

# COPYRIGHT AND LICENSING

## PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION BEFORE PLANNING YOUR PERFORMANCE

Under the Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act (1988), it is a legal requirement for schools to comply with copyright law, and ensure they hold the correct licences for performing musicals. As experienced teachers ourselves, we understand that time restraints and lack of advice can sometimes mean this aspect of your production is not dealt with, or that the details and requirements are not fully understood. We therefore try to make the process of licensing your performances as simple as possible.

### General Guidelines

You are free to use any of our material for all classroom teaching purposes and for performances within school to only pupils and staff. However, if our musicals are to be performed to an audience other than pupils and staff from your school (eg. parents or other people from the wider community) then a performance licence must be obtained directly from Edgy Productions.

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### Performance of Musicals

The performance of works involving drama, movement, narrative or spoken dialogue requires a title and date specific licence from the copyright holder/publisher – in this case Edgy Productions. The requirement for a licence is irrespective of admission charges. **Your PRS, PPL, CCLA or any equivalent local authority-issued licences do not cover you for such performances.** A performance licence from us will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.\*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

\* **If you are performing outside of your school premises, for example in a local theatre, please contact us as further conditions apply. For more information, visit [www.edgyproductions.com/licences](http://www.edgyproductions.com/licences)**

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### Audio and Video Recordings

If you wish to make an audio or video recording of the performance of any of our musicals, you will need an additional **recording and duplication licence** from Edgy Productions. This will also allow you to make and sell copies of your recordings if you wish to do so. We no longer request that you pay a commission to us on the money you raise from the sale of recordings.

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### File Sharing

You are not permitted to share any of our copyrighted material, either in printed form, on disc or in digital file format, with anyone who is not a pupil or teacher within your school or organisation. We will take immediate action should an incident of illegal file-sharing be reported or discovered.

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You can, of course, phone or email us for advice – we are more than happy to discuss all your licensing needs.

Tel: 01858 288081  
Email: [info@edgyproductions.com](mailto:info@edgyproductions.com)

# PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of ‘The Stars Come Out For Christmas’ to an audience other than staff and children (eg. to parents), a valid performance licence from Edgy Productions must be held. Please note, your PRS, MCPS, CCLI or similar local authority-issued licence does not cover you for this. **Unless you purchased an instant performance licence and/or a recording & duplication licence when you bought this production pack, please ensure you complete and return this form at least 28 days before your first performance:**

- by post – Edgy Productions, 8 Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 7PQ
- by FAX – 0845 833 33 49
- by email – [info@edgyproductions.com](mailto:info@edgyproductions.com)

**The performance licence will permit the holder to do the following:**

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.\*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

**Contact name:** .....

**Name of school / organisation:** .....

**Address:** .....

..... **Postcode:** .....

**Tel:** ..... **email:** .....

**Number of performances:** ..... **Performances Dates: from** ..... **to** .....

By ticking, select one of the performance licence options below:

**Standard Performance Licence** ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)  
(no admission charged and no tickets sold)

**or**

**Performance Licence with charges** ☐ **£36.00** (including VAT)  
(admission is charged and/or tickets are sold)

☐ \* Tick if you are performing outside your school premises, for example in a local theatre, as further conditions apply – see [www.edgyproductions.com/licences](http://www.edgyproductions.com/licences)

If you are recording any performance, and/or selling copies of the recording, you will **also** need a recording and duplication licence.

**Recording and Duplication Licence** ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)

By ticking, select one of the payment options below:

☐ I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to Edgy Productions Ltd

☐ Please send me an invoice for £..... (payment terms 30 days)

**Writers rely on payments from public performances for their livelihoods.  
Please ensure they receive their dues.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

It’s the Christmas awards ceremony (**Song – ‘The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas’**), from Holly-wood in Tinsel-town, presented by the beautiful Miss Carol Singer, and the dashing Mr Noël Knowles. Out on the red carpet Ollie Berry and Chrissie Pressie are with an excited crowd of fans who’ve come to see their favourite Christmas ‘stars’ arrive. Which of these stars will win the ‘Cracker’, the prestigious award for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Christmas’?

Will it be the faithful Christmas cards, who keep everyone in touch with each other over the festive season (**Song – ‘Send Me On My Way’**)? Perhaps it will be Santa and his jolly helpers, who deliver all those presents to ‘good’ boys and girls (**Song – ‘Boogie Woogie Santa’**). Although it’s not shown up in recent years maybe Snow will walk away with the award (**Song – ‘Why Won’t It Snow ?’**). Surely the Christmas trees, which bring a warm and happy glow to every house, are in with a chance (**Song – ‘Christmas Tree Song’**). And then there’s the Christmas dinner, which brings families together to feast on turkey and the trimmings (**Song – ‘Christmas Dinner Is A Winner’**). Each star tells the audience why they’ve made an outstanding contribution to Christmas and the crowd eagerly waits to find out who will take home the ‘Cracker’.

But then we hear of a late entry – another ‘star’, this time a real star by the name of Beth (short for ‘the Star of Bethlehem’), who made a contribution to the very first Christmas many years ago. She tells us a wondrous story of a baby, born in a stable (**Song – Silent Night’**). After hearing this tale everyone agrees there can only be one recipient of the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution to Christmas’.

The award is given to its rightful winner, whose acceptance speech recognises all the other stars’ contributions to making every Christmas so special. With much celebration the ceremony closes with a reprise of the song ‘The Stars are coming out for Christmas’.

# **CHARACTERS**

*(speaking parts in order of appearance)*

**Announcer**

**Noël Knowles and Carol Singer** *Hosts of the Christmas Awards ceremony*

**Ollie Berry and Chrissie Pressie** *Out on the red carpet talking to.....*

**Fans** *(7 speaking) Gathered to watch the stars arrive*

## **The ‘Stars’**

**Christmas Cards** *(3 speaking)*

**Santa, a Reindeer and an Elf**

**Children in Winter Woollies** *(3 speaking)*

**Christmas Trees** *(3 speaking)*

**Christmas Dinner Diners** *(3 speaking)*

**Beth – the Star of Bethlehem**

## **The Nativity characters**

**Mary**

**Joseph**

**The Angel Gabriel**

**Angels**

**The inn keeper**

**Shepherds**

**The 3 Kings**

## **Ensemble characters**

**More Fans**

**More Children in Winter Woollies,  
and snowman** *(optional)*

**More Christmas Cards**

**More Christmas Trees**

**More Reindeer and Elves**

**More Christmas Dinner Diners**

## **Scene 1**

*(As the fanfare introduction to the opening song (track 8) is playing, the children enter and take their positions to sing.)*

### **song – The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas (lyrics page 17)** *(whole cast)*

*(The children take their places on and around the stages – see below – an announcer dressed in evening-wear steps forward to speak, if possible into a microphone.)*

**Announcer** ~ *(flamboyantly)* Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to an evening of celebration and song. This is the showbiz event of the year – the Christmas Awards Ceremony! We’re live from Holly-wood, in Tinsel-town, with a cracker of a show, to find out who will win the top award of ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’! But first, give a huge round of applause for your hosts, Mr Noël Knowles and the beautiful Miss Carol Singer!

*(To rapturous applause, Carol and Noël enter, dressed in eveningwear, and stand on a small separate stage/podium to one side of the main stage – see staging suggestions. Carol carries a gold envelope and Noël a gold statuette of a Christmas cracker, which they place on a small table on their podium. They can carry clipboards, or have decorated music stands in place, on which scripts can be put, to prompt them with their words – they have quite a few.)*

**Noël** ~ Thank you everyone, and good evening. It’s a pleasure to be here tonight. Wow! Carol, I must say how truly stunning you look!

**Carol** ~ Thank you, Noël. You don’t scrub up too badly either! Nice tux! Yes, hello everyone. It’s lovely to see so many of you here. I bet you, like us, are just itching to find out who will win the ‘Cracker’, the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas.’

**Noël** ~ But before we have a look at all the nominees, let’s go over to Ollie Berry and Chrissie Pressie, who are out on the red carpet with some fans of tonight’s stars! Hello Ollie and Chrissie. You’ve got quite a crowd with you out there.

*(To the other side, or in a separate section of your hall, Ollie and Chrissie stand in front of a rope barrier holding microphones, and clip boards with their words attached – they too have a lot to say. Behind the rope barrier stands an excited crowd of fans, waving banners in support of the various stars we will be meeting.)*

**Chrissie** ~ Thanks Noël. That’s right. These fans have been here all day. Some of them even camped out over night to get a good position next to the red carpet, to see their favourite Christmas stars arrive.

**Ollie** ~ So you lot, who do you think is going to walk away with the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’ tonight? How about you?

*(He points his microphone to a fan)*

**Fan 1** ~ (*excitedly*) Santa! It's got to be Santa! He's the greatest Christmas star there has ever been! Look at all the hard work he does. All those presents in just one night! What a guy!

**Chrissie** ~ (*to another fan*) And who do you think will win the cracker?

**Fan 2** ~ (*excitedly*) Christmas dinner! It's a winner! What would Christmas be without a massive turkey, roast potatoes, Brussel sprouts.....(*everyone pulls an 'eurgh' face*) All right, perhaps not brussels, but what about plum pudding and brandy sauce. Mmmm.

**Ollie** ~ (*to another fan*) Who do you think will win the 'Cracker'?

**Fan 3** ~ (*excitedly*) Christmas trees! I want Christmas trees to win! I just love the sparkle and glitter they bring. How disappointing would it be to come down on Christmas morning and see your presents underneath the...I don't know...the coffee table? Christmas trees are definitely the best thing about Christmas.

**Chrissie** ~ (*to another fan*) And what about you?

**Fan 4** ~ (*excitedly*) Snow! Everybody would love a white Christmas. I just wish snow would make an appearance on Christmas day a bit more often. In fact, just once in my lifetime would be great! But when it does fall it's the best thing ever. Sledging, snowball fights, building snowmen....it's all such fun. Snow has got to win the cracker tonight.

*(All the fans start cheering for their favourites. Ollie and Chrissie cover their ears. Ollie shouts into his microphone.)*

**Ollie** ~ As you can see, everyone has their favourite Christmas star. Noël and Carol, it's back to you inside.

**Carol** ~ Wow! How exciting, and we've hardly started! OK, let's get back to the reason we're all here. The time has come to take a look at our first star who has been nominated for this evening's prestigious award.

**Noël** ~ So ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, please make some noise for.....the Christmas cards!

*(As everyone cheers, the **fanfare music** plays (track 9) and a procession of Christmas cards walk past the cheering fans and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Three cards step forward.)*

**Card 1** ~       We're deserving of this prize  
                      Because we work so hard.  
                      Nothing spreads warm festive greetings  
                      Like a Christmas card.

