



Fear not, for behold I bring you good news of great joy

FESTIVE FUN

What a week of festivities we have all enjoyed!

On Tuesday it was the turn of Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 to visit the pantomime. They watched Jack and the

Beanstalk at the Mayflower Theatre, Southampton. The show was excellent, lots of laughter, slapstick comedy and shouting out - a real

treat for the children and the adults! The special effects were spectacular and, of course, Diversity were incredible! The show was

made extra special as **Rosie C**

and Henry R were chosen to go up on stage with Silly Simon! The trip was only made possible by the very generous contribution from FROGS, a massive thank you to them and also to the many adults who accompanied the children and helped to make it an event they will always remember.



On Wednesday, 24 of our older children visited our friends at Brendoncare, Alton, to entertain some of the residents with their singing. The children really shone and performed brilliantly, showing

consideration and respect to the residents, representing our school values. The residents really enjoyed the children's visit, both the singing and chatting with them afterwards.



Our week wrapped up with Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper day on Thursday. The children looked very festive as they enjoyed their turkey and trimmings! Thanks to everyone who made a donation to Abby's Heroes. We collected £91.55 for this amazing charity!



SEASONS GREETINGS FROM US ALL

A very big thank you from all the staff for the very generous gifts they have received and boxes of chocolates and biscuits that have made their way into the staff room. We are all so grateful for your thoughtfulness and care.

This term has been so successful, from our new Bumblebee children settling in and taking Ropley life in their stride, to our oldest children taking on the responsibilities of their new roles with enthusiasm. We remain proud of the children and grateful for all that they bring to make our school a happy and flourishing place to be.

Please take the time to rest and recharge over the Christmas break. It will undoubtedly be a busy time with lots going on but try to take opportunities to relax and rewind too. The children need it.

We cannot wait to see you all on 6th January ready for a brand new year and term!



CAROL CONCERT AND HAMPER RAFFLE

Our KS2 children entertained parents and carers with a very festive Carol Concert today. We hope you enjoyed it, and very well done to **Lucas D** for his very accomplished guitar accompaniment. Our final Class Colour hampers were also raffled today, at the carol concert in St Peter's. Congratulations to the **Mrs D'Alton, Mrs Butler and Mrs Prowting** and our very own **Miss Kneller** who were lucky enough to win one of these fantastic hampers! We hope you enjoy them!

Including the money raised at last week's Nativity, we have now raised a **fantastic £672** for our school. Thank you everybody.



BEE RECOGNISED

In our Bee Book and in Celebration Worship this week the following children were recognised:

Bumblebees: Will be joining Celebration Worship soon!

Honey Bees: *To the entire class* for their excellent performance in the nativity last week. The children were all exceptional and we are so proud of them!

Carpenter Bees: *Marli LM and Eleanor H* for having the confidence to stand on stage at the pantomime and always bee-ing Ready and Respectful, representing Ropley beautifully.

Sophia P and Laily R for working so hard in English this week. They have been able to apply skills they have learnt earlier in the term to write some brilliant character descriptions.

Nectar: *Zeph S, Trixie G and Teddy M* for writing wonderful and funny newspaper reports in beautiful handwriting.

Lucas R for bee-ing super resilient when he was finding his learning tough and bee-ing positive when helping others who found it tricky.

Honeycomb: *Max H* for bee-ing a times table superstar! You are working incredibly hard and it is clearly paying off with the amazing progress you are making. Well done!

Millie P for having such a positing attitude to all you do in the classroom and amongst your friends. You are a great role model to others. Well done, Millie!

Year 5: *Evie S, Scott C, Alexis R* for their enthusiasm and great work adding fractions - showing their working out - and using their knowledge of equivalent fractions. Well done!

Beekeepers: *George PK, George S and Samuel H* for putting so much effort into improving their handwriting this term, it's really paying off and they should all be very proud of themselves.

Oliver M for having such a calm and settled half term. He has come on in leaps and bounds in all areas of the curriculum as a result. Keep it up, Oliver!

Lucas D for his excellent guitar playing in our carol concert rehearsals. He has put a lot of time in at home to learn them and they sound fantastic.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL
AND
BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR!**



CAROLS AT VILLAGE SHOP

A very big thank you to everyone who supported Frogs at the village shop last Friday! It was a lovely start to the

festive season and also raised a **fantastic £170!** A big well done to our children who sang, too, and to **Lucas D** who played solo accompaniment on his guitar! Very impressive.



CHRISTMAS AT ST PETER'S

Please take a look at the dates on page 4 for events happening at St Peter's over the Christmas Season. They would like to wish everyone a good Christmas and happy New Year.



Parking reminder: For all services, please do not park in Church Street. Park either in the car park behind the church (accessed off Hale Close) or at the Parish Hall.

Food Bank There is a food bank in the North Porch at the back of the church which you are welcome to use. We stock dried and tinned foods. There are also some toiletries and some pet food. Please take what you need for the day and leave some for other people.

Warm Space St Peter's is open every day from 9am to 5pm (2 pm on Christmas Day). You are very welcome to come in and keep warm. The Community Room has toys in it which your children are very welcome to play with.

Happy Birthday to all the children who have their birthday in this week an over the Christmas Break:

Bernie B Oran C Chloe A
Nancy T Maisie S Vinnie B
Ronnie U Elijah M April H

If you would like to donate a book, or something else, for your child's birthday, the link to our wish list is:

<https://amzn.eu/bXvpSme>

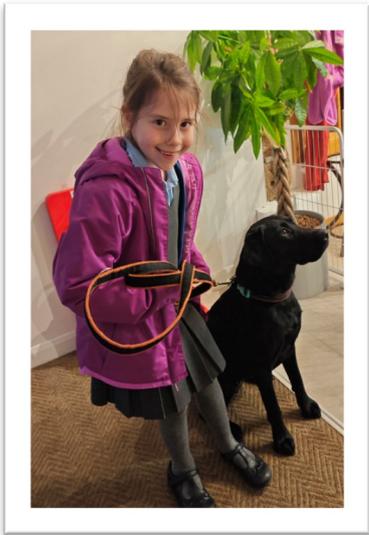


During Worship this week, we lit the third candle in our Advent wreath. This candle represents Joy. The children thought about how they can bring Joy to others. Who might they choose to bring Joy to and who did they think experienced joy in the Nativity? Even when things are tough, it is possible to spread Joy to others, sometimes it just takes a cheerful smile to brighten someone's day. We asked God to help us to bring Joy to others and to be thankful for the birth of Jesus and the joy that this brings to the world.



CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS!

Lots of children have been added to our achievements board in the school hall this week! Congratulations to them all!



