas is you (Mariah Carey)
3. Holly Jolly Christmas (Michael Bubl )
4. Last Christmas (Wham)
5. Jingle bell rock (Bobby Helms)
6. Rocking around the Christmas tree (Mel and Kim)
7. Fairytale of New York (Kirsty and the pogues)
8. Do they know it's Christmas (Band aid)
9. Santa tell me (Ariana Grande)
10. Santa Claus is coming to town (Jackson five)
11. Santa Claus is coming to town (Bruce Springsteen)
12. Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow! (Dean Martin)
13. Merry Christmas everyone (Shakin Stevens)
14. Dominic the donkey (Lou monte, Joe Reismans Orchestra and Chorus)
15. Rudolf the rednosed reindeer (Dean Martin)



CHRISTMAS WORDSEARCH

Have fun finding the Christmassy words below.

By Isabelle B Saturn Claes

S	L	E	I	G	H	Q	S	C	H
A	N	V	S	A	N	T	A	M	J
X	V	O	X	D	G	Q	K	F	G
J	P	G	W	O	R	S	H	I	P
L	T	H	E	F	O	S	J	D	U
E	R	G	U	G	L	T	W	T	D
S	E	D	J	D	R	A	H	K	D
N	E	L	V	E	S	F	K	G	I
I	J	H	B	A	U	B	L	E	N
T	U	R	K	E	Y	R	G	J	G

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| 1 SNOWFLAKE | 2 WORSHIP |
| 3 PUDDING | 4 TREE |
| 5 BAUBLE | 6 SLEIGH |
| 7 TURKEY | 8 SANTA |
| 9 TINSEL | 10 ELVES |

HISTORY OF SANTA CLAUS

Phoebe (Urmas) Aicha (Urmas) Leila (Sohn)



Santa Claus was born 15th March 280 A.D.

The birthplace of Santa Claus is the Patara Village, now called Demre, in Antalya, Turkey.

The story of Santa Claus begins with Saint Nicholas a monk who reportedly helped the poor and sick in the 3rd century AD. He became a very popular saint in Europe; Saint Nicholas in Dutch translates to Sinter Klaas, which is where the name Santa Claus comes from. The legend and traditions made it over to America and that gave us the Santa Claus that we all know now.

The earliest known use of the name Santa Claus in English was in 1773 in America.

His modern image, with flying reindeer and coming down chimneys began with Clement Clarke Moore's poem "A visit from St Nicholas" in 1823.

Santa Claus how we recognise him today was first drawn in 1863 by American cartoonist Thomas Nast, he also introduced the world to Santa's workshop, as well as his base being found at the North Pole. Nast did more than any other artist to set the standard for Santa's classic look.

The White Rock Company which sold mineral water portrayed him as a white-bearded, grey haired grandfather in a red costume in its advertisements long before Coca-Cola did in the 1930's.

He is known by lots of different names around the world. Father Christmas in the UK. In the USA he is known as Kris Kringle. France and Spain know him as Papa Noel. In Italy they call him Babbo Natale. In Germany, Santa is known as Weihnachtsmann which translates to English as "Christmas man"

In 1927, the US Government officially issued Santa with a pilot's licence.

It is known that Santa has a naughty and nice list; it is not easy to know which list you are on. You have to think to yourself have I been good? Have I tried hard at school and am I getting my work done? Am I listening to my grown-ups at home and teacher at school? Have I kept my bedroom tidy? Have I been a kind friend and helpful to others? If you answered yes, there is a good chance you are on the good list, if you answered No, you still have time to turn it around, start being extra good now and get on that good list.



Hollie (Mercury)



Legend has it that in 1670, the cane shaped candy became historical when a choirmaster at the Cologne Cathedral in Germany bent the sugar-sticks into canes to appear as shepherd's hooks. The all-white candy canes were given out to children who attended the ceremonies. This became a popular tradition, and eventually the practice during church ceremonies which spread all over Europe and America.

