



## Goldington Academy Library Newsletter

Autumn Term

**276 NEW  
LIBRARY  
BOOKS  
ADDED  
SINCE  
SEPTEMBER**

**4941 books have  
been issued in  
the Autumn term  
4395 FICTION  
546 NON-FIC**

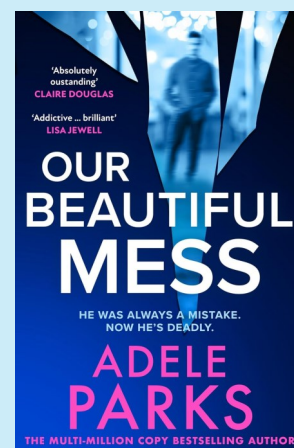
### IN THIS ISSUE! IN THIS ISSUE!

**STAFF READS BOOK REVIEWS CLASSIC  
BOOK OF THE TERM KIMBA LIBRARY  
FACTS AND FIGURES WINTER WORDS  
WINTER POEM WINTER MOOD BOARD  
CHRISTMAS CUPCAKE RECIPE**



### WHAT ARE WE READING?

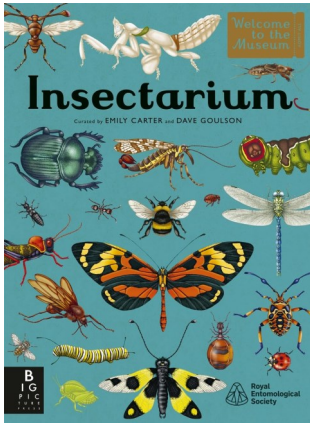
Mrs Chapman



Mrs Rai



## BOOK REVIEW— INSECTARIUM



If you've ever looked at a tiny bug on the pavement on the way to school and wondered what secrets it hides then *Insectarium* is the book for you. The writing is informative and accessible and it encourages you see insects not as creepy crawlies but as incredible, vital little engineers of our world. The illustrations are truly gorgeous: vibrant and precise.

Flicking through the pages is like

walking through a museum and discovering new marvels, from gigantic beetles to dainty damselflies, and every page reminds you that insects, while they may be small, are also hugely important!



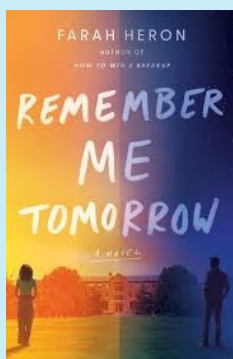
*"I always try to learn. Reading is one way to improve not just in football but in life" Cristiano Ronaldo.*

### STAFF READS

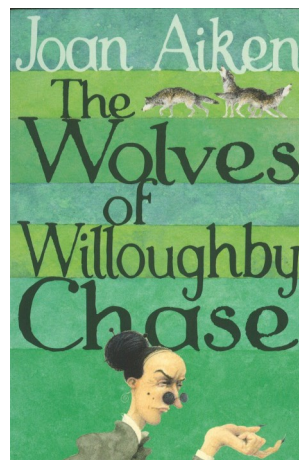
Mrs Millington



Mrs Percival



### CLASSIC BOOK OF THE TERM



It looks like we could be in for a cold winter, and whenever the weather is cold and snowy I always like to read Joan Aiken's modern classic "The Wolves of Willoughby Chase". The book is set in England in the winter of 1832, but it is an alternate history England in which the harsh winter has frozen the ground and wolves have migrated from Europe and overrun the countryside.

The story follows Bonnie and Sylvia, who are at the mercy of their cruel Governess, Miss Slighcarp, who has seized control of Willoughby Chase while the girls' parents are away. What follows is a gripping fight for survival, as the girls confront treachery, uncover sinister plots, and navigate a world full of danger, from the biting icy weather to the prowling wolves.

Aiken artfully combines gothic horror and adventure, comedy and a sinister tone. The villains are all memorably nasty, and the heroes are courageous and resourceful. The setting, snowbound, windswept, and haunted by lurking wolves, feels like a character itself. A wintery gothic adventure with bite—literally!

P.s. Look beyond the terrible book cover! This classic book is amazing!