Anna H who has developed and baked her own dog cookie recipe to raise money for Dogs for Autism this term. This charity has special significance for the family, as they are currently puppy parents for one of the charity's trainee therapy dogs! If you would like more information on becoming a puppy parent please visit their website: Dogs for Autism



Micky N for scoring four goals in the Boy's Friday night Soccer Schools Football Club!



Aubrey R for achieving his Level 3 Swimming Certificate



Hattie B for her participation at Scouts and being named the best Cub!



Etta B for achieving her Level 1 Large Apparatus Certificate in Gymnastics



Max H for swimming 25 metres Front Crawl.

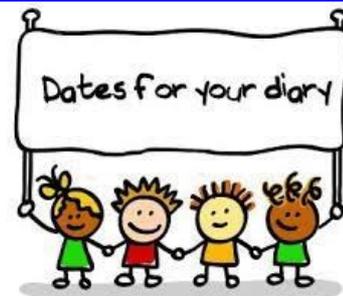


Autumn P for achieving her Level 3 Swimming Certificate



AUTUMN TERM 2024/25

Sun 22nd Dec	Christmas Carol Service, St Peter's Church, 6pm Nine lessons and carols. Wine and mince pies afterwards
Tues 24th Dec	Christingle at the Crib, St Peter's Church, 2pm and 4pm. The 2pm service will be quieter. Collection for the Children's Society Midnight Communion, 11.30pm
Wed 25th Dec	Family Christmas Celebration, St Peter's Church, 10am. A shorter service. Show and Tell Your Christmas Gifts!



SPRING TERM 2024/25

Sun 5th Jan	Café Church, 10am
Mon 6th Jan	Return to School for Spring Term
Wed 15th Jan	Sportshall Athletics - Years 5 & 6 (Invite Only)
Thurs 16th Jan	Alton Swim Gala (invite only)
Mon 20th Jan	Inclusion Hub, 8.45am-9.30am, Staff Room
Fri 7th Feb	FROGS Disco at St Peter's Church. KS1 - 4.30pm-5.45pm, KS2 - 6.00pm-7.15pm
Fri 14th Feb	End of Spring Half Term 1
Mon 24th Feb	INSET Day
Tues 25th Feb	Return to School Spring 2
Thur 27th Feb	Bikeability for Year 6 Day 1
Fri 28th Feb	Bikeability for Year 6 Day 2
Mon 10th Mar	Inclusion Hub, 8.45am-9.30am, Staff Room
Fri 21st Mar	Comic Relief Day
Thur 3rd April	Nectar Class Fundraiser - Jumble Sale, 3pm
Fri 4th Apr	End of Spring Term

SUMMER TERM 2024/25

Tue 22nd Apr	Return to School for Summer Term
Wed 30th Apr	Honeycomb Class—River Arle Study
Thurs 1st May	Bumblebee Visit to Newhouse Farm, Alresford
Mon 5th May	Inclusion Hub, 8.45am-9.30am, Staff Room
Tues 6th May	Nectar Class—River Arle Study
Mon 12th May	SATs Week starts - Year 6
Mon 19th May	Beekeeper Class—River Arle Study
Fri 23rd May	End of Summer Half Term 1
Mon 2nd June	INSET Day
Tue 3rd June	Return to School for Summer 2
Fri 13th June	Class Photos
Fri 20th June	Fire Visit Years 2 and 5
Mon 23rd June	Inclusion Hub, 8.45am-9.30am, Staff Room
Fri 27th June	Sports Day
Fri 4th July	Reserve Sports Day

ROPLEY FILM SOCIETY

proudly presents a screening of

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET

recorded live from the Royal Opera House 2016

With sumptuous period designs, spellbinding stage effects
and Tchaikovsky's iconic score,
this performance of the quintessential Christmas ballet
will enchant and delight audiences of all ages.

in Ropley Parish Hall
Friday 20 December
at 6.00pm

Doors and bar open 5.30pm

Tickets

£6.00 / £4.00 (16 years and under)

in advance from the Courtyard Village Shop (*cash only*)

Available 1 month before film date until 12 noon on day of showing

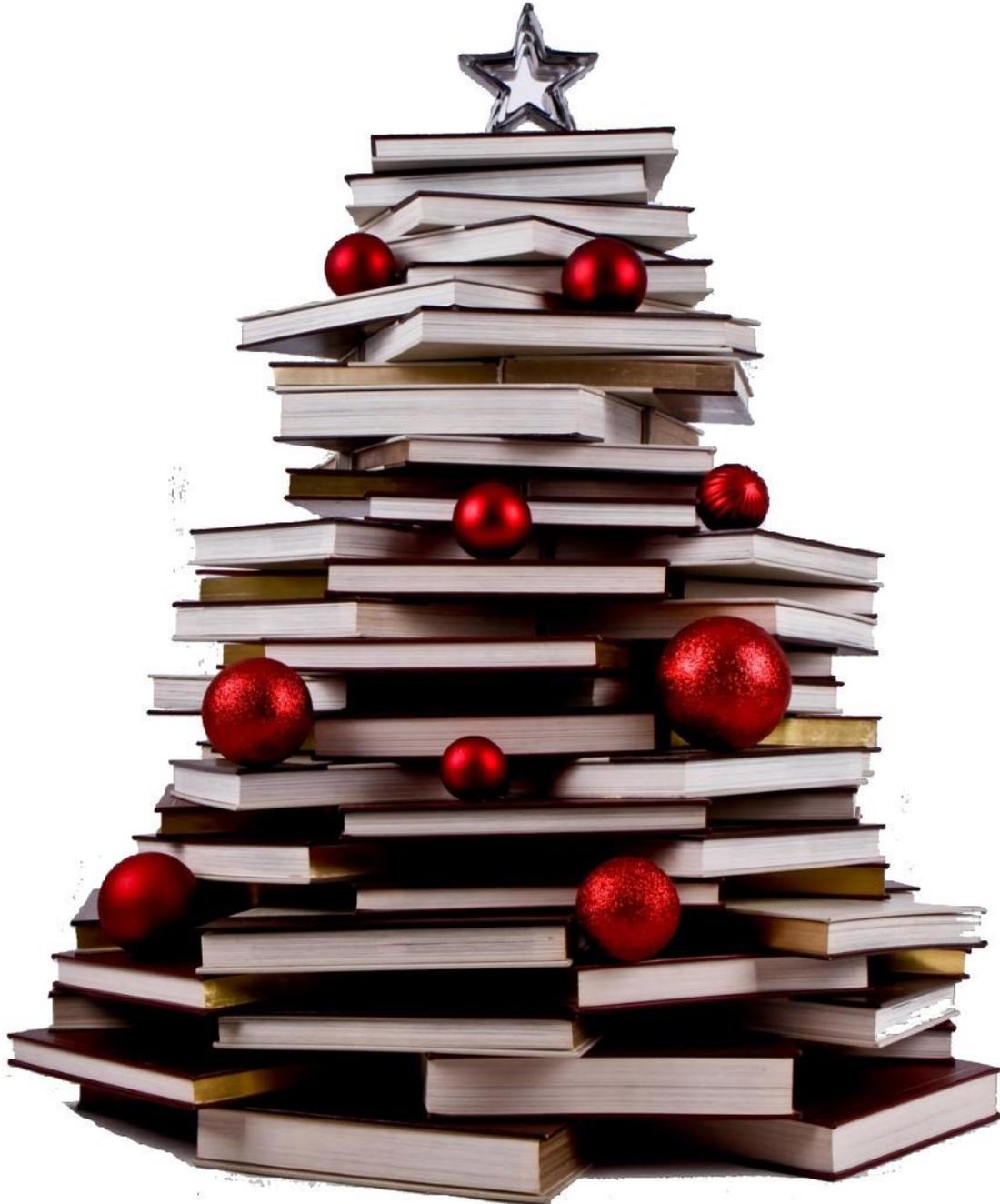
£7.00 / £5.00 (16 years and under)