**Card 2** ~       We keep everyone in touch,  
                      Bridge continents and seas,  
                      Bringing love and best wishes  
                      To friends and families.

**Card 3** ~ Cheap and humble we may be,  
But look at what we do –  
We let you know that someone out there....

**All cards** ~ REALLY CARES FOR YOU!

**song – Send Me On My Way** (*track 10, lyrics page 18*)  
(*Christmas cards supported by whole cast*)

(*As the backing track is played again the cards return to their places, and we join Ollie and Chrissie with the crowd of fans. Fade the music when ready.*)

## **Scene 2**

**Chrissie** ~ There go the Christmas cards! They certainly have made a fantastic contribution to Christmas over the years!

**Ollie** ~ Yes, good old Christmas cards. Where would we be without them? They remind me of a joke, Chrissie. Ha! You’re going to love this! What do vampires put in the post box at Christmas?

**All fans** ~ Fang mail! (*tut*) That’s such an old one!

**Chrissie** ~ (*not impressed*) Hmmm. Noël and Carol, I think we’d better hand back to you inside.

**Carol** ~ Thanks Chrissie. Well, things are really hotting up now so let’s take a look at our next nominee who’s in with a chance of winning tonight’s award.

**Noël** ~ Oh yes, I must admit this is the one I’ve been looking forward to! Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, go totally wild because it’s..... Santa Claus and his helpers!

(*As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 11) and a procession of elves, reindeer and of course Santa, walk past the fans and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Santa, an elf and a reindeer step forward.*)

**Elf** ~ You think we only work at Christmas –  
That’s a misconception.  
We’re making toys throughout the year,  
Each day without exception!

**Reindeer** ~ Through many cold and dark night skies  
My team has pitter-pattered,  
Pulling Santa’s Christmas sleigh.  
We’re all completely shattered!

**Santa** ~ A hundred-billion presents  
In just one night, you know!  
But it’s a job that keeps us  
Really jolly.....

**All** ~ HO! HO! HO!

**song – Boogie-Woogie Santa** *(track 12, lyrics page 19)*  
*(Santa and helpers supported by whole cast)*

*(As the backing track is played again Santa and his helpers return to their places, and we join Ollie and Chrissie with the crowd of fans. Fade the music when ready.)*

### **Scene 3**

**Chrissie** ~ Listen to this crowd! They’re out of control! Santa has got to be one of the favourites to win the cracker tonight!

**Ollie** ~ That’s right, Chrissie. But hey everyone, shhh, calm down and listen. Here’s another Christmas joke for you. You’ll love this one. Why was Santa’s little helper upset?

**All fans** ~ Because he had low elf-esteem! *(tut)* That’s such an old one!

**Ollie** ~ OK then, how about this one. It’s a cracker, excuse the pun! Who delivers presents to cats at Christmas?

**All fans** ~ Santa Paws! *(tut)* That’s even older!

*(They mutter about how terrible the jokes are)*

**Chrissie** ~ *(not impressed)* Hmm. Well for some reason that I can’t imagine, this crowd is getting restless. Carol and Noël, it’s back to you.

**Noël** ~ Those fans do seem a bit agitated. Either they’re keen to hear from our next star, or maybe they’re just getting fed up with those rotten jokes! But yes, we really must get on with the nominations.

**Carol** ~ When we think of an image of Christmas it’s our next star who immediately springs to mind. Unfortunately it hasn’t been around much lately, but we all hope it will turn up this year. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it’s.....snow!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 13) and a group of children in hats, scarves and gloves carry a snowman (or lead an actor dressed as a snowman) past the cheering fans, and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Three children step forward with the snowman.)*



- Child 1** ~ Snow at Christmas! That would be  
Such a Yuletide treat.  
Just like icing on the cake,  
It would make Christmas sweet.
- Child 2** ~ When grandparents were nippers,  
So very long ago,  
On Christmas day they’d step out  
Onto crisp and even snow!
- Child 3** ~ Rosy cheeked, they’d build a snowman,  
Have a snowball fight,  
We’d love that too on Christmas day, but....
- All** ~ THERE’S NO SNOW IN SIGHT!

**song – Why Won’t It Snow?** *(track 14, lyrics page 20)*  
*(Children in winter woollies, supported by whole cast)*

*(As the backing track is played again the children and snowman return to their places, and we join Ollie and Chrissie with the crowd of fans. Fade the music when ready.)*

## **Scene 4**

**Chrissie** ~ Well I’m sure this crowd would love a white Christmas for once, wouldn’t you? *(they cheer)* Talking of a white Christmas, and snowmen and suchlike, I happen to have a joke for you all. What do snowmen wear on their heads?

**All fans** ~ We don’t know, Chrissie. What do snowmen wear on their heads?

**Chrissie** ~ Ice caps! *(Everyone laughs. Ollie looks slightly annoyed.)*

**Ollie** ~ Hey! Hey! I’ve got a snow joke too! How about this. How do you know if a snowman doesn’t like you?

**All fans** ~ He gives you the cold shoulder! *(tut)* That’s such an old one!

**Ollie** ~ *(grumpily)* Carol, Noël. Back to you.

*(Carol and Noël have a finger in one ear and are looking to one side, as if in conversation with the director through an earpiece.)*

**Carol** ~ Can’t you stop him making such awful jokes. It’s embarrassing!

**Noël** ~ We’re so sorry about that, everyone. It’s just one of the challenges of a live broadcast! Right, moving on. Let’s meet the fourth Christmas star nominated for the award this evening. A very prickly customer this one. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it’s.....the Christmas tree!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 15) and a procession of decorated Christmas trees walk past the cheering fans and take their positions main stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Three trees step forward.)*

**Tree 1** ~ An older Christmas character  
There has never been.  
We’ve brightened up Christmas  
Since Victoria was queen.