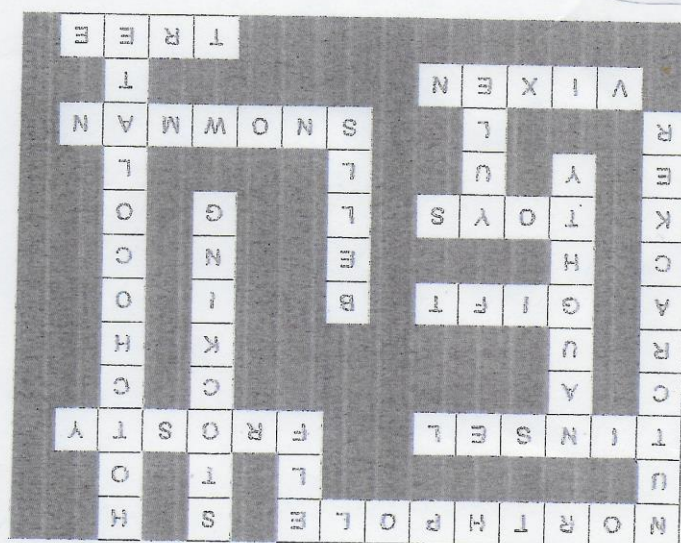
The first documented example of the use of candy canes to celebrate Christmas occurred in 1847, when August Imgard, a German-Swedish immigrant, from Wooster, Ohio decorated the Christmas tree with paper ornaments and candy canes.

The solid white sugar canes were on Christmas cards in the early 1900's. The first red and white striped candy canes were made at the turn of the 19th century. At the same time the first striped candy canes appeared, and candy makers added the peppermint flavour which quickly became a traditional flavour.

In the 1920's Bob McCormack, from Atlanta, was the first to use candy canes as special treats for Christmas for his friends and family. In the beginning the red and white candy canes were made by hand and producing them were labour intensive. The laborious process of making candy canes was eliminated in the 1950's when a machine designed especially for the automation of candy cane productions was invented by Gregory Keller (Bob's brother-in-law). His company, Bob's Candies was the first company to mass-produce and distribute candy canes worldwide and has been in business for over eighty years.



Cross word answers



On A Friday In November

Short Story by Lucas Ball (Uranus)

Once I came upon a gigantic castle in the middle of the woods. It was gigantic and it had the sharpest turreted walls. There were ten giant towers, including loads of escape hatches. It had an underground basement with fifteen royal horses with shimmering iron armour. It had nine rooms filled with beautiful gems like diamonds, ruby, gold, emeralds and iron. I heard people coming and I ran as fast as I could. The End



Christmas acrostic

by Elliot Gregory [Earth]

C: Christian
H: Holiday
R: Rudolph
I: Igloo
S: Santa
T: Tinsel
M: Magic
A: Advent calendar
S: Snow

R: Reindeer
U: Unwrap
D: December
O: Offer
L: List [he checks it twice]
P: Partridge
H: Holy



How to make Candy Canes

By Amelia Nguini and Aicha Djouad (Uranus)

You will need:

Sugar
Water
Corn Syrup
Peppermint extract
Food colouring



The challenge lies in boiling the sugar, then pulling the candy until its stiff but still pliable, and finally, forming it into the right shapes.



Santa's Job

by Isabella Abdullah (Neptune)

Santa has an amazing job - he delivers your presents on Christmas Day! We hear a lot about Santa. He comes in a sleigh with a bag of presents. He climbs down the chimney and takes your elf - on the first of December, you get an elf (it looks to see if you're good or not)! You look after him and he looks after you. He is red and white.



Facts about reindeer and Santa's reindeer

By Alfie Colfer [Uranus]

Did you know that reindeers can live up to 15 years?

Did you know, reindeers can swim (adult reindeers swim 4 to 6 miles an hour)?

Reindeer can jump as far as 25 vertical feet!

In North America reindeers are called caribou.

Did you know that Dasher is Santa's fastest reindeer (maybe that is why he is called Dasher)?

Did you know that reindeers are survivors from the ice age?

In spring, reindeers form super-herds of 50.000 to 500.000.

Did you know that Rudolph is a female?

Did you know that Santa is 1751 years old?

Did you know that Santa's reindeer are real?



Christmas Bible verse

By Olivia (Earth)

"For us today a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be on his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God Everlasting father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)





Jokes Page

by Sam McGroarty (Uranus)

What do you call an elf who doesn't share?
Elf-ish!



What do you call a deer with no eyes?
No idea (no eye deer)!

What do you call an elf wearing ear muffs?
Anything you like – he can't hear you!