online at <https://ropleyparishhall.org.uk/page/events>

At the door (*cash or cards*)

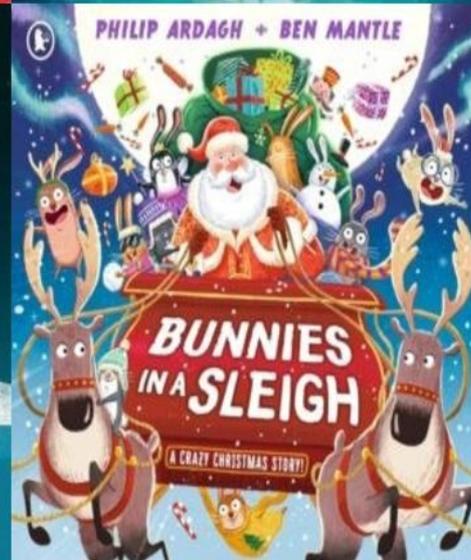
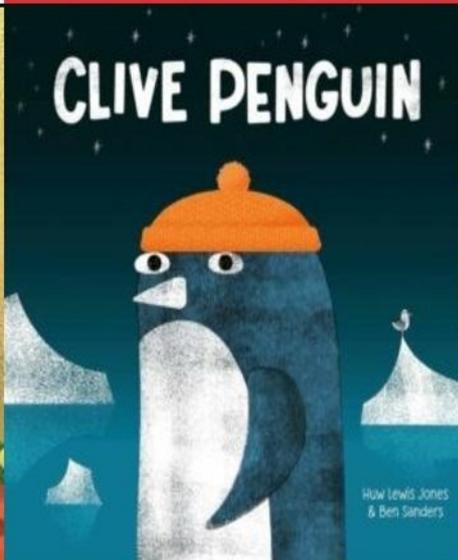
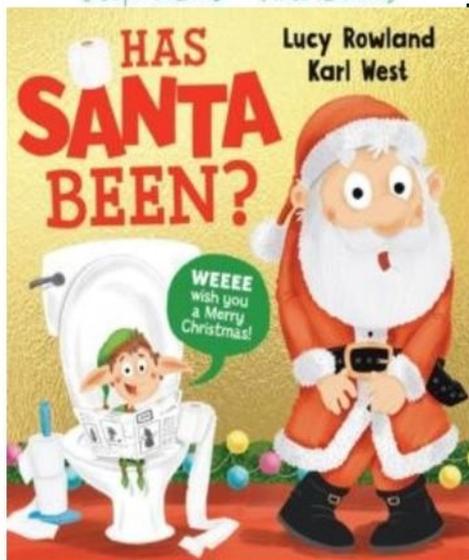
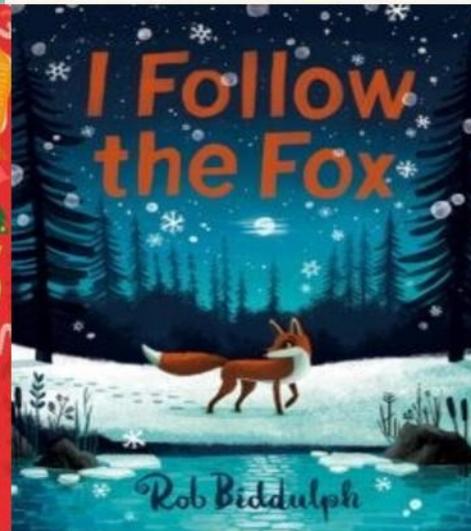
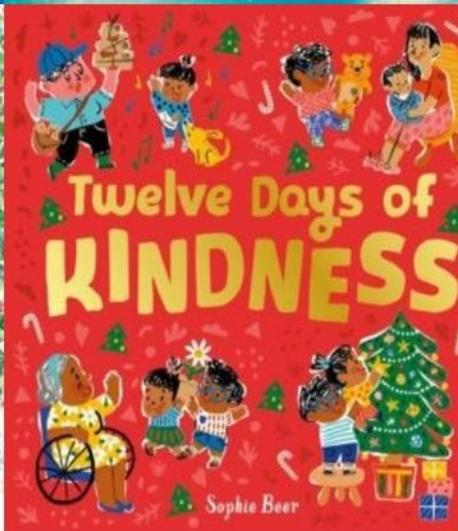
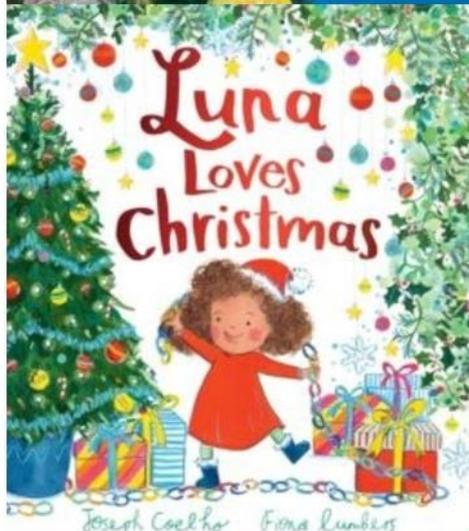
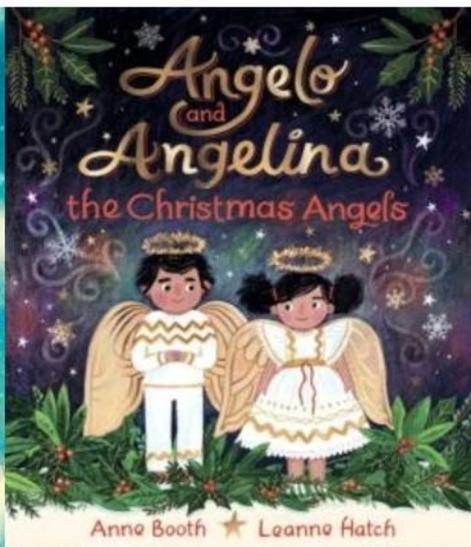
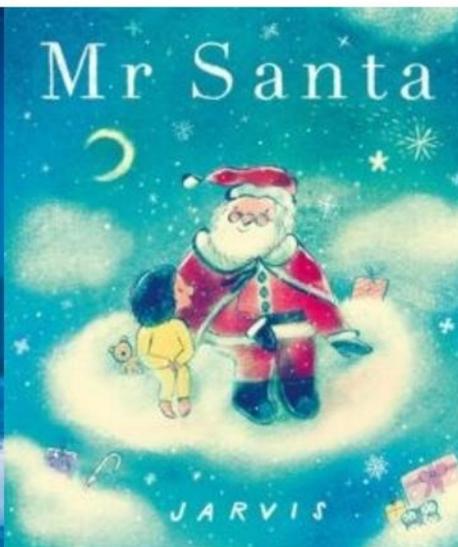
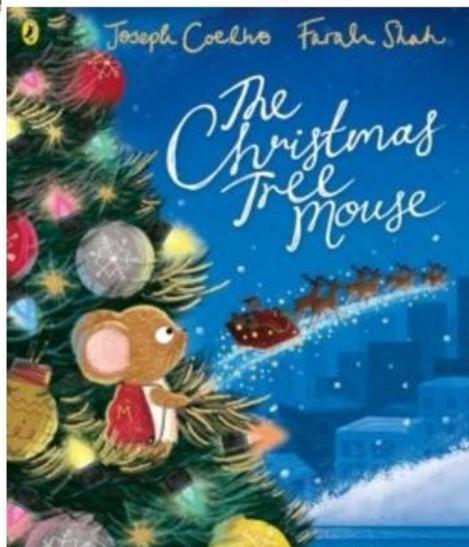