**Tree 2** ~ There’s such a wide variety  
Of tree for you to choose;  
A plain old pine, or if you’re posh  
A Norwegian blue spruce!

**Tree 3** ~ And when we’re in our finery  
All eyes light up in wonder,  
So go and get a Christmas tree.....

**All** ~ TO PUT YOUR PRESENTS UNDER!

**song – Christmas Tree Song** *(track 16, lyrics page 21)*  
*(Christmas trees supported by whole cast)*

*(As the backing track is played again the trees return to their places, and we join Chrissie and a sulky Ollie with the fans. Fade the music when ready.)*

## **Scene 5**

**Chrissie** ~ Well, everyone out here is in great spirits after hearing from the Christmas trees, apart from you, Ollie. What’s the matter?

**Fan 5** ~ *(leaning over the rope)* Come on Ollie. Cheer up. It’s Christmas.

**Fan 6** ~ *(teasing)* Tell us another joke. You never know, we might not have heard it before.

*(The fans and Chrissie cheekily snigger, but Ollie perks up a bit.)*

**Ollie** ~ OK then, what happens if you eat Christmas tree decorations?

**All fans** ~ We don’t know, Ollie. What happens if you eat Christmas tree decorations?

**Ollie** ~ You get tinsel-itis! Ha ha!

*(There is a ‘tumbleweed’ moment, as everyone falls silent, obviously not finding the joke funny. Ollie sulks some more.)*

**Chrissie** ~ *(shaking her head)* Carol, Noël. Back to you.

**Noël** ~ Thank goodness we’re nearly at the end. I can’t take much more of that. Carol, who is our final star nominated for the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’?

**Carol** ~ Well, I challenge anyone to deny that this star is something they look forward to on Christmas day. My mouth is watering already, because ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, yum yum, it’s.....the Christmas dinner!

*(As everyone claps and cheers the **fanfare music** plays (track 17) and a table and chairs are brought on – see staging suggestions/scenery. Members of a large family carrying different dishes walk past the cheering fans and sit round the table. Finally two people struggle to bring on the huge turkey, which they set down to huge applause.)*

**Diner 1** ~ Christmas dinner! It’s the highlight  
Of my Christmas day!  
Look at this delicious spread  
For us to ‘put away’!

**Diner 2** ~ Round the dinner table  
In each other’s company,  
Christmas day with loved ones –  
That is how it’s **meant** to be.

**Diner 3** ~ Yes, alright! Now can we start?  
I’m absolutely starving?

**Diner 2** ~ First we must give thanks to God.....

**All** ~ AMEN! RIGHT! LET’S GET CARVING!

**song – Christmas Dinner Is A Winner** *(track 18, lyrics page 22)*  
*(Big family, supported by whole cast)*

*(As the backing track is played again the diners return to their places, and we join Chrissie and an even sulkier Ollie with the fans. Fade the music when ready.)*

## **Scene 6**

**Fan 7** ~ Hey you lot. We’re having Grandma over at our house for Christmas dinner this year.

**All fans** ~ Really! We’re having turkey as usual! *(everyone but Ollie laughs)*

**Chrissie** ~ Well, now we’ve heard from all the stars nominated this evening, everyone out here on the red carpet is dying to find out which one is going to win the cracker. Carol, Noël, it’s back to you.

**Noël** ~ This is so exciting, my hands are trembling! It’s time to open the golden envelope to find out who has made the ‘Outstanding Contribution to Christmas.’

**Carol** ~ Before we do that, could I please ask all of our Christmas stars to join us up here on the stage for the announcement.

*(One or two representatives from each star’s group jostle for position on or in front of the main stage. Noël picks up the cracker statuette, and Carol picks up the golden envelope. She opens it and as she starts to read the card inside we hear a **drum roll (track 19)** and everyone looks excited.)*

**Carol** ~ OK everybody, we can’t keep you in suspense any longer. Here goes.....the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’ goes to.....

**Noël** ~ *(his finger in his ear)* What’s that? A late entry? Are you sure? Carol! STOP!

*(The drum roll stops! Everyone gasps then looks around, muttering in confusion)*

**Noël** ~ Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, it seems we can’t yet make the presentation, as still have to hear from another star! Please welcome...*(finger in the ear)* what’s her name?...Ok...Beth!

**All** ~ Beth? Who on earth is Beth?

*(The **fanfare music** plays (track 20) and a star walks to the front of the stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. Confused, the other characters move back to their seats. The star carries an old book/scroll from which she has lots to read.)*

**Beth** ~ I’m the Star of Bethlehem. They call me Beth for short,  
By ‘star’ I don’t mean ‘celebrity’, I’m the celestial sort.  
I’ve come here to tell a tale, the greatest tale by far,  
And show you what it means to be a real Christmas star.

*(Beth moves to Carol and Noël’s podium and opens the book/unrolls the scroll. The Nativity characters get ready. Mary sits centre stage.)*

Mary lived long ago, in a country far away.  
The Angel Gabriel came down and appeared to her one day.

