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Opening extract from

The Christmas Present

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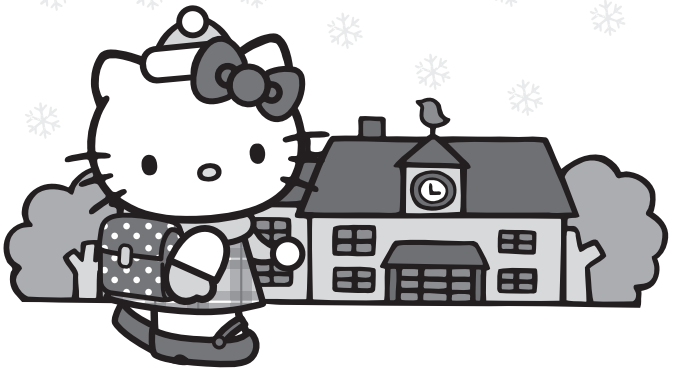
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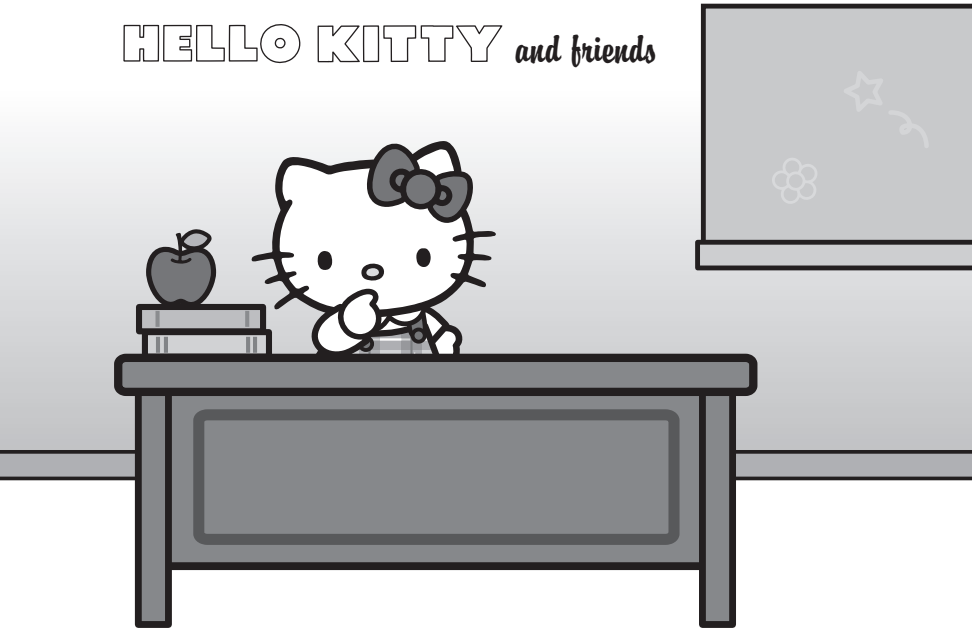
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Christmas Is Coming!



Hello Kitty crossed her arms and sat up as straight as she could as Miss Davey, her teacher, looked around the class. Hello Kitty was wishing **hard** that Miss Davey would call on her. Every day since the first of

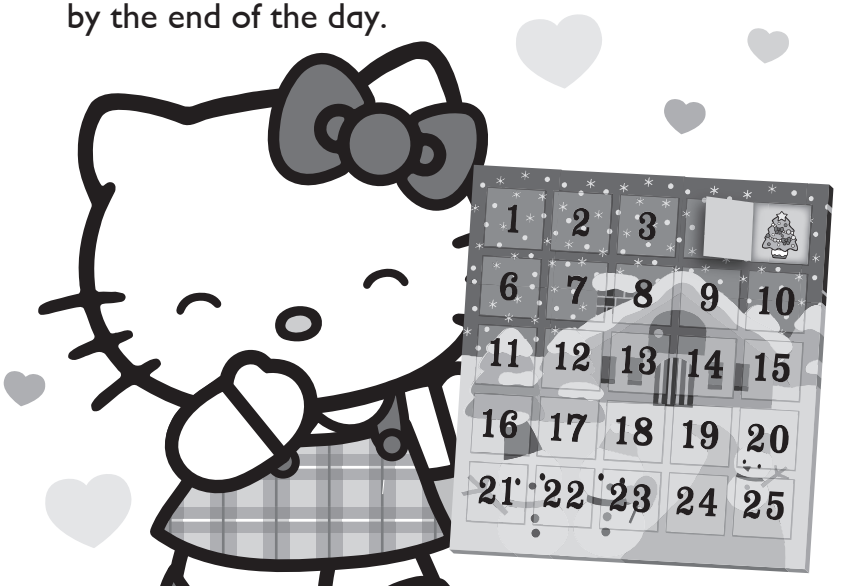


December, Miss Davey had chosen one person to go up to the front and open the next door of the advent calendar.