Charity No 1107649
moviola.org

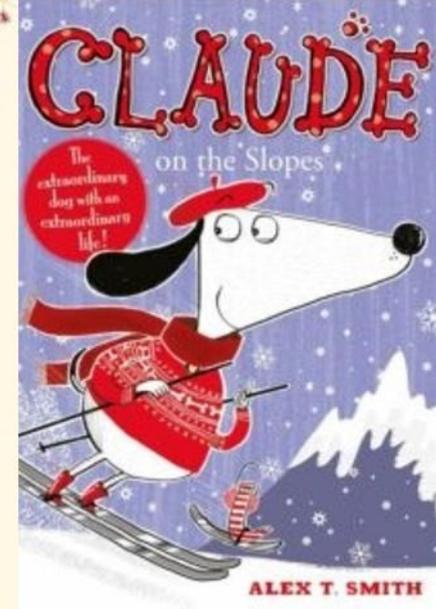
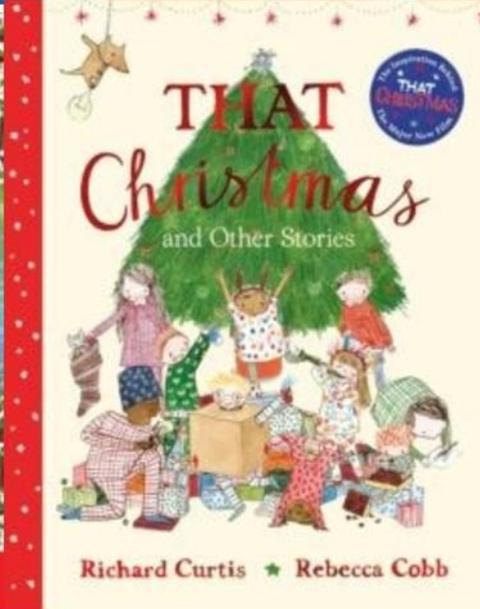
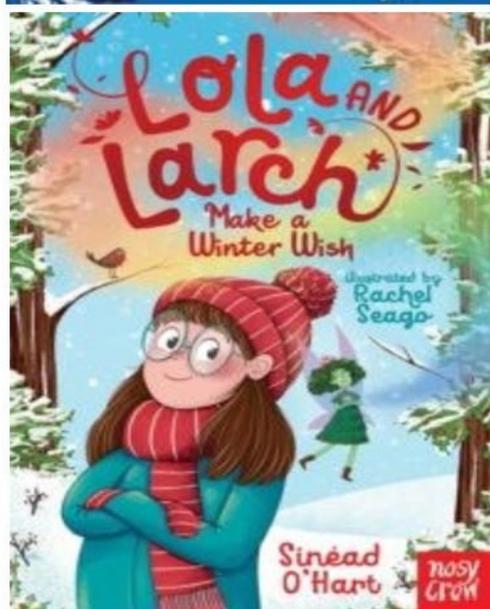
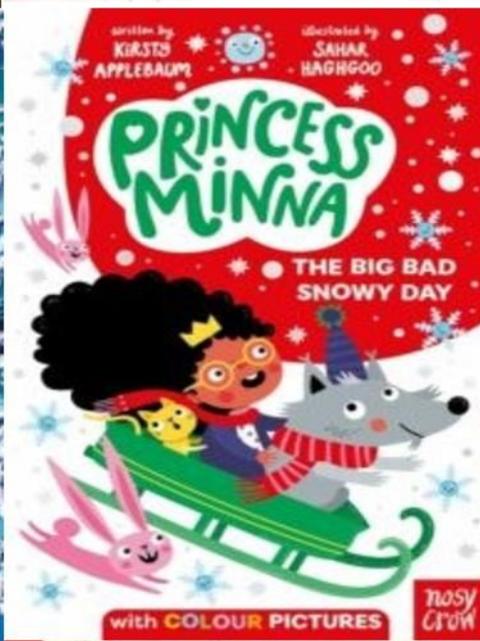
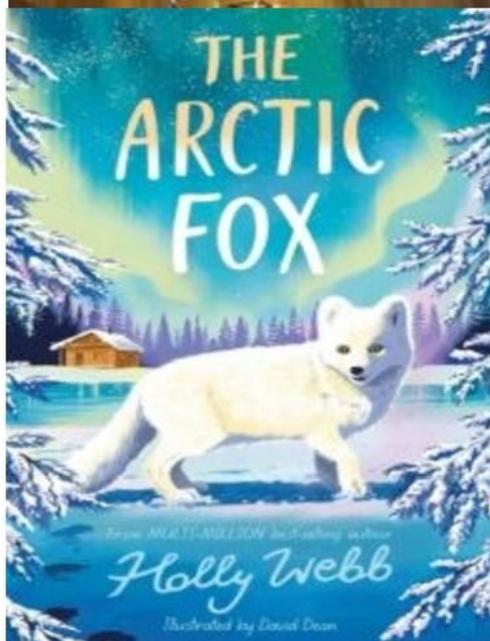
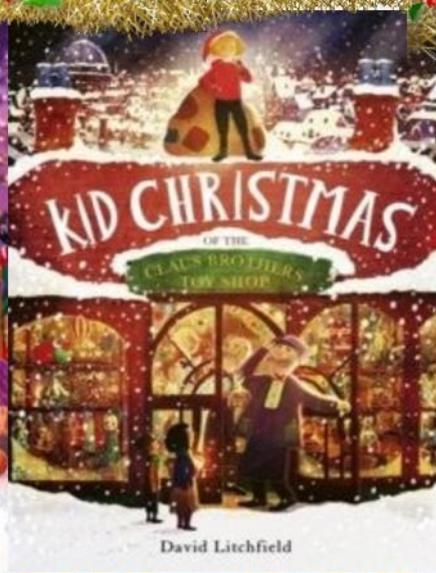
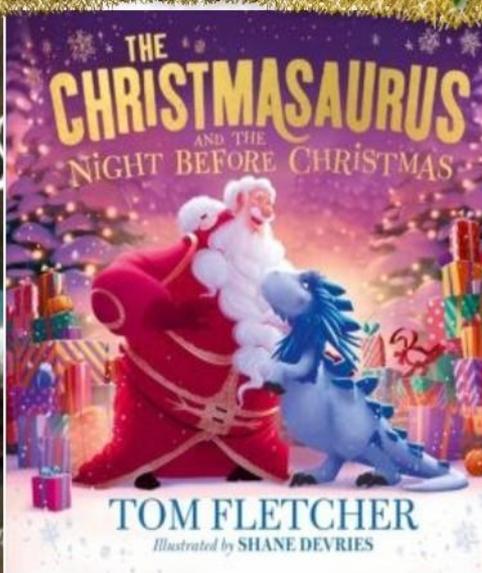
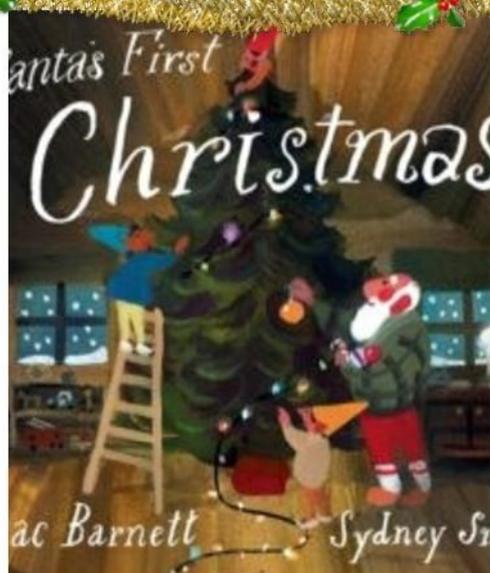


