

# Mrs. Thomas

## DECEMBER 2017 NEWSLETTER

Identifying a text's **THEME** is one of the most challenging reading skills our students learn. **THEME** is a big idea communicated by the text. A text may have multiple themes, or one central theme with additional supporting themes. The theme may be related to things that are important to us — our values. From the theme, we can identify the lesson or message the author wants readers to think about. I love books with strong themes. These are some of my favorites that are appropriate for third and fourth graders to read. I hope you enjoy them!

### Picture Books

The Carpenter's Gift: A Christmas Tale about the Rockefeller Center Tree, by David Rubel

The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey, by Susan Wojciechowski

The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree: An Appalachian Story, by Gloria Houston

Christmas Day in the Morning, by Pearl S. Buck

The Gift of the Maji, by O. Henry

The Message of the Birds, by Kate Westerlund

The Christmas Truce, by Aaron Shephard

The Crippled Lamb, by Max Lucado

### Chapter Book

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

By Barbara Robinson



Peace and blessings from my family to yours!