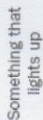
What do you call a deer with no eyes and no legs?
Still no idea (he's still because he can't move)!



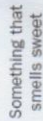
FAIR ISN'T
EVERYBODY GETTING
THE SAME THING.
FAIR IS
EVERYBODY GETTING
WHAT THEY NEED IN
ORDER TO BE
SUCCESSFUL.

Christmas colour by number

The Grinch. Elliot Gregory (Earth)
Blue: 2. Black:5. Green:9. Red:7. White:4. Yellow:1



Something
square



something green

Something that

Something

Something that
either Christmas
might wear

Something that
plays music

Something with wheels

Something
soft

Something patterned

Something
cold

6. *Banden des Deutschen Reichs* 1. u. 2. Aufl. 1933 411 *Deutsche Reichs...*

Christmas Recipe

Jasmine Newth, Hollie Smith and Will Vale

Ingredients

- 150g unsalted butter, softened
- 150g golden caster sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste
- 175g self-raising flour
- 100g gold or white fondant
- edible gold lustre dust or spray (if using white fondant)
- edible sugar balls, mini chocolate, beans, or multi-coloured sprinkles (for baubles)



For the buttercream

- 300g unsalted butter, softened
- 500g icing sugar, sifted
- 1 tsp vanilla bean paste
- green food colouring (preferably oil-based)

Method

- STEP 1
Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and line a 12-hole muffin tin with paper cases. Beat the butter and sugar together in a large bowl or stand mixer until pale and creamy. Add the eggs and vanilla along with 1 tbsp of the flour (to reduce the risk of the mixture splitting) and beat again.
- STEP 2
Sift the remaining flour into the batter and mix to combine until no streaks of flour are visible, being careful not to overbeat. Divide the batter between the cases, ensuring they are all at least half-full. Bake on the middle shelf of the oven for 12-15 mins until golden. Cool in the tin for 5 mins before removing to a wire rack to cool completely.
- STEP 3
Roll out the fondant and stamp out 12 stars or flowers using mini biscuit cutters. Leave to dry on a sheet of baking parchment. If you've used white fondant, let the shapes dry for 5-10 mins, then spray or brush with gold lustre.
- STEP 4
To make the buttercream, slowly mix the butter, sugar and vanilla together in a bowl using an electric whisk or in a stand mixer. Once combined, beat for at least 5 mins until pale and fluffy. Add the green food colouring, a little at a time, until you reach your desired shade. Spoon the buttercream into a piping bag fitted with a star nozzle. Pipe swirls of the buttercream over the cooled cupcakes, building the swirls up into a cone shape. Top the 'trees' with the fondant stars, then decorate with sugar balls, sprinkles or chocolate beans to make baubles.



2 amazing Christmas ideas

By Lucas Ball, Year 4, Uranus Class

Christmas idea 1



BRIGHT BAUBLES

Materials needed

- Foil
- String
- Paint
- Paint brush
- Tissue paper

• First, cut a long piece of thread or ribbon for hanging your decoration then cut strips of foil about the same length as each other.



• Secondly, make a loop with the thread and scrunch one of the strips of foil into a ball around the two ends of the thread (squeeze the foil tightly to make sure it stays in place).



• Thirdly, scrunch the other strips of foil around the ball, one at a time until the ball is the size you want the decoration. Roll the ball under your hand to make the surface smooth.



• Penultimately, brush part of the ball with white glue then press on strips of white tissue paper. Keep doing this until the ball is covered and leave to dry.



• Finally, once the glue is dry, decorate the ball with coloured tissue paper, stickers, gemstones, glitter or anything else to create your design (if you have glitter or small bits it's a good idea to brush glue all over it to seal it. The glue will become clear when it dries like a varnish).



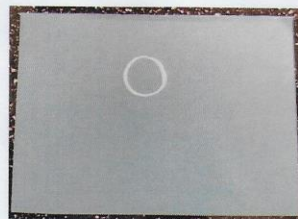
Christmas idea 2

FROSTY THE CHALKMAN

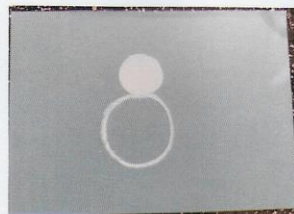
Materials needed

- Colouring pencils/pens
- Chalk
- Coloured paper

• First, for the head, draw a circle with white chalk on blue paper. This should be positioned to leave enough space for the body and ground.



• Secondly, fill the head in then add a larger circle below for the body. This also needs to be filled in.



• Thirdly, add a wavy line and fill in below it. Draw chalk dots around the snowman. Rub the edge of the snowman with your fingertip to smudge the chalk.



• Penultimately, lay scrap paper over the bottom of the picture so that you don't smudge it more.

• Finally, add black spots for a mouth, eyes and buttons. Using an orange pen or pencil draw a nose shaped like a carrot. Choose your favourite colours to add a scarf around the neck, filling in the scarf with stripes or a pattern.



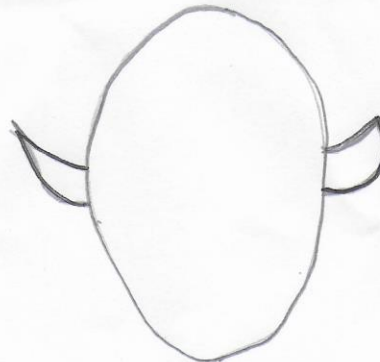
How to Draw a Penguin: Step by Step Guide

6 easy instructions to help you draw a Penguin- Do you think you can do it?
Ready... Set... Go!

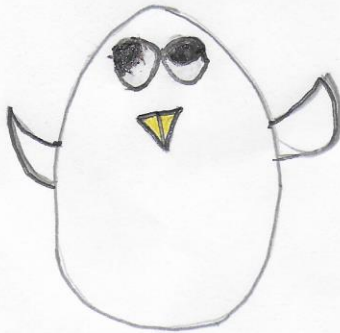
By Eva Wood, Uranus Class



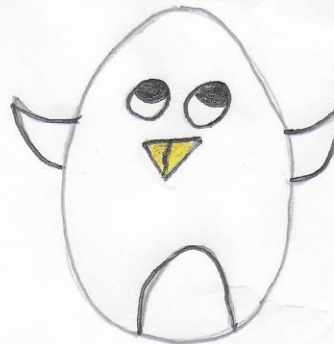
1. Draw an oval for the body!



2. Draw a triangle on both sides of the oval for the arms!



3. Draw two eyes and a beak at the top of the oval for the face!



4. Draw a smaller oval in the middle for the tummy!



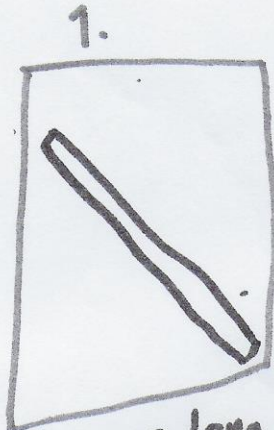
5. Draw the feet at the bottom of the oval!



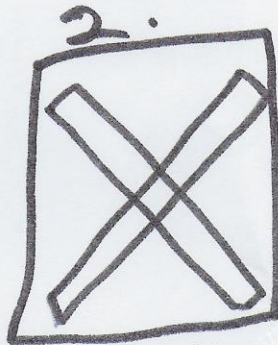
6. Colour it in!

How to draw a snowflake

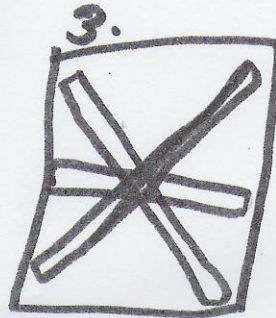
By Weila and Aicha Pjano



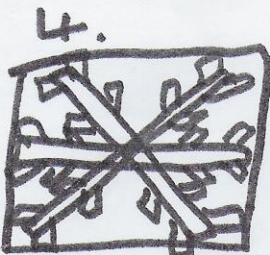
Draw a long oblong



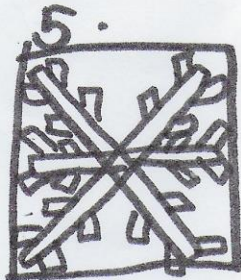
Draw another oblong crossing the first one, like a x



Draw another oblong straight across through the centre of the other 2



Draw small oblongs at the end of all the long oblongs

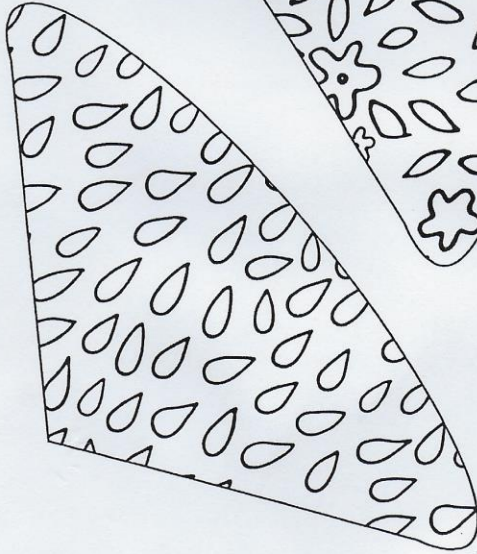
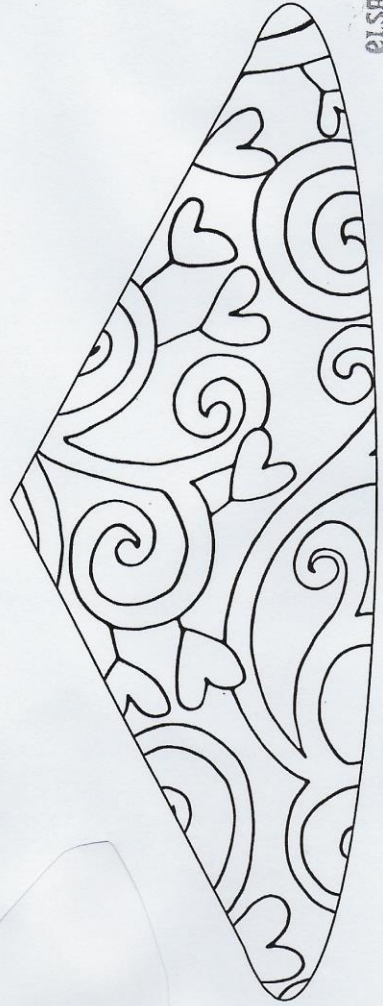
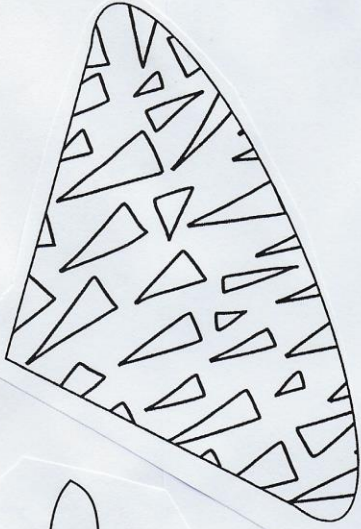


Draw more oblongs under the ones for step 4



Now colour in snowflake



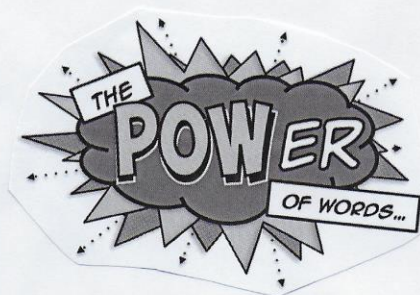


Cut out all of the pieces and glue together to make your tree

WORD and VOCABULARY PAGES - ANSWERS

Favourite Words

Miss Hardisty	controversial
Mrs Knightly	unmitigated
Miss Derrick	perseverance
Tina Smith	awesome
Katie Cross	intrigued
Mrs Josham	ominous
Sherri Rogerson	sensational
Ms Biss	cahoot
Mrs Hamilton	scallywag



Word Order

freezing, icy, cold, chilly, cool, tepid, warm, hot, boiling, scorching

Seeing Red

crimson, scarlet, rose, cerise, vermillion, maroon, cherry, ruby, wine, burgundy, claret, carmine, cardinal, brick, coral

Analogies

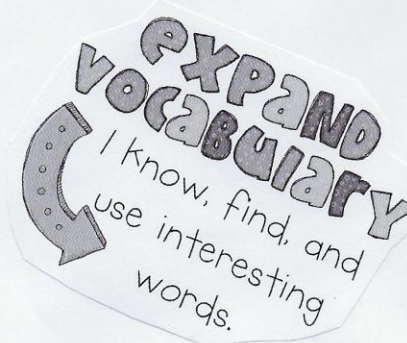
Hammer is to nail as comb is to hair.