**Some great book inspirations for
this Christmas!**

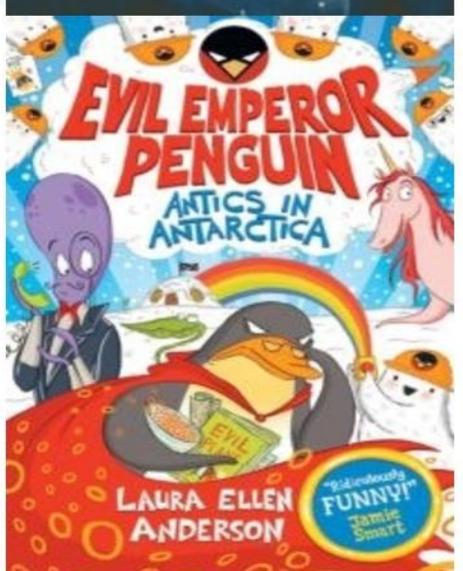
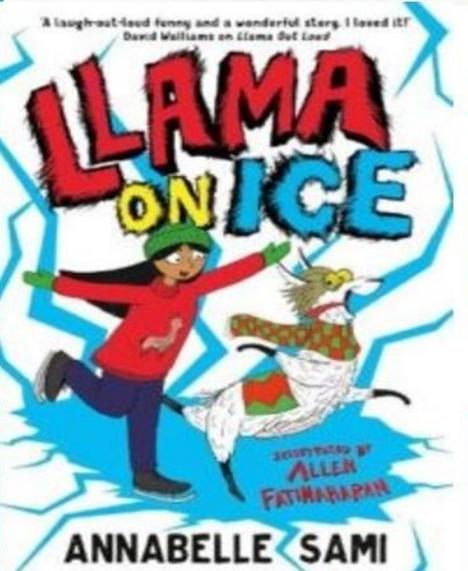
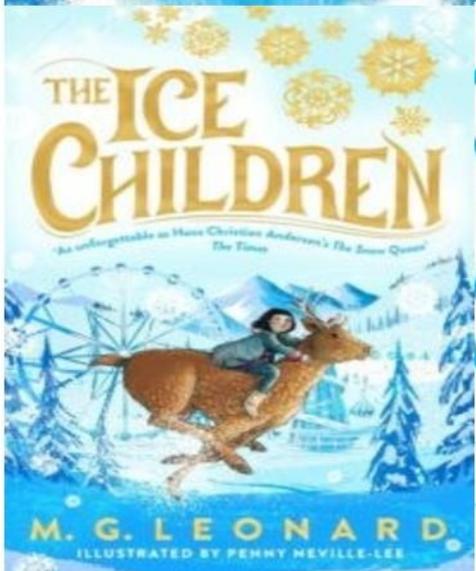
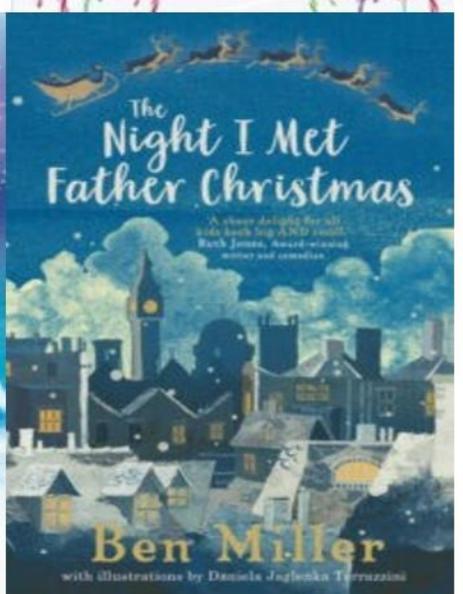
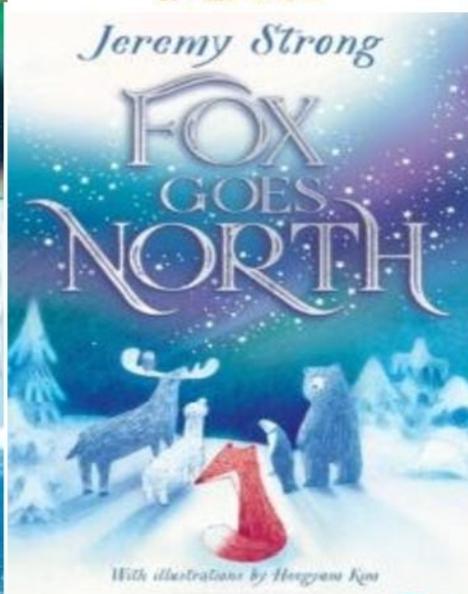
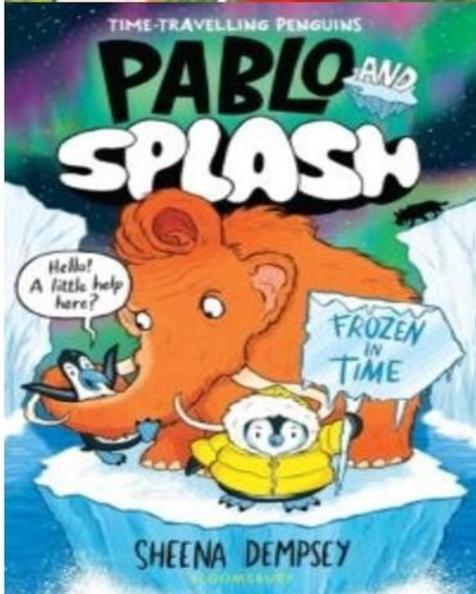
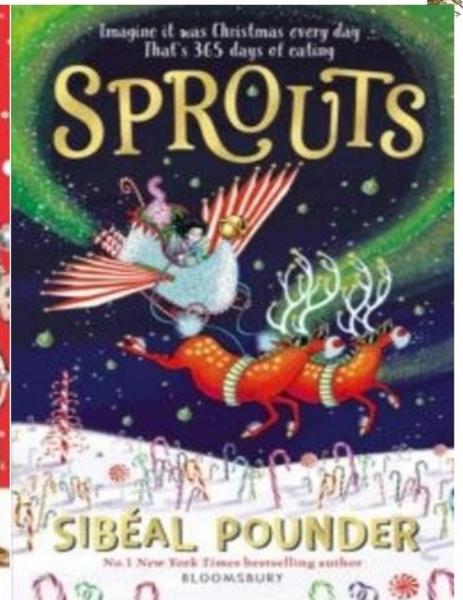
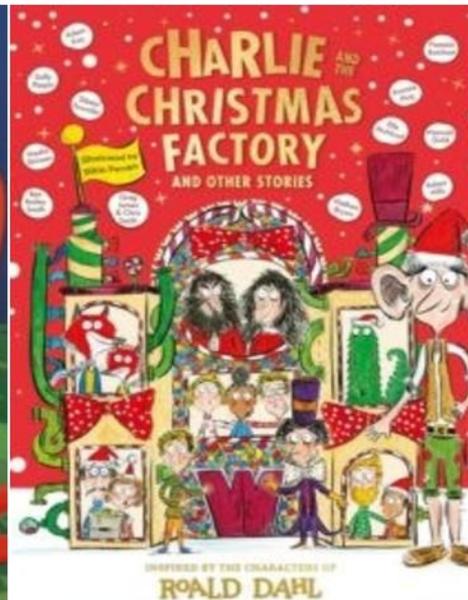
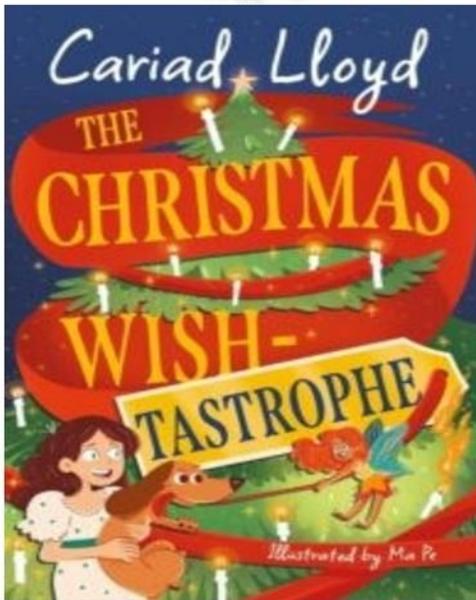
What is on Your (Christmas) BookshELF for Bumblebee?