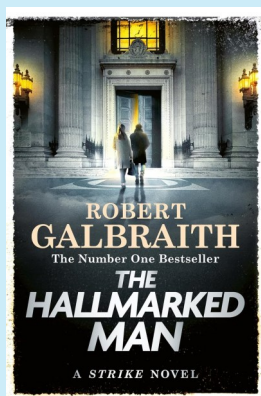


## STAFF READS

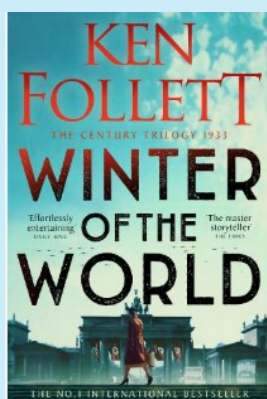
Miss Castagnaro



Mrs Storey



Mrs White



## POET VISIT—KIMBA!

Last week, the Library was buzzing with creativity as we welcomed fantastic spoken-word poet KIMBA for a series of special poetry workshops with pupils from year 7–9. Known for his energetic performances and approachable teaching style, Kimba brought poetry to life in an inspirational way.



Throughout the workshop Kimba talked about the importance of SHAMPOO in poetry, and how using SHAMPOO can add interest to your writing. There is no mystery to SHAMPOO, anyone can use it. The acronym stands for: SIMILE, HYPERBOLE, ALLITERATION, METAPHOR, PERSONIFICATION, ONOMATOPOEIA and OXYMORON.

He showed us how each of these language techniques can enrich poetry writing, add rhythm, and make poetry more interesting and memorable for people reading or listening to it. Pupils were given advice and encouragement to write their own poems on the theme of metamorphosis, making sure that their poems were stuffed full of SHAMPOO.

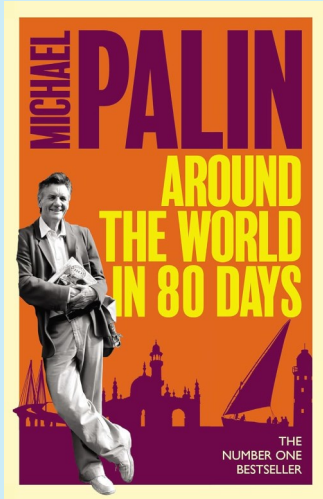


Pupils then got the chance to share their poem and everyone was so impressed with the quality and creativity of work produced.

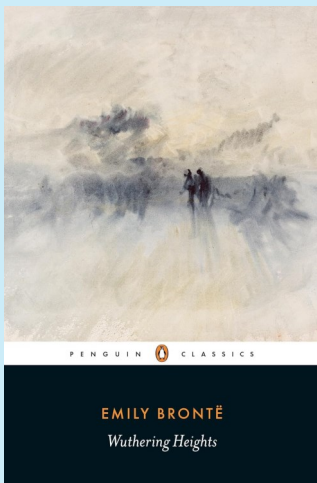
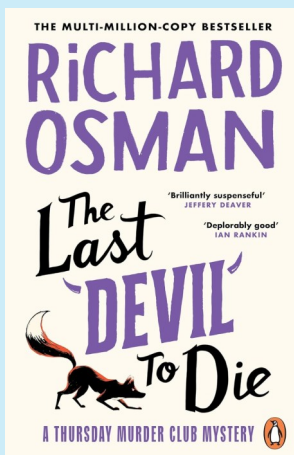
We are grateful to Kimba for this inspiring visit!

## STAFF READS

Mr Lucas



Miss McKenna



**The future is NOW! Check out some of these hi-tech innovations in the Library world !**



**Can't be bothered to walk to the shelves? Well meet the library robots!** In some futuristic libraries, books are packed in vaults and fetched by speedy robotic arms. With just a click, the system zips into action and delivers the book straight to a pickup point. It's efficient, secure, and frees up space for beautiful study areas above ground.



**“Your personal book-finding companion.”** These interactive AI kiosks let customers ask questions about their reading, such as “*What should I read next?*” or “*Where can I find books on space exploration?*” The station will then offer recommendations, suggestions for research, or even a visual map of connected subjects and books! Very useful for both reading for pleasure and researching a topic.



