# It's Christmas!



Welcome to the 2022 JRN seasonal special - four pages packed with festive fun



#### Christmas jokes ...

What happens to naughty elves? They get the sack!

Who delivers Christmas presents to dogs?
Santa Paws!

Which reindeer has the worst manners? Rude-olph!

What do you call Santa on his tea break?

Santa Pause!



A very Merry
Christmas to
everyone at
JRS from all
of us here at
Newspaper
Club!

**John Rankin News** 

### Christmas jokes ...

What is Santa's sister called?

Mary Christmas!

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh? Nothing ... it was on the house!

Why does Santa have three gardens? So that he can hoe, hoe, hoe!

Why is Santa good at karate? Because he wears a black belt! CHRISTMAS SPECIAL PAGE 2 JRN DECEMBER 2022

d 0 h 0 m b h g d d m m d 0 m d m m d m p m d m 0 Christmas Santa elf gingerbread present reindeer chimney coal grinch

It's Ethan's Xmas word search!

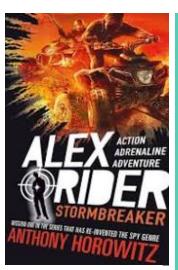
See if
you can
find all
the
words on
the list
(and
there's a
special
bonus
phrase
for
Rick
Astley
fans)

Mistletoe sleigh tree pudding

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## **Christmas book reviews by Freddie**

The Alex Rider Series by Anthony Horowitz This action-packed series ticks all the boxes for me. Fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is recruited by the special operations division of MI6 shortly after his uncle's mysterious death and sent to Cornwall to stop Darius Sayle's evil plans There are 13 books in total. Starting with Stormbreaker and ending in Nightshade, this series is amazing. Personally I like Eagle Strike best, but they're all great. Age: 9+. Violence: medium. Swearing: mild.



Freddie's gift rating

Kidnapped
by RL Stevenson
This 1886 classic is a thrilling
pirate-themed adventure
story. It intrigues the mind
and makes you never want
to stop reading. The Scottish
dialect is a little hard to get
your head around, but it's
still a great book. Mr Shaw is
a drunk, nasty piece of work.
When David Balfour, the
main character, gets
kidnapped, he doesn't think
anything can get any worse
but when the ship hits the
reef, it's every man for

Age: 9+. Violence: none.



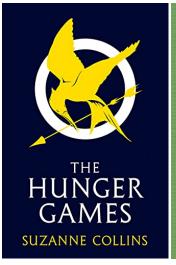


Summoner: The Novice by Taran Matharu

This amazing book is the first in a series of four. Set in the kingdom of Hominum, the lucky few have the ability to summon demons. Young Fletcher Wulf is a countryside nobody until he learns he can summon. Whisked away to Vocans Academy to win the end-of-year tournament. All four books are fantastic.

Age: 11+. Violence: medium.

Age: 11+. Violence: mediun Swearing: mild. Freddie's gift rating \*\*\*\*\*



The Hunger Games
by Suzanne Collins
Set in a dark future of North
America, every year 12
boys and 12 girls are sent
into an arena to fight to the
death, with random
weapons and only one rule:
kill or be killed. Katniss
Everdeen is placed in the
games and the pressure is
on. There are three other
books in the series.
Age: 11+. Violence: strong.
Swearing: mild.
Freddie's gift rating \*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Baby Business at Christmas ... The awesome JRN cartoon strip by Dennis





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#### And now JRN presents a chilling Christmas Ghost Story by Isabel

# Frostbite

Montgomery was what you could call normal. Average. He had an average job in an average company in an average town getting average pay every two average weeks.

So when he won a competition for 10 hours of free ice-skating ... good for him! He LOVED ice-skating. Even when he had to work long hours, he always seemed to find time to go ice-skating.

So on December the 17th, Montgomery set out to the local skating rink. The trees that surrounded it were covered in lights and decorations, the poles that held up the lights were covered in tinsel.

He grabbed his skates, and stepped on to the ice. Soon enough, he was spinning around in the middle, having the time of his life.

He didn't notice the icicles, forming way too fast for normal icicles. Mists formed in deep blues and greys.



It had no mouth or nose, just two eyes that stabbed into your soul ...

Soon, a figure took shape. It wore a cloak, made of blue and white icicles and shards. It wore a crown, made of the same materials. It had no mouth or nose ... just two eyes that stabbed into your soul.

"I ... am ... the ... fro ... zen ... one!" it said in a cold and dry voice.

The ghost's misty form turned into a large black cloud. It felt to Montgomery as if thousands of frozen pins were prodding him. "AAGH!" he winced as the cloud came closer ...

Black. All he could see was black. He was back on the ice. But it wasn't December the 17th any more.

The rink was filled with people, all scrambling to get away from the machine that fixes the ice after it's been skated on.

But one person didn't realise. Suddenly, they tripped, only a few paces away from the machine.

Montgomery looked away. A long, high-pitched scream came from behind him. The black cloud surrounded him again.

He was back, and the ghost was standing right in front of him. He couldn't look right at it any more, knowing of the terrible death it had suffered.

Then it came closer ...