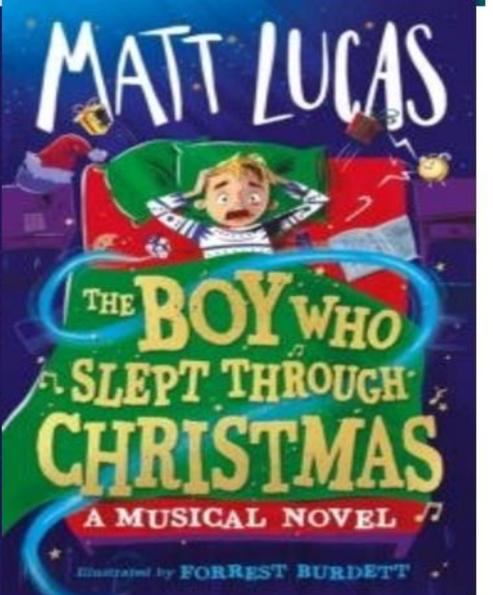
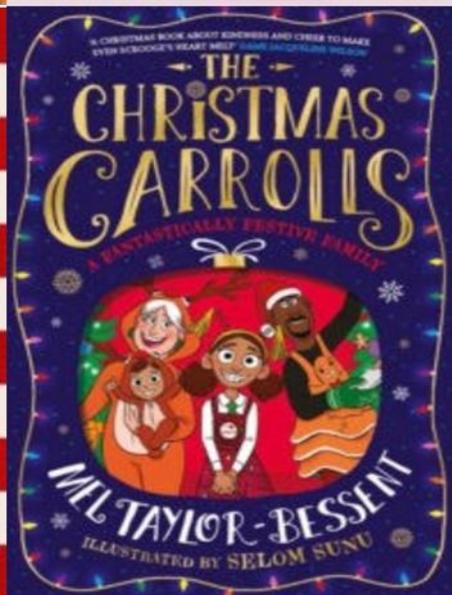
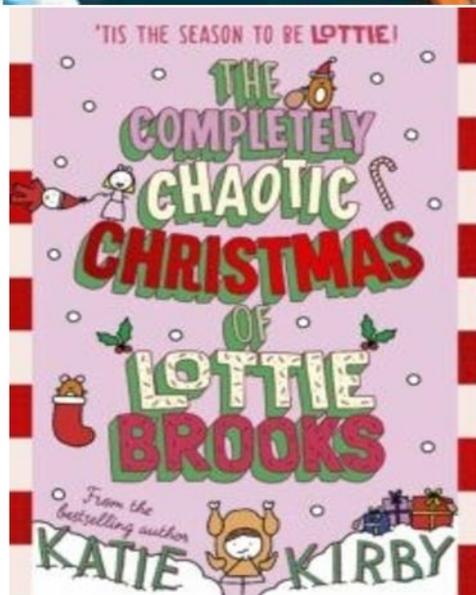
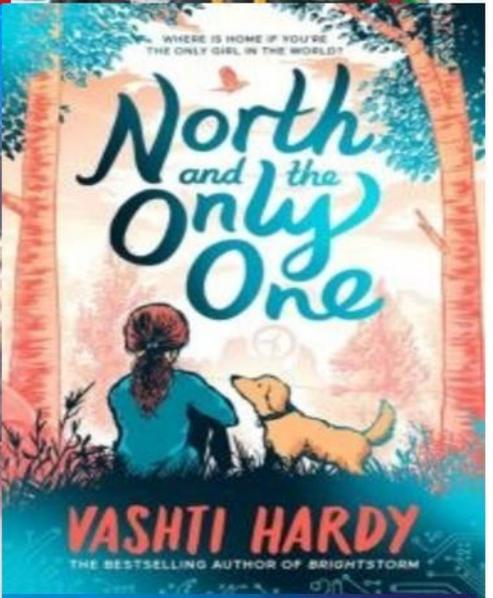
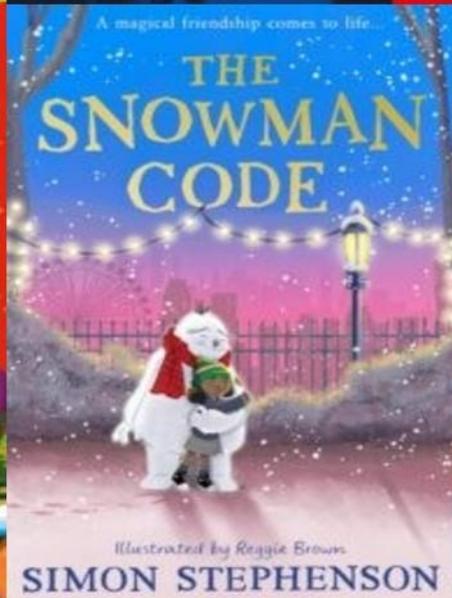