# LIBRARIES OF THE FUTURE



**“Step inside the story.”** Virtual reality headsets and augmented reality displays let library visitors walk through ancient cities, explore the human body, or watch characters from a book come to life. Whether for learning or pure curiosity, these spaces turn the library into a doorway to entire worlds.



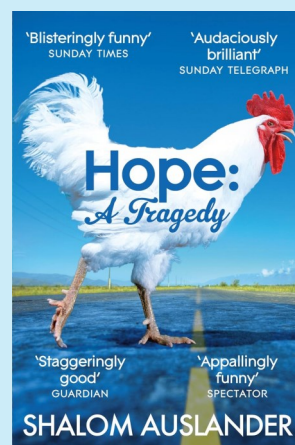
**“Shelves that think for themselves.”** Using tiny RFID sensors, these shelves know exactly which books are present, which ones are out on loan, and which ones have just been returned. Some even light up to guide readers to the title they’re looking for. It’s like the shelves are quietly organising themselves while you browse!

## STAFF READS

Mrs Bennett-Fowlds



Mr Marston



Miss Simmons





## NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS!



*Gargantis* by Thomas Taylor

A wild storm hits the coastal town of Eerie-On-Sea, and whispers spread that the ancient sea monster GARGANTIS has awakened! And when a mysterious glowing glass bottle washes ashore the question is ... does it hold a deadly secret? Herbie Lemon and his friend Violet dive head first into a mystery full of hooded strangers, crackling lightning, and a monster with terrifying power!

This book is perfect if you love sea legends and creepy storms. It's a tense magical adventure that makes your heart race.

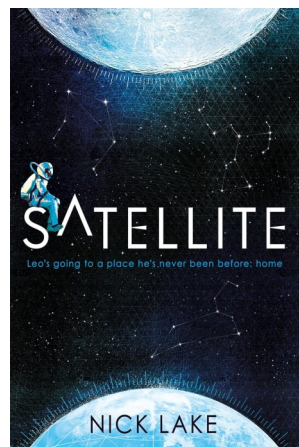
*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen

Thirteen-year old Brian Robeson is on a small plane over the Canadian wilderness when the pilot suffers a fatal heart attack. Suddenly alone, armed only with a hatchet his mother gave him, Brian must survive in the vast, hostile forest with no food, shelter, or help. He faces storms, wild animals, and his own fears.

A heart-pounding survival story that keeps you on the edge of your seat!



## NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS! NEW BOOKS!



*Satellite* by Nick Lake, 14+

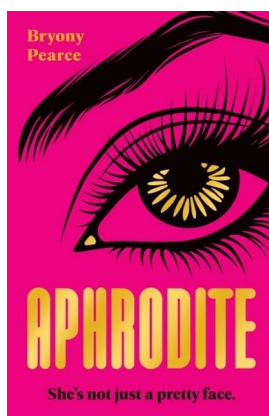
Leo, Orion and Libra have lived their whole lives on a space station orbiting Earth. It's all they've ever known. But now they're old enough to make the dangerous trip down to Earth for the first time. Coming to planet they've only ever seen in images and stories, they soon realise "home" might be more complicated, and less safe, than they ever imagined.

*Satellite* is a great sci-fi adventure which takes place in a beautifully realised future world.

*Aphrodite* by Bryony Pearce, 14+

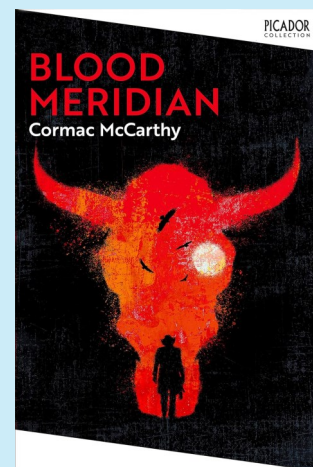
Aphrodite has always been told that she's simply the Goddess of Love and Beauty. But when she arrives on Olympus she realises that she doesn't quite fit into the glittering world of the Gods. Underneath the surface lies power, rage and a burning need for belonging. As other deities try to control her, Aphrodite must decide: is beauty her curse...or her strongest weapon.