White is to black as up is to down.

Swans are to birds as trout are to fish.

Moon is to night as sun is to day.

Apples are to fruit as potatoes are to vegetables.



Odd Word Out

glide
grey
see

Word Match

Carriage	a mode of transport
Harp	a musical instrument
Friday	a day of the week
Ice	frozen water
Book	something you might write or read

Word Link

silent	night	mare	(silent night/nightmare)
blue	bottle	neck	(bluebottle/bottle neck)
planet	earth	worm	(planet earth/earthworm)
foot	ball	room	(football/ballroom)
rocking	horse	man	(rocking horse/horseman)
jelly	baby	powder	(jelly baby/baby powder)
ice	cream	tea	(ice cream/cream tea)
bubble	bath	towel	(bubble bath/bath towel)
moon	light	switch	(moonlight/light switch)
black	ice	cube	(black ice/ice cube)

Preceding Words

a) Baby	powder, bath, blue, teeth, grow
b) White	Christmas, board, wash, House
c) Light	bulb, switch, lunch, weight
d) Milk	bottle, teeth, man, shake, maid

Heteronyms

Words that are pronounced differently, spelt the same but have different meanings. *Can you think of a definition for these (the first one has been done for you)?*

Lead	to be ahead of others	a metal
Contest	to argue or oppose something	a competition
Desert	to abandon or leave	a dry, arid and barren area of land
Excuse	words to lessen the blame for something	to release someone from an obligation or task
Minute	sixty seconds or one sixtieth of an hour	tiny, very small
Object	something that can be seen or touched	to oppose or disagree with something
Permit	to allow something	an official document giving permission
Refuse	waste, rubbish or litter	to prohibit something or not allow it
Row	the action of moving a boat with oars	to argue or quarrel
Tear	to rip something (eg, paper)	the liquid eyes produce when crying

Homonyms

Words that sound the same, spelt the same but have different meanings. *Can you think of a definition for these (the first one has been done for you)?*

Bat	small flying mammal	used to play sports
Letter	correspondence or communication	a character representing sounds in speech
Key	shaped metal to lock/unlock something	an explanation of information
Light	an illuminated device to enable sight	not weighing much, not heavy
Can	to be able or permitted to do something	packaging, often a metal cylinder
Sign	hand gestures/actions to convey information	to identify oneself as the sender/writer
Park	to position and leave something (a vehicle)	a public place of recreation
Back	rear of human body from shoulders to hips	to give financial/moral/material support

Homophones

Words that sound the same but are spelt differently and have different meanings. *Can you think of the words these definitions are referring to (the first one has been done for you)?*

Blew	past tense of blow	Blue	a colour
Board	to get onto a vehicle/flat material	Bored	having nothing interesting to do
Knot	a fastening made by looping/tying rope/string	Not	used to make a negative
Hear	sound perceived with the ear	Here	in, at or to this place or position
Hole	a hollow place in a solid body or surface	Whole	something that is complete or entire
Guessed	estimate or conclude something	Guest	an invited visitor
Flour	a powder made by grinding grain/wheat	Flower	seed-bearing part of a plant, a bloom
Knight	a mounted, armoured soldier in Middle Ages	Night	the period of sunset to sunrise

WORD WHEEL ANSWERS

The 9-letter word is CHRISTMAS

aim	air	ait	aitch	amiss	astir
chair	chi	chit	cist	hair	hic
him	his	hiss	hit	ism	itch
its	mirth	miss	mist	racism	rim
schism	shim	shirt	sic	sim	sir
sit	stair	stir	strim	this	trim

HINK PINK

- Bad Dad
- Far Car
- Wild Child
- Crazy Daisy
- Wrong Song
- Pleasant Present



We hope you enjoyed reading this issue of MNPS News as much as we have enjoyed producing it.

We hope you are looking forward to lots of exciting seasonal celebrations!



What do you want to see in future issues of MNPS News?

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Please don't forget, you can place any jokes, riddles, ideas, short stories, reviews, features, pictures, recipes, craft ideas...anything really into the box in the library.

THIS IS YOUR MAGAZINE!



Many thanks to:

All the contributors and children for their brilliant ideas and input.

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