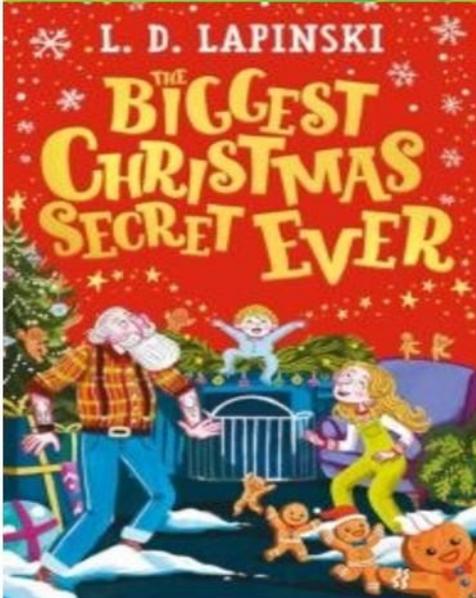
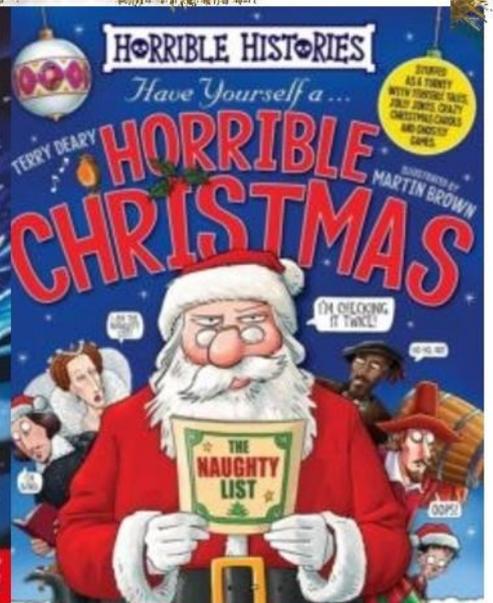
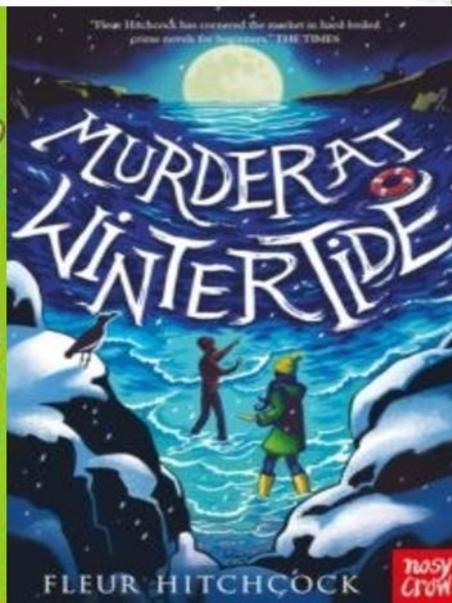
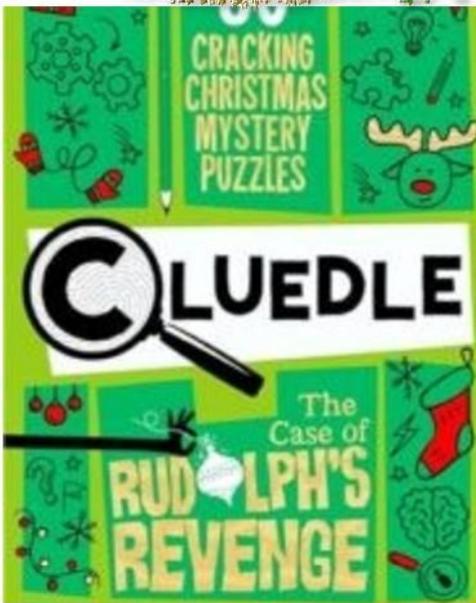
What is on Your (Christmas) BookshELF for Honey Bees and Carpenter Bees?