Pearce's retelling is fierce, feminist and full of fire. It's a myth for modern readers and a powerful story about identity, power and the price of being underestimated.

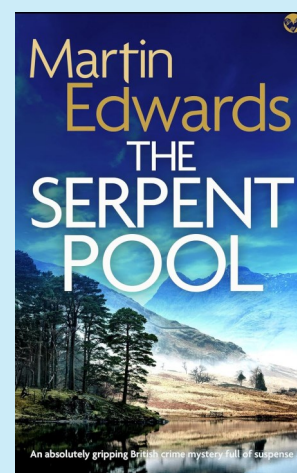


### STAFF READS

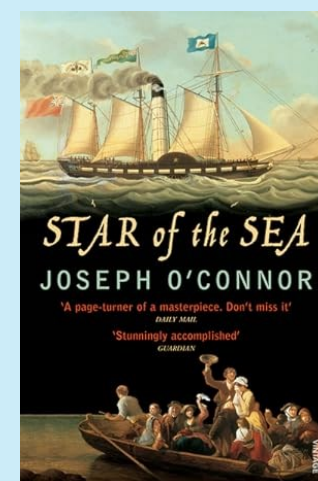
Mrs Kelly



Miss Scovell



Miss Andrews



## WINTER READING—POETRY

Walter de la Mare's works are not so well known today but he used to be well regarded as a writer of collected stories and poems for children.

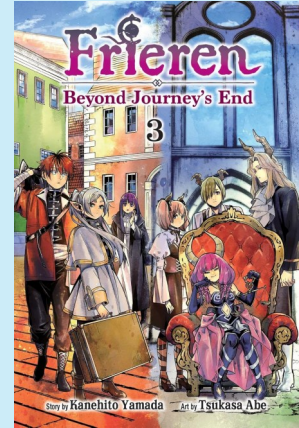
This gentle and quiet description of a snowy day dates from 1932.

### Snow

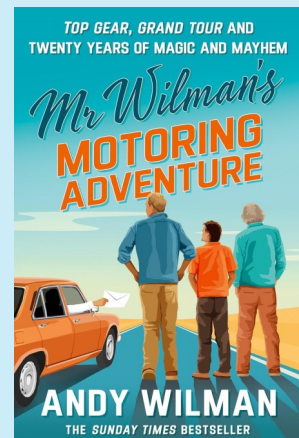
No breath of wind,  
No gleam of sun—  
Still the white snow  
Whirls softly down  
Twig and bough  
And blade and thorn  
All in an icy  
Quiet, forlorn.  
Whispering, rustling,  
Through the air  
On still and stone,  
Roof, - everywhere,  
It heaps its powdery  
Crystal flakes,  
Of every tree  
A mountain makes;  
'Til pale and faint  
At shut of day  
Stoops from the West  
One wint'ry ray,  
And, feathered in fire  
Where ghosts the moon,  
A robin shrills  
His lonely tune.

### STAFF READS

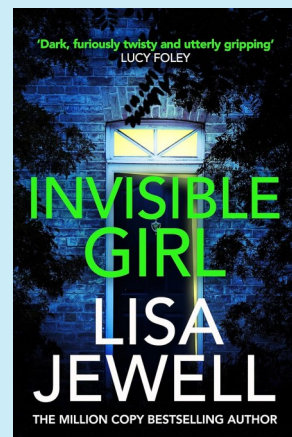
Mrs Bounds



Mr Chisnall



Miss Cawood

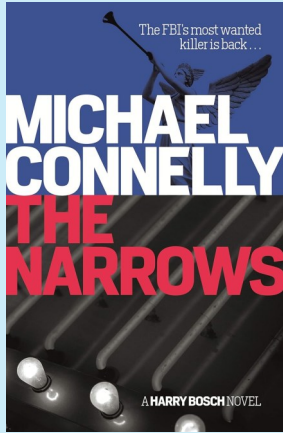




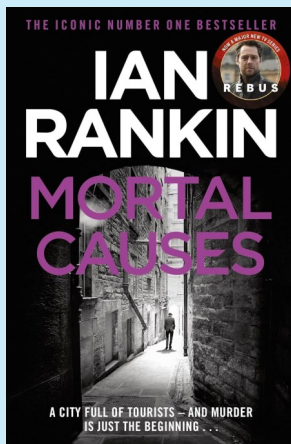
## LIBRARY FACTS AND FIGURES AUTUMN TERM 2025