*(Gabriel enters, and Mary looks afraid.)*

**Gabriel** ~ Mary, a woman blessed are you, for you’re God’s chosen one.  
He has given you the honour of bearing him a son.  
He’ll be a child so full of love. Jesus shall be his name.  
He’ll change the world forever, things will never be the same.

**Mary** ~ Angel, I am frightened by your words. How can this be?  
Of all the women in the world, why has God chosen me?

**Gabriel** ~ So kind and gentle as you are, God puts his trust in you.  
Do not fear, Mary. It’s a wondrous thing you do.

*(Gabriel exits and Joseph enters.)*

**Beth** ~ Mary was betrothed to Joseph, a carpenter by trade.  
She feared her news would put an end to marriage plans they’d made.

**Mary** ~ Joseph, come and sit by me a while. Give me your hand.  
Listen well to what I say, and try to understand.

*(They huddle in conversation)*

**Beth** ~ Her worries were unfounded, for Joseph proved his worth  
And vowed to be a father to this heavenly child on earth.

The next months were spent happily, until one fateful day  
When Joseph told his wife that they must journey far away.

**Joseph** ~ The emperor Augustus has issued a decree,  
That every man in the empire must take his family  
And register to be taxed in the town where he was born.  
Collect some things together, Mary dear. We leave at dawn

*(He helps her up and they exit. The innkeeper brings on a manger, containing a hidden doll, which he sets down centre stage. Mary and Joseph re-enter.)*

**Beth** ~ Tired from their journey, they eventually arrived  
In Bethlehem. They found an inn and asked for room inside.

**Innkeeper** ~ I’m sorry but we have no room, like every place in town.

**Mary** ~ But I’m about to have my baby. Where can I lie down?

**Innkeeper** ~ All we have is a stable, but it’s safe and warm.  
It’s yours if you need somewhere for your baby to be born.

*(The innkeeper exits. Mary kneels by the manger and lifts up and cradles the ‘baby’, while Joseph stands behind her.)*

**Beth** ~ So Mary had a baby boy, just as the angel said.  
She lay him down on clean fresh hay, a manger for his bed.  
Such lowly of beginnings for someone who’d one day be  
The saviour of mankind, who came to earth to set us free.

*(The shepherds enter and sit at the front of the stage, looking out.)*

Now in the fields sat shepherds, watching their flocks by night.

**Shepherd 1** ~ What’s that in the distance? That strange shimmering light?

**Shepherd 2** ~ Look, it’s coming closer! And listen to that sound!

**Beth** ~ In fear they fell onto their knees, trembling on the ground.

*(The angels enter and stand to one side. Afraid, the shepherds kneel.)*

A host of angels praising God appeared in front of them,  
With news that they should hurry to the town of Bethlehem.

**Angels** ~ Glad tidings of great joy we bring, so do not be afraid.  
The son of God is born tonight, and in a manger laid.  
See, high up in the night sky, there shines a brilliant star.  
It rests over a stable where mother and baby are.

**Beth** ~ That star of which the angels spoke, which shone so beautifully,  
Was the brightest star there’s ever been. That star was me.

*(The angels exit and the shepherds stand, pointing to the sky. They move centre stage and approach the manger.)*

**Shepherds** ~ We have heard wonderful news, it’s filled our hearts with joy.  
If we may, could we kneel and worship the baby boy?  
We’ve brought a lamb to offer him, so soft and pure its fleece,  
A gentle gift to lay before the gentle Prince of Peace.

*(Mary gestures them towards the manger, where they kneel in praise. The three Kings then enter at the back of your hall.)*

**Beth** ~ Now, I’d been shining weeks before, up in the eastern sky,  
Where three kings had been keeping watch, waiting for a sign.

**King 1** ~ There, the bright new star that we’ve waited so long to see.

**King 2** ~ And look, my friends, it seems to be moving westwardly.

**King 3** ~ See, it beckons us to follow! Its radiance will lead us  
Onward ’til we reach the place where lies the baby Jesus.

*(Carrying gifts, the kings move through the audience.)*

**Beth** ~ For many nights I led them on their way – I was their guide.  
They followed me to Bethlehem, and to the baby’s side.

*(The kings kneel and offer their gifts to Jesus.)*

**Kings** ~ Gold, frankincense and myrrh, these are the gifts we bring,  
To you the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, our only King.

*(All the nativity characters gather close around the manger. Beth joins them.)*

**Beth** ~ And as these special people gathered on this special night,  
I shone down upon them – the very first Christmas light.

**song – Silent Night** *(track 21, lyrics page 23)*  
*(Nativity characters, supported by whole cast)*

## **Scene 7**

*(Noël and Carol both have their fingers in their ears, listening to instructions.)*

**Carol** ~ You want me to do what? .....Are you sure about that?.....Well if you insist.

*(She rips up the envelope to the gasps of everyone.)*

**Noël** ~ Well, after that amazing story our judges have made a unanimous decision. There can be only one winner of the award for Outstanding Contribution to Christmas.

**Carol** ~ Therefore, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, the cracker goes to a true star of Christmas. A star who was there in the beginning, helping out at that very first Christmas so very long ago.

**Noël** ~ A star without whom that wonderful story could not have been told. So please give a huge round of applause for .....the Star of Bethlehem!

*(To applause Carol and Noël move across to present the cracker to Beth. She produces another piece of paper from which she reads her acceptance speech.)*

**Beth** ~ Thank you all so very much. This really does mean a lot to me. I have lovely memories of that night so long ago – it really was special. I’m thankful I had the chance to remind you of how it all started, and what the true meaning of Christmas is.