What is on Your (Christmas) BookshELF for Year 3 and 4?



What is on Your (Christmas) BookshELF for Year 5 and 6?





SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

Crafty Advent Family Morning 10am-12pm

THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER

Carols in the Churchyard 6pm

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

Ropley Carol Service 6pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

Christingle at the Crib 2pm and 4pm

Midnight Communion 11.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

Family Christmas Celebration
show and tell your presents! 10am

ST MARY MAGDALENE WEST TISTED

22ND DECEMBER

West Tisted Village Carols and
Communion 10am

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Fortnite was launched back in 2017, but it remains massively popular – with more than 650 million active players. That's partially due to the competitive nature of its player-vs-player combat, its pop culture crossovers and its constantly shifting map. Significant updates are rolled out with each new version of the game – known as 'chapters' – and within these sit shorter 'seasons'.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player offline mode in Fortnite: it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about (both in terms of connectivity and using up data), so you may find that dedicated young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – cosmetic 'skins', music tracks and LEGO items – which don't really impact on gameplay but can cost a significant amount. These items are bought with in-game currency, V-Bucks – earned through completing the Battle Pass (which also costs V-Bucks) and can also be purchased from the game's store for real money.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from movies and TV shows like Family Guy and Avatar: The Last Airbender to comic book characters including Batman to other games such as Street Fighter. This means you could have children asking questions about the monster from Alien or Geralt from The Witcher a little sooner than you otherwise might have.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. 'Crossplay' lets friends play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC – while the 'party chat' feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can, however, put youngsters at risk of hearing inappropriate language from older players in the heat of virtual combat.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

At its core, there's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as fishing mini-games and dancing emotes. Machine guns, shotguns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, however, so discretion is advised.

FREQUENT UPDATES

The game's developers release content in 'seasons' that usually run for around ten weeks. Each fresh update sees items added to the in-game store, changes to the environment's map and a different over-arching theme (such as 'medieval', 'pirates' or 'party'). These regular renewals help to hold players' interest – but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MATCH GAMING TIMES

Younger players tend to play Fortnite with their friends. With that in mind, it could be worth speaking to the parents and carers of a child's social group and coordinating their gaming around certain times of day. Safety in numbers is obviously a factor here, but it will also help children feel that they're getting adequate opportunities to socialise with their friends online.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-so-subtle mechanism for coaxing players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authorisation. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

USE UPDATES AS REWARDS

Fortnite's seasonal updates are free, but each also brings the option of a 'battle pass', unlocking exclusive rewards for playing the game and completing set challenges. The passes cost around £8 and are also available as part of larger bundles. The purchase of passes can be an effective reward to young Fortnite fans for good behaviour or academic performance, or as an incentive for completing chores like tidying their room.

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game: make sure any young player knows this.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents and carers to do something fun with their child, while also making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore a keen advocate of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

SEPTEMBER 2024					
M	26		9	16	23
T	27		10	17	24
W	28	4	11	18	25
T	29	5	12	19	26
F	30	6	13	20	27
S	31	7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22	29

OCTOBER 2024					
M	30	7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22	29
W	2	9	16	23	30
T	3	10	17	24	31
F	4	11	18	25	
S	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	

NOVEMBER 2024				
M	4	11		25
T	5	12	19	26
W	6	13	20	27
T	7	14	21	28
F	1	8	15	22
S	2	9	16	23
S	3	10	17	24

DECEMBER 2024				
M	2	9	16	23
T	3	10	17	24
W	4	11	18	25
T	5	12	19	26
F	6	13	20*	27
S	7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22

JANUARY 2025					
M	30	6*	13	20	27
T	31	7	14	21	28
W		1	8	15	22
T		2	9	16	23
F		3	10	17	24
S		4	11	18	25
S		5	12	19	26

FEBRUARY 2025				
M	3	10	17	
T	4	11	18	25
W	5	12	19	26
T	6	13	20	27
F	7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22
S	2	9	16	23

MARCH 2025				
M	3	10	17	24
T	4	11	18	25
W	5	12	19	26
T	6	13	20	27
F	7	14	21	28
S	1	8	15	22
S	2	9	16	23

APRIL 2025					
M	31	7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22*	29
W	2	9	16	23	30
T	3	10	17	24	
F	4*	11	18	25	
S	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	

MAY 2025				
M		5	12	19
T		6	13	20
W		7	14	21
T	1	8	15	22
F	2	9	16	23
S	3	10	17	24
S	4	11	18	25

JUNE 2025				
M			9	16
T		3	10	17
W		4	11	18
T		5	12	19
F		6	13	20
S		7	14	21
S	1	8	15	22

JULY 2025					
M	30	7	14	21	28
T	1	8	15	22*	29
W	2	9	16	23	30
T	3	10	17	24	31
F	4	11	18	25	
S	5	12	19	26	
S	6	13	20	27	

AUGUST 2025				
M		4	11	18
T		5	12	19
W		6	13	20
T		7	14	21
F	1	8	15	22
S	2	9	16	23
S	3	10	17	24

 INSET Day

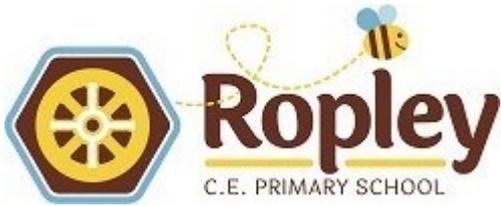


APPRECIATION ❤️ BELONGING ❤️ COMPASSION

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PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING

Every year, the Government allocates funding to schools to help address the national trend that disadvantaged students do not attain as highly as non-disadvantaged students. This valuable extra money is allocated to schools to provide additional or enhanced provision, so that no child is left behind in their education as a result of financial circumstances. This can include subsidising after school clubs and trips as well as providing additional learning support or resources in class, for example.

Eligibility criteria

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Parents and carers can check eligibility simply and easily by visiting:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants/>

and clicking on 'New Application'. Once you have input your details it will return an instant result and notify the school office electronically of your eligibility. If you would prefer us to check on your behalf, please email Mrs Burr with YOUR name, YOUR date of birth and YOUR national insurance number. We would like to reassure you that all applications made are confidential and no child is identified as a Pupil Premium child in any way in their day to day school life. Equally being entitled to free school meals does not mean your child has to eat a meal every day!

Even if your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 and already entitled to Universal Free School Meals, if you think you might be entitled to this benefit please complete the form. This valuable extra funding ensures that we can offer many different types of support throughout the years your child is at our school and will ensure they continue to receive free school meals as they move into KS2.

**Just one day of qualifying entitlement = 6 years of funding!
Current funding = £1480 per child per academic year**