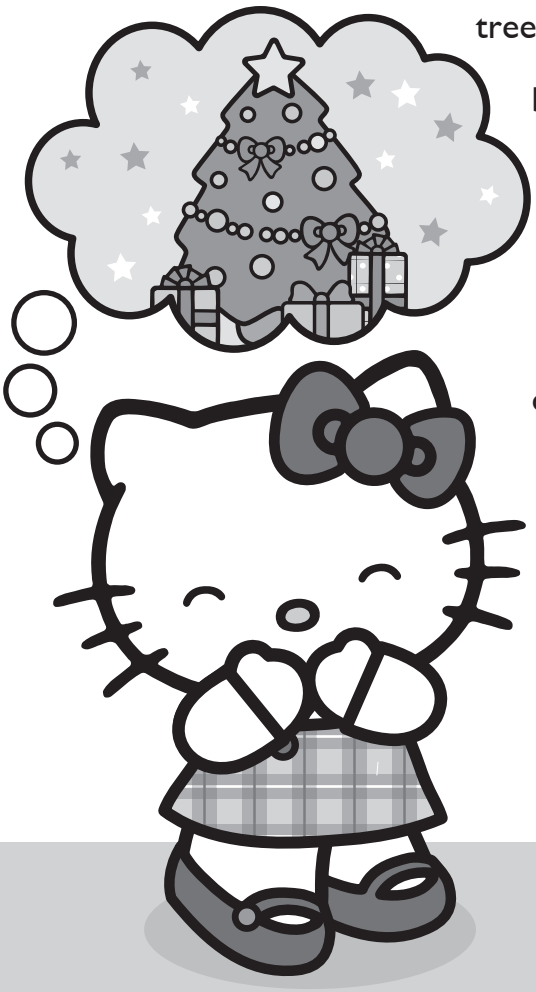
Miss Davey's eyes settled on Hello Kitty and she **smiled**. Today would be Hello Kitty's turn! Hello Kitty jumped to her feet and hurried to Miss Davey's desk. She found the little door

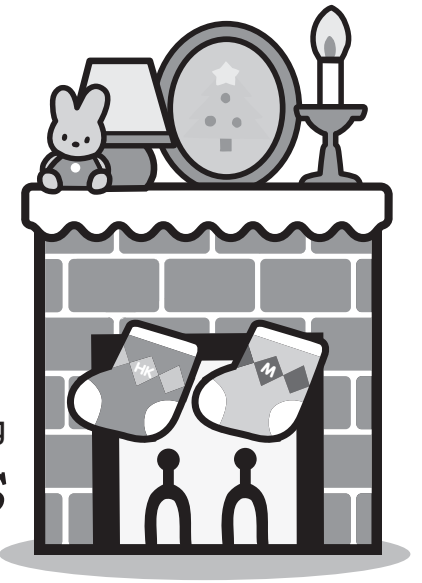
marked with the number '5' and opened it carefully. What would the picture be?

It was a beautiful Christmas tree decorated with coloured balls and tinsel. Miss Davey asked Hello Kitty to carry the calendar round and show it to the whole class. She hoped that the class would make sure the school's very own Christmas tree looked just as *beautiful* by the end of the day.



They all nodded excitedly. Their class had been picked to decorate the school Christmas tree! It was going to be delivered at lunchtime and they were going to get out the decorations and make it look lovely and festive. Hello Kitty felt just **super** even thinking about it – she loved





Christmas! She loved everything about it, especially…

- Putting up decorations
- Singing carols
- Hanging up her stocking

And *PRESENTS* of course!



Hello Kitty gave the advent calendar back to Miss Davey, who hung it on the wall. She told the class to use the last ten minutes before lunch to finish off the Christmas stories they were writing.

Hello Kitty sat back down with Dear Daniel, Fifi and Tammy. The four of them were such good friends that they had started their very own Friendship Club – they had meetings at each other's houses, made things, baked, had sleepovers and went on outings. It was **great**



fun! They also made up rules about friendship. They had quite a few so far, like…



Hello Kitty picked up her pen, but she wasn't ready to finish off her story just yet – she wanted to talk about Christmas! She wished it wasn't still twenty days away. That was **AGES!**