*(applause)*

But I mustn’t forget to mention all the other wonderful stars here tonight, and the very important contributions they make to Christmas.

*(As each star is mentioned one or two representatives join Beth main stage for a bow.)*

All you Christmas cards, Christmas is about showing people you care, and nobody does that better than you.

*(applause)*

Santa and your helpers, you show us the joy we can have in giving gifts to those we love. How wonderful to have you visit us at Christmas.

*(applause)*

And what about snow? It would be nice to see more of you at Christmas. It’s a jolly time which should be full of fun, and what could be better fun than sledging, building snowmen or throwing snowballs?

*(applause)*

All you Christmas trees, it’s lovely how you brighten up our homes. Home is the best place to be at Christmas, and you bring magic, light and happiness into ours.

*(applause)*

And Christmas dinner. Families are so important, and you bring them together to share in the warmth and love everyone should feel on Christmas day.

*(applause)*

So, well done to one and all, and Merry Christmas everyone!

*(Huge applause, and an echo of ‘Merry Christmas’)*

**Carol** ~ So, there we are. What a fantastic and thrilling way to end our celebrations this evening. Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, we hope you’ve had as exciting a time as we have!

**Noël** ~ Thanks to you out there, our audience, to all the stars that have taken time out of their busy schedules to be here tonight, to the fans out there by the red carpet, and of course to you Chrissie and Ollie.

**Chrissie** ~ Thanks to you too Noël and Carol. We’ve had great fun out here talking to all the fans, haven’t we Ollie?

*(Ollie is still sulking.)*

**Fan 1** ~ Come on Ollie. Cheer up, it’s Christmas. Don’t be miserable. I know, let’s hear one last Christmas joke from you!

**Ollie** ~ No!

**Fan 2** ~ Oh, please Ollie! Just one more. It’ll be the perfect end to a perfect evening!

**Ollie** ~ No!

**Fan 3** ~ Where’s your Christmas spirit Ollie?

**All fans/whole cast** ~ OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE! OLLIE!.....

**Ollie** ~ Alright then. *(nervously)* What do you get if you cross a snowman and a shark?

**Whole cast** ~ We don’t know! What do you get if you cross a snowman and a shark?

**Ollie** ~ Frost bite!

*(The whole cast erupts into laughter, applause and ‘hoorays’ for Ollie. He cheers up instantly, and inspired by the success of the joke he goes into overdrive!)*

**Ollie** ~ Ok then! Why are Christmas trees like bad knitters? They both drop their needles! What does Santa do in his garden? Lots of Ho Ho Ho-ing! What do snowmen eat for breakfast? Frosted flakes! Who is never hungry at Christmas? The turkey - it’s always stuffed!.....

*(The jokes continue fast and furiously, until they are drowned out by the opening bars to the final song. Everyone joins in for an uplifting finale.)*

**song – The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas (track 22)**  
*(whole cast)*

# THE END



## **The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas**

**Verse 1**    The stars are coming out for Christmas,  
              Shining brightly like they do each year.  
              But the stars that are shining brightest  
              Are the ones that you see standing here.  
              And oh what joy we’ll bring you,  
              With the Christmas songs we’ll sing you,  
              There won’t be a dry eye in the place.  
              And if you’ve had a bad day,  
              And things have not gone your way,  
              We’ll put a Christmas smile upon your face.

**Verse 2**    The stars are coming out for Christmas,  
              There’s so much razzle-dazzle on the way!  
              With sparkle and with glitter,  
              We are here to brighten up your day.  
              So get those hands a-clapping  
              Let’s see those toes a-tapping,  
              As we fill the air with oom-pa-pa!  
              The Christmas bells are ringing,  
              This place is really swinging,  
              Because tonight everyone’s a star!  
              Because tonight everyone’s a star!

## **Send Me On My Way**

**Verse 1** Festive greetings sent by internet  
Are ones to disregard.  
Have some Yuletide etiquette,  
And send a Christmas card.

**Chorus** Write a message of love and hope,  
Pop me in an envelope,  
Take me to a red post box  
And send me on my way.  
And send me on my way.

**Verse 2** We can brighten the duller space,  
Relieve that winter chill,  
When we stand above your fireplace  
Or on your windowsill.

**Chorus** Write a message of love and hope.....

**Verse 3** You can buy us in a high street store  
For just a pound or two,  
But a Christmas card means more  
When it's made by you.

**Chorus** Write a message of love and hope.....

## **Boogie-Woogie Santa**

**Verse 1** Well he’s a boogie-woogie Santa,  
He’s a cool dude dressed in red,  
Who dances down your chimney  
When you’re tucked up in bed.  
He leaves you Christmas presents,  
Then zooms off on his sled!

**Chorus** Hey there, Santa! (*Boogie-Woogie Santa*)  
Hey there, Santa! (*Boogie-Woogie Santa*)  
Hey Santa Claus won’t ya come and boogie-woogie with me!

**Verse 2** Well he’s a boogie-woogie Santa  
With his reindeer and his elves,  
Who help him to deliver  
All the toys stacked on his shelves,  
But only to boys and girls  
Who behave themselves!

**Chorus** Hey there, Santa.....

*(Instrumental, during which Santa and helpers give out presents – perhaps to lucky members of the audience!)*

**Verse 3** Well he’s a boogie-woogie Santa,  
And he likes the odd mince pie,  
And a glass of sherry  
Whenever he drops by.  
So leave a winter warmer  
For winter’s warmest guy!

**Chorus** Hey there, Santa.....

## **Why Won't It Snow?**

**Chorus**     Why won't it snow? We'd like to know.  
It never seems to snow at Christmas.  
Not a single flake! Oh, for pity's sake,  
Why won't it snow on Christmas day.

**Verse 1**     Our umpteen layers of woollies  
Keep us toasty and warm.  
We feel so insulated  
We'd get through an Arctic storm, so.....

**Chorus**     Why won't it snow.....

**Verse 2**     How cool to build a snowman  
Outside in the yard,  
But we find building snowmen  
Without snow is really hard! Oh.....

**Chorus**     Why won't it snow.....

**Verse 3**     We'd love to fight with snowballs  
Once washing up's been done,  
But throwing balls of fresh air  
At each other isn't fun! Oh.....

**Chorus**     Why won't it snow.....

*(As the opening bars of the final verse are heard, the children kneel in prayer, with hands clasped together.)*

**Verse 4**     We'd sacrifice our presents  
Without shedding a tear,  
If only you would make it snow  
On Christmas day this year!

**Chorus**     Please make it snow, lots and lots of snow,  
We really need some snow this Christmas.  
Loads of lovely flakes! For all the children's sakes  
Please make it snow this Christmas day.

## **The Christmas Tree Song**

**Verse 1**     Christmas trees, we’re Christmas trees,  
                 Spiky and prickly and green.  
                 But dress us up and we become  
                 The grooviest trees on the scene.  
                 Hang from us some tinsel and baubles,  
                 Golds and silvers and reds,  
                 And don’t forget to stick a star  
                 Or angel on our heads.

**Verse 2**     Christmas trees, we’re Christmas trees,  
                 Covered in diamond lights,  
                 We bring a sparkle to the room,  
                 A beautiful, glamorous sight.  
                 Songs of joy are sung around us,  
                 Presents piled up below.  
                 Christmas trees give every home  
                 A warm and happy glow.

**Verse 3**     Christmas trees, we’re Christmas trees,  
                 So many varieties around.  
                 We come as plastic fold-aways,  
                 Or freshly-cut straight from the ground.  
                 Whether artificial or real,  
                 Whatever your choice may be,  
                 Just make sure, in pride of place,  
                 You have a Christmas tree.

## **Christmas Dinner Is A Winner**

**Verse 1**     Christmas dinner is a winner,  
                 The turkey is a whopper!  
                 There’s enough to fill us up,  
                 To feed us good and proper!

**Chorus**     And.....so.....it’s.....  
                 Munch! Munch!  
                 Crunch! Crunch!  
                 Chew! Chew!  
                 Phew! Phew!  
                 We’ve eaten so much food  
                 We cannot move!

**Verse 2**     Christmas dinner is a winner,  
                 How we love the pud!  
                 And, of course, with brandy sauce,  
                 Boy! It tastes so good!

**Chorus**     And.....so.....it’s.....

*(Instrumental, during which everyone pulls crackers and tucks in.)*

**Verse 3**     Christmas dinner is a winner,  
                 Helps to build our muscles  
                 That’s just what mums tell us lot  
                 To make us eat our Brussels!

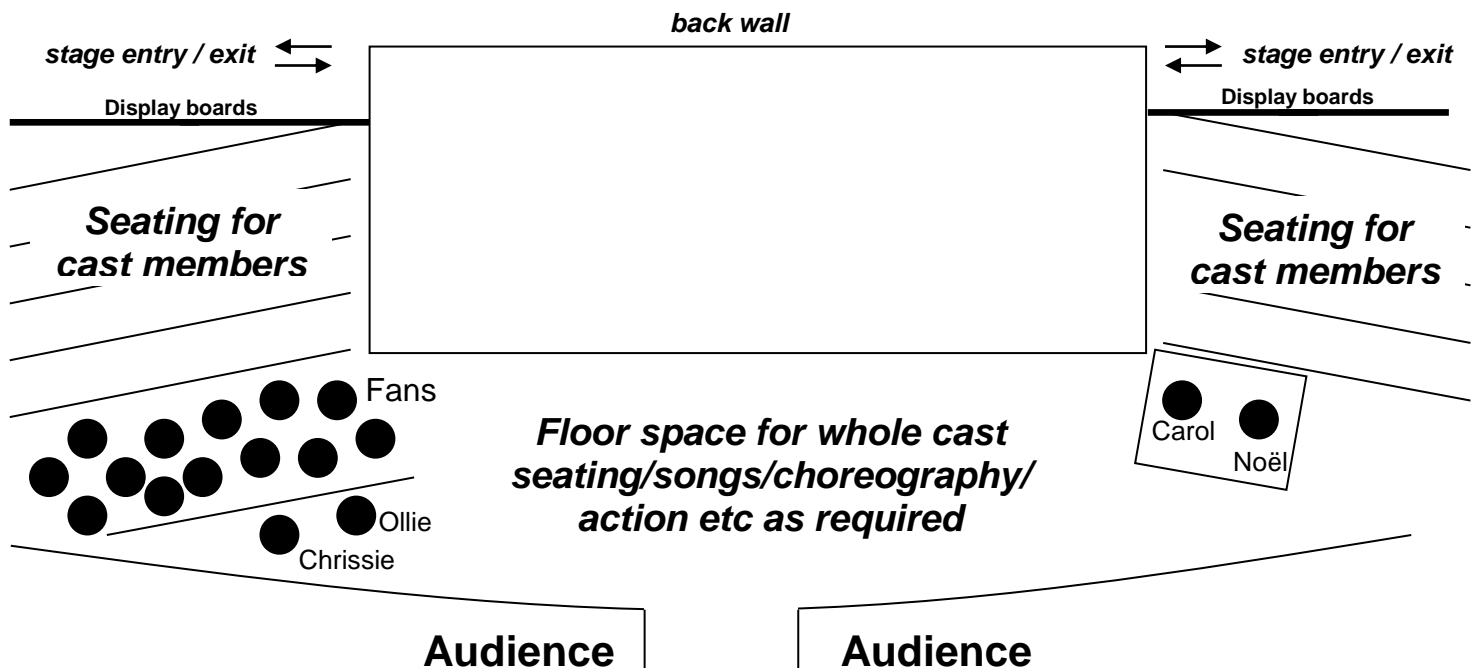
**Chorus**     And.....so.....it’s.....

