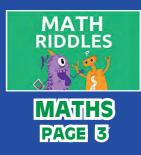




Welcoming Grade One students











Follow us on www.fundaytimes.lk

COMPETITIONS



Please send competition entries to:

Funday Times C/O the Sunday Times P.O. Box 1136, Colombo. Or

8, Hunupitiya Cross Road, Colombo 2.

Please note that competition entries are accepted by email.

Write the name of the competition and the date clearly at the top of your entry and include the following details: Full Name (including Surname), Date of Birth, Address, *Telephone Number and School.*

> Please underline the name most commonly used.

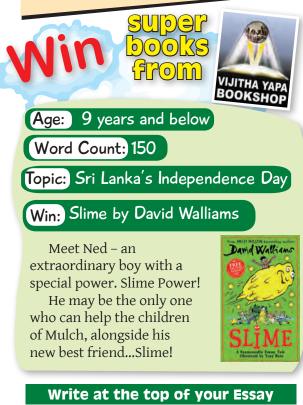
All competition entries should be certified by a parent or guardian as your own work. Competition entries without the

full details requested above, will be disqualified.

Closing Date for this week's competitions: February 26, 2025

Telephone: 2479337/2479333 Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com





■Book Competition ■Essay Topic



```
Darrell Rivers is thrilled
to start her first term at
boarding school.
She soon makes friends -
and mischief!
   Another new girl,
Gwendoline, is beginning to
```

Win:

get on everyone's nerves. Will Darrell be able to keep her fiery temper under control?

BRITISH

Age groups:

Word limit: 100 Words

The morning is a peaceful time in the

Everyone wakes up to start their day,

The sun rises and most animals wake

We have our first main meal in the

Little children go to school in the

As well people go to work,

And drink some refreshing tea,

And most people love the morning

Nethuli Herath

Polymath College, Nawinna

e steunday

fundaytimes1@gmail.com

(Age:) 10 – 12 years

Word Count: 150 - 200

by Enid Blyton

We do daily exercises in the morning.

<u>6 – 10 years</u>

Morning

day.

up.

morning,

morning,

including me.

-10 years / 11 -15 years

COUNCIL



Poetry Competition

This is your chance to get your poem published here. Entries should be in your handwriting and clearly certified by a teacher or parent as your own creation. Your poem should be posted to Funday Times with 'Poetry Competition' written at the top of the entry. The winner of each age category will be awarded a British Council Young Learner's Library membership.

<u>11 – 15 years</u> **Funday Times**

You arrive on Sunday dawn, Where the kids drawings are drawn, With new essays being born, A world of stories adorn.

You are a window to lands unseen, Your articles sharp and clean, Though this their doubts convene, Creating a doubtless mind crisp and clean.

You consist of many competitions to win, He who wins has quite a grin, Oh, Funday Times you serve our time, With the intent to make our knowledge climb.

Funday Times you help us a lot, With news so fresh and hot, For the knowledge you never rot, And we are grateful for what we got.

> Yusuf-ul-Haq Matale Int. School

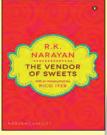
Please write the date at the top of your entry.

Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.



wife, and a grand plan

for selling story-writing



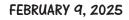
What follows is a classic cross-generational battle between father and son.

Book Competition

<u>10 - 12 years</u>

Resolutions you have made for 2025 Seja Abeywickrama Southlands College, Galle

Spending New Year's Eve with family and friends Rajawella Hindu National College, Kandy





machines.



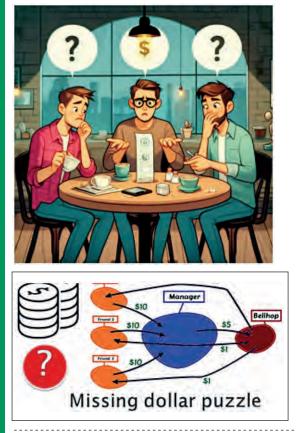


Maths in Action 89 By R. N. A. de Silva

Mathematical riddle is considered as a creatively phrased puzzle which requires critical thinking to solve.

One of the most famous riddles that dates back to the 1930s is called the missing dollar riddle.

"Three guests have a meal in a restaurant. The manager says the bill is \$30. So, each guest pays \$10. Later the manager realizes that the bill should only have been \$25. To rectify, he gives the server \$5 to return to the guests. The server realizing that \$5 cannot be equally divided by 3, keeps \$2 as a tip to himself and gives the rest to the guests and each guest receives \$1 back. Therefore, each guest has paid \$9 and the total is \$9 x 3 = \$27. The server kept \$2 and therefore \$29 + \$2 = \$29. What happened to the remaining dollar?"



Mathematical Riddles

The misdirection in this riddle is the addition of unrelated amounts. The \$27 already includes the server's tip. What should be added is the \$3 that they got back. Thus, the sensible way to account for the money involved is as follows:

\$1 (With guest 1) + \$1 (With guest 2) + \$1 (With guest 3) + \$2 (With the server) + \$25 (With the manager) = \$30.

A similar version of a riddle produces an extra dollar.

"A man deposits \$50 in the bank. Next day he withdraws \$20, leaving \$30. On the following day he withdraws \$15, leaving \$15. Then he withdraws \$9, leaving \$6. Finally, he withdraws \$6, leaving \$0. But, \$30 + \$15 + \$6 = \$51. Where did the extra dollar come from?"

World's	You start with 50.	
	Spend	Balance
Toughest	20	30
Riddle	15	15
Estate	9	6
Extra 🤈	6	0
money 🟅	50	51

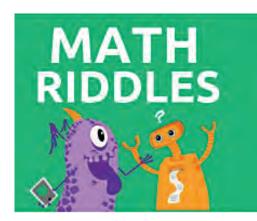


The actual solution to this riddle is to add correctly considering either the person or the bank.



Try to find the solution to the following puzzle. You may send solutions with reasoning to *rnades@gmail.com* within the next three days. Please include your full name, date of birth, home address, contact details and the name of your school along with the solution.

What single digit appears most frequently between and including the numbers 1 and 100?



From the point of view of the bank: First day: \$30 in the bank + \$20 with owner = \$50

Second day: \$15 in the bank

- + (\$20 + \$15) with owner = \$50 Third day: \$6 in the bank
- + (\$20 + \$15 + \$9) with owner = \$50.

Let me state another famous riddle for you to solve.

"A lady sees two jewellry boxes in a shop priced at \$100 and \$200. She buys the cheaper one and later decides that she prefers the other. She returns to the shop and gives the box back and asks for the other box.

As for the payment she says that she paid \$100 earlier and that now she has returned a box worth \$100 and therefore she does not have to pay anymore. Is this argument correct?"



Math Plot 88 - Solution The answer is "The last apple was given with the basket".

The winner is **Dulein Hasiru** of **Anuradhapura Central College.** Congratulations!

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Unlocking the Power of Reading: British Council's Reading Challenge awareness sessions

At Polymath College, the power of reading is being brought to the forefront as students are introduced to the exciting opportunities offered by the British Council's Reading Challenge. Awareness sessions have been a huge success in sparking a renewed passion for reading among students.

Every child who takes up the challenge is encouraged to read six books within six weeks. They can choose the books they want to read from a wide selection and learn how to write a book review for their age group, as part of the challenge.

> Do write to British Council via *library.events@britishcouncil.org* if your school wants to participate in the Reading Challenge Programme.









The Choirs of Bishop's College, Colombo along with the De Lanerolle Brothers in Thanksgiving for 150 years of the school.





Welcome ceremony for 200 new students to Grade One at Kannangara Model Maha Vidyalaya, Anamaduwa.

Pix by Hiran Priyankara Jayasinghe



Competition 15

Book Competition WINNERS

<u>10 – 12 years</u>

Resolutions for 2025

New Year resolutions are very important for our daily life to achieve our targets. If we make resolutions, we can work towards our targets.

I have made many resolutions for 2025. Among them are improving my writing skills, acting and dancing.

Let me introduce my first resolution for this year. It is about my writing skills. I must improve my way of writing to compete with my elder sister and brothers.

In previous years, I participated in primary category competitions. Although I'm 10 years old, I have to participate in junior category competitions of the Funday Times Newspaper and students' Literary Festivals. Therefore I am working hard to compete with elders.

My second resolution is performing as a main character in a drama.

Last year I acted as the evil stepmother in 'Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs' drama and won the Zonal second place. This year, I have joined Southlands College's drama club to improve my acting and performing abilities. I wish I could act as a main character in 2025 too.

My third resolution is about dancing. There are many dancing categories. Among them I have chosen to learn traditional dancing as a main subject in the school curriculum from 2025. I expect that dancing will help to make my body shape beautifully and also I can use dancing skills to become Miss Universe one day.

These are my achievable New Year resolutions in 2025.

Seja Abeywickrama (10 years) Southlands College, Galle

<u> 13 – 15 years</u>

New Year's Eve is a time of celebration, reflection and excitement for the year ahead. Spending it with friends and family makes the occasion even more special as it is an opportunity to create lasting memories with the people who matter most.

I vividly remember one New Year's Eve when we gathered at my family's home. The evening began with laughter and warmth as family members and friends arrived, each bringing their own unique stories from the past year. The kitchen was filled with the delicious aroma of home cooked meals and the sound of cheerful conversations echoed throughout the house. My siblings and I set up games for everyone to enjoy, and as the night progressed, we shared stories of triumphs, challenges and dreams for the future.

Spending New Year's Eve with friends and family

One of the highlights of the evening was the countdown. As the clock struck midnight, we all gathered in the living room, holding hands and cheering as the New Year began. There were hugs, cheers and even a few happy tears. The joy and excitement was contagious and it felt like we were all united in a moment of hope for the year ahead.

Spending New Year's Eve with loved ones reminds me of the importance of connection, love and gratitude. It's not just about celebrating a new calendar year; it's about cherishing the time spent together and looking forward to the opportunities and memories that lie ahead.

Ramesh Nileshkanth (14 years) Rajawella Hindu National College, Kandy

YOUNDAY YOUNG Reporters

If you are interested in joining as a Funday Times Young Reporter please fill in the coupon given and send it in to us along with a recent report or interview not exceeding 300 words. Photographs or illustrations would enhance the report.

Young Reporters who have already enrolled with us, please send in new reports for publication.



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Young Reporters Coupon

Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
School:	
Parent's approval:	Date:

6 | KDS NEWS



Lunar New Year celebrated around the world

February 3, 2025

Millions of people all around the world have come together to celebrate Lunar New Year.

In the Chinese zodiac, 2025 marks the Year of the Snake, which began on January 29. New Year celebrations start from the evening before and last for 15 days.

Around the world people have come together to celebrate by taking part in special Lunar New Year parades, dances and traditional games, as well as enjoying tasty food with family and friends.



Artists in Zaozhuang, China, perform in a special New Year show.

This lady, dressed in traditional Chinese clothing, is taking part in the Chinese New Year parade in Madrid, Spain.





Look at this incredible colourful firework display in Solo City, Indonesia, where a big festival took place to celebrate Lunar New Year.





Take a look at this professional fire breather taking part in LNY celebrations in Manila in the Philippines.



In The Hague in the Netherlands, people posed for a photo wearing traditional Chinese lion costumes. Lion and dragon dancers traditionally chase away evil spirits and bad luck, and bring prosperity and happiness for the New Year.



People took part in a special dragon parade to celebrate Lunar New Year in London in the UK.



Members of the Nua Hua Performing Arts Group performed with Chinese drums during the Lunar New Year celebrations in Bronkhorsts.



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Schools close in Santorini due to earthquake warnings

February 4, 2025

Schools on the Greek island of Santorini have been closed until Friday after hundreds of small tremors were recorded in the area.

The island has been put on alert over worries that a larger earthquake could arrive in the near future.

Around nine thousand visitors and residents have left the island over the past few days for safety.

Although there have been no reports of damage, experts are worried about the risk of landslides due to the quakes.

What's happened?

The tremors began January 31, and since then hundreds of quakes have been recorded in the area.

In the past two days, more than 300 earthquakes have been recorded near the island.

The neighbouring islands of Anafi, