An Early Visit From Santa Claus

By Lois Walker

NOTE: This script is formatted for a number of SOLO READERS and ALL. The script is very flexible and allows a director to use as few or as many readers as required by dividing the reading parts between all available readers. If the reading group is very small, double up on solo reader parts. If the reading group is very large, you can assign different readers to all the solo readers parts below.

ESTABLISHING THE RHYTHM

To find the proper rhythm for this choral piece, first read-aloud and clap through the sections as you go. Each underlined word or word part falls directly on a beat. As you read, clap on each underlined word, keeping the rhythm steady. Be careful not to read too fast! This is a rehearsal technique and readers will not clap throughout these sections during performance. After you have established the beat, it is time to start interpreting, experimenting, and having fun with the words by varying tempo, volume, inflection, and expression.

ALL: At *(insert your school name)* school, just before

                     Christmas break,

READER 1:   No snow was falling, not even a flake,

                     But we were all ready for winter vacation

                     Happy, excited, and filled with elation!

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.

                     It comes once a year on the very same date.

                     But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 2:   Well, he did this year. He came to…

ALL: *(insert your school name)* <u>school</u>**!**

READER 3:   <u>Lit</u>tle did we <u>know</u>, when we <u>went</u> home that <u>day</u>,

                 <u>San</u>ta was <u>al</u>ready <u>well</u> on his way.

READER 4:   <u>Good</u> old <u>San</u>ta, so <u>red</u>, round, and <u>burly</u>

                 Had de<u>ci</u>ded to <u>vi</u>sit *(insert your school name)* school

                 <u>ear</u>ly.

ALL: <u>Christ</u>mas is <u>com</u>ing! We can <u>hard</u>ly <u>wait</u>.

                 It <u>comes</u> once a <u>year</u> on the <u>very</u> same <u>date</u>.

                 But could <u>San</u>ta come <u>early</u> and <u>break</u> that <u>rule</u>?

READER 2:   Well, he <u>did</u> this <u>year</u>. He came to…

ALL: *(insert your school name)* <u>school</u>**!**

READER 5:   <u>That</u> night, <u>while</u> we were <u>safe</u>ly in <u>bed</u>,

                 Santa <u>flew</u> to *(insert your town/city name)* and

                 <u>cruised</u> over<u>head</u>.

READER   He <u>knew</u> he was <u>early</u>, didn't <u>want</u> to be <u>caught</u>,

                 So he <u>quiet</u>ly <u>park</u>ed in our <u>school</u>'s parking <u>lot</u>.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.

                  It comes once a year on the very same date.

                  But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 2:   Well, he did this year. He came to…

ALL: *(insert your school name)* school**!**

READER   He couldn't find the chimney, so this old practitioner

                  Looked for a way in through the school air

                  conditioner.

READER   When that didn't work, he carried his sack

                  Around to a small unlocked door in the back.

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.

                  It comes once a year on the very same date.

                  But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 2:   Well, he did this year. He came to…

ALL: *(insert your school name)* school**!**

READER   The elf had come early, to thank the adults

                  For tireless service and sterling results.

READER   The teachers, the staff, the school secretary,

                  Deserved a gift and deserved to be merry.

READER   And <u>he</u> had to <u>thank</u> them be<u>fore</u> they left <u>school</u>.

        Be<u>fore</u> they went <u>off</u> on <u>break</u> for the <u>Yule</u>.

READER   Be<u>fore</u> all the <u>grown</u>-ups <u>went</u> home to <u>rest</u>,

        He <u>want</u>ed to <u>thank</u> them for <u>do</u>ing their <u>best</u>.

ALL: <u>Chris</u>tmas is <u>com</u>ing! We can <u>hard</u>ly <u>wait</u>.

        It <u>comes</u> once a <u>year</u> on the <u>very</u> same <u>date</u>.

        But could <u>San</u>ta come <u>early</u> and <u>break</u> that <u>rule</u>?

READER 2:   Well, he <u>did</u> this <u>year</u>. He came to…

ALL: ***(insert your school name)* <u>school</u>!**

READER   For our <u>prin</u>cipal, *(insert your principal's name)*, he

        left <u>some</u>thing extra<u>ord</u>inary.

        (Be creative! Go wild with these gift names)…

READER   It was *(insert an extraordinary gift name)* and too

        large to carry.

READER   For our <u>teach</u>er, *(insert your teacher's name)*, he left

        <u>some</u>thing u<u>nique</u>.

        (*Optional.* If you want to include all the teachers in

        the school, you can substitute the above line with

the following. READER 8: For every teacher, he left something unique).

READER   It was, *(insert a unique gift name)*, and really quite chic.

READER   For our secretary, *(insert your secretary's name)*, he left something nice.

READER   It was *(insert a very nice gift name)* and worth twice the price.

READER   For our librarian, *(insert your librarian's name)*, he left something sweet.

READER   It was *(insert a very sweet gift name)*, and really a treat.

READER   And for all of the staff, he left *plenty of cash*,
                With the hope it might finance a wild Christmas bash!

ALL: Christmas is coming! We can hardly wait.
                It comes once a year on the very same date.
                But could Santa come early and break that rule?

READER 2:   Well, he did this year. He came to…

ALL: ***(insert your school name)* school!**