## **Silent Night**

- Verse 1**     Silent night, holy night.  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin, mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.
- Verse 2**     Silent night, holy night.  
Shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar.  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,  
Christ the Saviour is born,  
Christ the Saviour is born.
- Verse 3**     Silent night, holy night.  
Son of God love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace.  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth.

## **STAGING SUGGESTIONS**

We suggest a staging layout similar to this, which will allow the entire cast to be on view all the time, and to be heard during all the songs. Actors and groups seated to the side will be able to move easily into, and out of prominent positions for their featured songs, dialogue or choreography. For the entrance and exit of individual characters, space can be made behind display boards either side of the main stage, or a ‘channel’ can be created through the audience.



- **Scenery and furniture** – On the back wall you could create a display similar to the big ‘corporate’ feel of the Oscars or Bafta ceremonies. Two large statuettes (in this case crackers) could flank a sweeping staircase, and large gold letters spelling out ‘Christmas Awards 2011’ or ‘The Stars Come Out For Christmas’ could stretch along, or arc over the top of the display. You could produce large stars, each with a picture/painting of the Christmas celebrities featured in the centre, or one huge star with a painting at each point, and attach them to the mural. This could be replicated on the display boards behind the seated cast members.

The staged area representing Carol’s and Noël’s podium should be big enough to allow Beth to stand and deliver her nativity narration, and to accommodate two lecterns or decorated music stands, on which scripts can be placed. There should also be room for a small table, or preferably an ornate plant pot pedestal, on which the cracker statuette stands until its presentation.

The Christmas dinner table in scene 5 can already be waiting in the wings. This can be one of your school dining tables, or a classroom table, with a tablecloth over it. During the fanfare music the table, and classroom chairs, can be carried on by members of staff, while the children playing the diners carry on dishes of food (obviously not real), plates, cutlery etc.



- **Costumes** – Noël should wear a dinner suit and black tie, and Carol a flowing, glamorous evening gown with lots of jewellery. Ollie and Chrissie could wear the same, but with ‘extras’ to indicate they are outside, eg. a shawl for Chrissie and a scarf for Ollie. The fans should be dressed casually. Outfits for the cards and trees could be based on simple cut-outs, worn in the style of sandwich boards. The cards should be decorated with traditional images and greetings and worn over neutral (say white) tee shirts and leggings/shorts. With the addition of baubles and tinsel, green cut-outs worn over green clothes with a fairy/angel hat or head-dress will represent the trees effectively. Santa should be dressed according to his traditional image, while masks, antlers, reins and brown leotards with bobtails would be ideal for the reindeer. Dress your elves in pointy hats and ears, tunics and tights, with rosy circles painted on their cheeks. If you wish to dress an actor as the snowman, a white sheet over the body, a papier maché head (complete with carrot etc) and a scarf would work well. For the star of Bethlehem, again a large card cut-out would be effective, decorated with shiny paper and glitter and worn over a black leotard. For the nativity characters the traditional costumes of old-school Christmas productions are always the best!
- **Props** – Ollie and Chrissie should carry microphones (real or otherwise) and clipboards. Santa and his gang will need a sack of wrapped ‘gifts’ to distribute during their song. A basket of tissue/cottonwool snowballs should be made, to be thrown by the children in the snow song. Collect together crockery and cutlery for the dinner scene. Create a huge turkey by papier maché-ing over a football/rugbyball and carry it on as ornamental a tray as you can find. The diners could pull crackers during their song, so have a box or two handy. Finally, toy sheep, a doll, a manger, the kings’ gifts etc are standard props for the nativity scene
- **Use of Space** – The whole cast will probably want to be involved in the performance of all the songs. A space on the floor in front of the main stage could be used to accommodate extra bodies. In this space, for some songs, the cast could perform dance routines or act out the lyrical content. A seating area for resting performers to one side of the stage lets them enjoy the performance as part of the audience, allows easy movement on and off the stage, and of course eliminates the need for back-stage supervision.
- **Audience seating** – Finally, we suggest the audience be seated at tables (cabaret style), and encouraged to bring drinks and nibbles of their choice. A relaxed party atmosphere will really make the evening go with a swing, and give parents, staff and children something to remember for a long time. Please email, phone or write to us if you have any production queries at all, and we’ll be more than happy to help.

One last suggestion – have fun, enjoy yourselves and have a great Christmas at school!