### STAFF READS

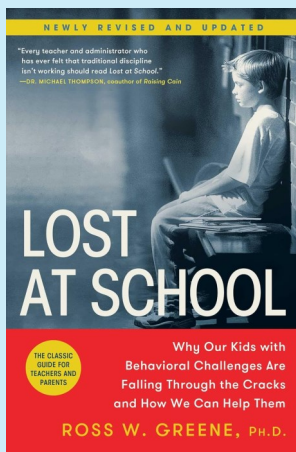
Miss Monger



Mrs Morgan



Miss Luck

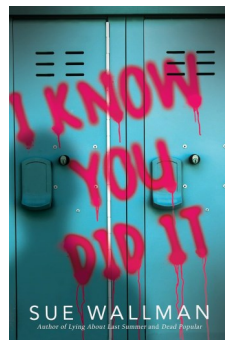


### MOST POPULAR GENRE



### BEST BORROWING ENGLISH GROUP MRS DEAR YEAR 7

### MOST POPULAR BOOK



I KNOW YOU DID IT—  
BY SUE WALLMAN

24 ISSUES SINCE  
SEPTEMBER

### MOST POPULAR NON- MANGA AUTHOR

JEFF KINNEY



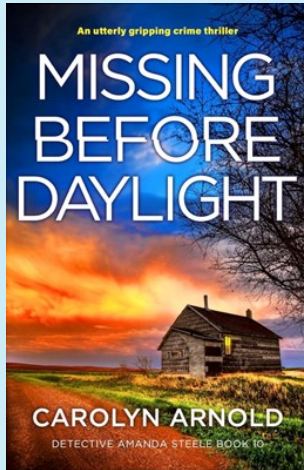
### BEST BORROWING YEARS



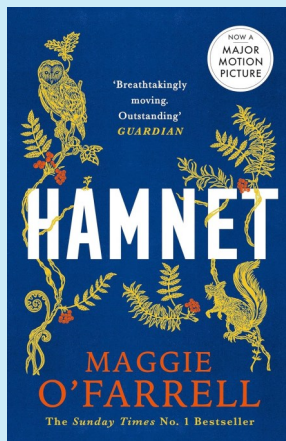


## STAFF READS

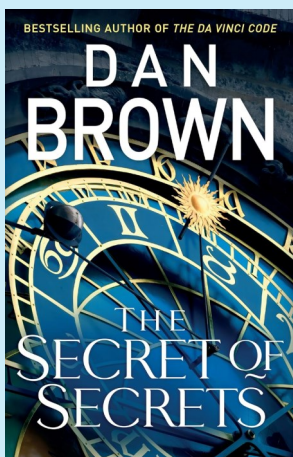
Mrs Birkett



Ms Bywater

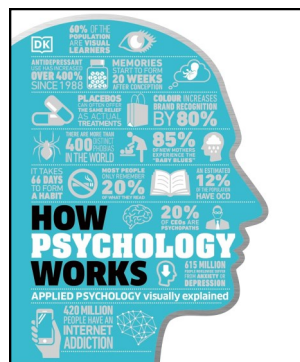


Mrs Atkinson  
Science Tech



## FOCUS ON PSYCHOLOGY AND HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

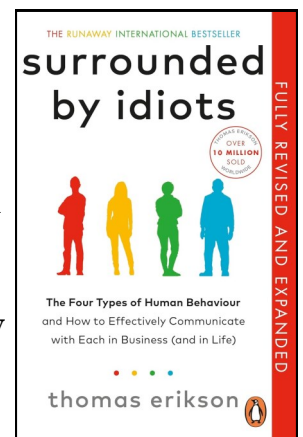
A clear and accessible introduction to some of the most influential concepts in psychology. Each idea, from memory to emotion to personality, decision-making and social behaviour, is explained in a concise, engaging way that does not require any previous knowledge. This is a great book to dip into and a fantastic introduction to a fascinating topic.



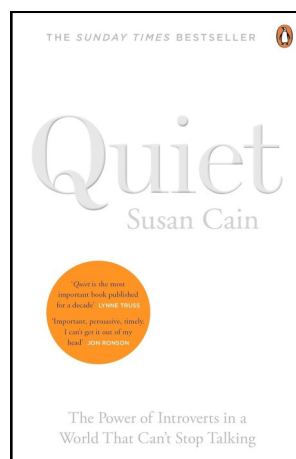
This series of books takes a range of subjects and presents them clearly and concisely with lots of visuals and illustrations. This book explores the major branches of psychology such as behaviourism, cognition, humanism and biological psychology.

In this book the author offers a colour-coded system for understanding different personality types and why people behave so differently. He divides people into four types (red, yellow, green and blue) and shows how recognising these types can help you communicate more effectively. This is an easy and engaging read, and while I have my doubts about the simplicity of the system, it may just help you get along and communicate with your friends and colleagues!

**50 Psychology Ideas**  
You Really  
Need to Know  
Adrian Furnham



A thoughtful explanation of the strength of introverts in a world that often celebrates extroversion. The author shows how quieter people contribute through deep thinking, creativity and careful observation, and encourages readers to value different temperaments. An empowering read for those of us who need a little quiet ... and an enlightening read for everyone else!



## WONDERFUL WINTER WORDS

**Hibernaculum** –a word which comes directly from the Latin “hibernare” which means “to pass the winter”. This lovely word, which was used in 17th century England, refers to an animal’s winter retreat or any winter shelter.

**Snāw-blāc**—this is an Old English word (used in the 5th–11th century) which means “snow white”. You will find it in Old English poetry describing winter landscapes, scenes or the brightness of frost.

**Wintercearig**—Another Old English compound word (a new word formed by joining two other words) which means “winter-sorrowful”. It was used in Old English poetry where it was used to show emotional bleakness, sadness or loneliness.

“and ic hean ponan / wod wintercearig afer wapema gebind”

Translated:

“and I thence wretched, winter-sorrowful, over the binding waves...”

From the poem “The Wanderer” - 10th century.

**Skijöring**: A Norwegian word which means being pulled on skis by a horse or dog.

### HYGGE LIBRARY VIBES



### Want to be in the next newsletter?

Submit your book reviews, book suggestions, short stories, or poems to me either in person or to [kellyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk](mailto:kellyj@goldington.beds.sch.uk) and you could find yourself in next term’s newsletter.

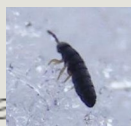
## BELIEVE IT OR NOT...CRAZY WINTER FACTS!

### WEIRD BUT TRUE ... WINTER FACTS

There are at least 35 scientifically recognised types of snow crystal. These aren’t just “flakes” they are also needles, hollow columns, bullet rosettes, plates, prisms and even 12-branched flakes!



Some arctic animals don’t freeze—they produce a natural “anti-freeze”. These are proteins which keep ice from forming in their cells.



These gorgeous formations look like ice “flowers”. They are crystalline formations of ice that form on the surface of frozen rivers when water vapour in the air freezes directly onto new ice.



Snow is actually a great insulator! Under thick snow the temperature near the ground can stay at  $-1^{\circ}\text{C}$  even if the air temperature is  $-30^{\circ}\text{C}$ .





# WINTER READING MOODBOARD

It's all about the cosy reading this winter!

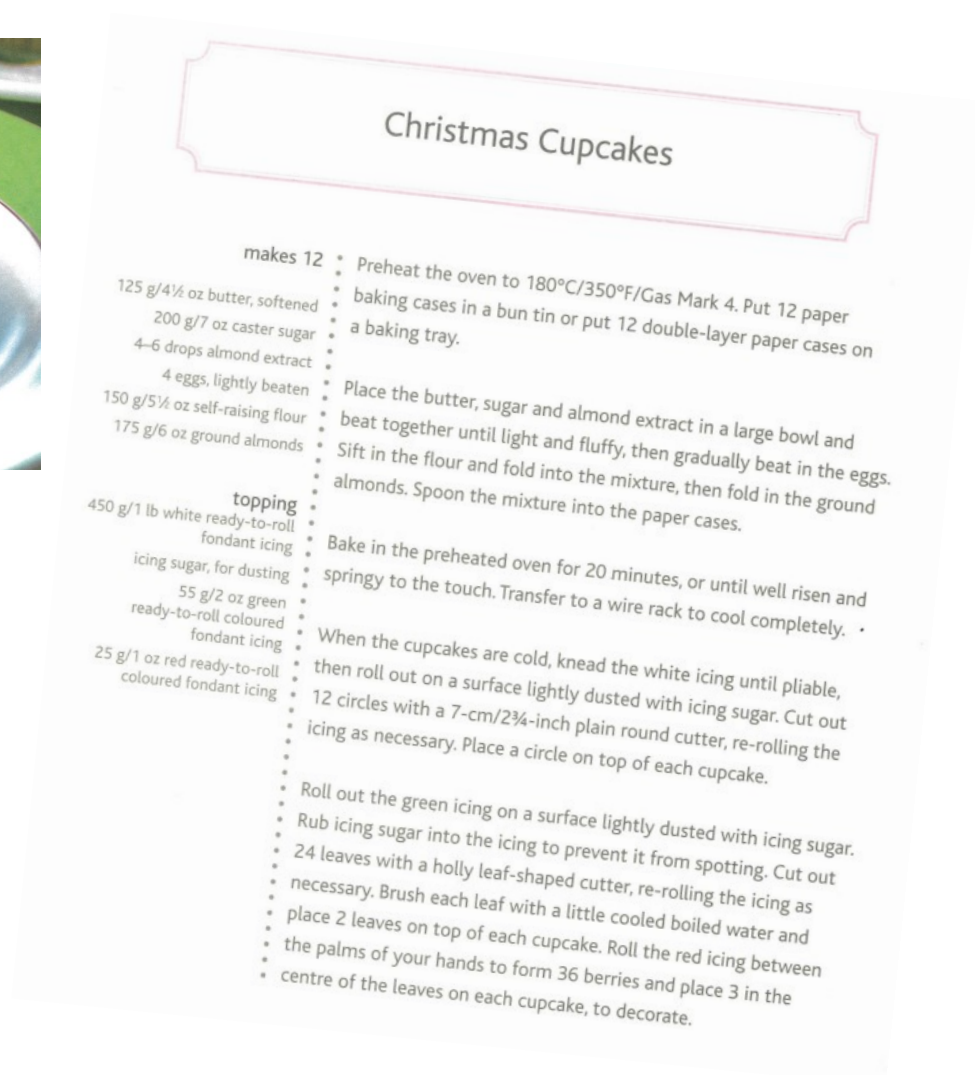
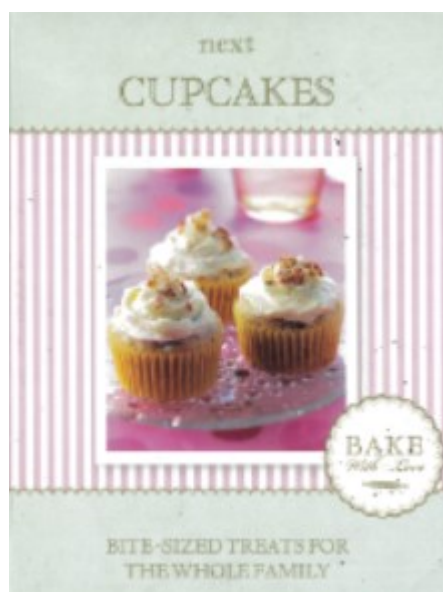




## FESTIVE FOOD

THE WINTER HOLIDAY SEASON IS ABOUT FEASTING!

TREAT YOUR FAMILY WITH THESE LOVELY FESTIVE CUPCAKES!



YOU CAN FIND THIS RECIPE AND OTHER SWEET TREATS IN “*CUPCAKES: BITE-SIZED TREATS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY*” AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY

***Wishing you all a lovely Winter break!***  
***Mrs Kelly***

