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The Nutcracker

2020 has been a challenging year for all of us, but I hope that this copy of The Nutcracker will bring some joy as we bring a close to the year.

Reading is my escape, and I remember my love of reading starting in primary school. I fondly remember learning The Night Before Christmas by heart, for one of our choral speaking competitions.

Nowadays, a lot of our reading is done on screens - on tablets, iPads and kindles, but nothing beats a proper book in your hand.

Each of us should make time for a little reading every day. Reading doesn't just help with education, it can help each of us with our general and mental wellbeing.

Books can teach us about parts of the world we're yet to visit, and about other cultures we're yet to experience. They help develop empathy, and bring a deeper understanding about the world around us. They can transport us to far away, or non-existent lands as we immerse ourselves in their stories. They improve our creativity, our imagination and our concentration.

I hope that you enjoy reading this book, or enjoy reading it to your child if they can't yet read themselves. I'd be delighted to hear whether you enjoy it, and what your favourite book is. Please do write and let me know, you'll be sure to get a reply.

Merry Christmas

Mark Jenkinson MP

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