



Hello Kids,

Well here it is at last . . . the big month you have been waiting for. Christmas time with all its lovely presents and nice things to eat and the lovely Summer Holidays. Yes indeed its a very wonderful time of the year, but it is a time when we should all pause for a moment or two to count our blessings.

You know what I'd like from you all for a Christmas present? No, I'll bet you could never guess. I would like you all to offer up a little prayer for all those unfortunate people in our own country and in many countries abroad, who will not be as happy as we are at Christmas time. Wouldn't it be marvellous if we could just bring joy and happiness and good health to *Everyone* just for that one day, Christmas Day.



Well, well, well. This young fellow apparently doesn't like Santa Claus.

I don't suppose I'll get much in the way of mail for the next few weeks, because you'll all be too busy enjoying yourselves. But never mind, I'll just wait.

I know many of you will be sad to hear of the retirement of Mr. Mullins, the Secretary of the Board. Mr. Mullins has been a wonderful friend to a lot of our young people over the years and must take away with him some very pleasant memories. You know what, kids. I hope he finds *all* the threepences in his Christmas pudding.

I just had a nice note and a drawing from Francis Currie of Woodenbong High School. The drawing just missed out on a prize Francis, but try again will you.

A special prize this month to Ailsa Randall of Greg Greg, Tooma, via Albury for a nice letter. Ailsa said "I've been wanting to write to you for a long time, but never seem to have enough time. Now that I have at last, here's a letter.

I have two sisters and a brother in the Home at Cootamundra, and a brother up at Kinchela. My second eldest sister Elaine, goes to High School, while Maya and Brian both go to the Primary School in Cootamundra. I used to work for the Presbyterian Minister in Cootamundra. Both the Minister and his wife were very kind to me. I am now working on a dairy farm not far from Albury and like it very much. The Matron at Cootamundra wants me to become a nurse when I am seventeen and I think I shall."

Thanks for that very nice letter Ailsa and I'd like to hear from you again.

Well Kids, that's about all for this month as I have to go out and help Santa Claus feed the reindeers. I hope you all have the very Merriest Christmas ever and that the New Year will bring all kinds of wonderful things for you all.

Your sincere Pal,

Pete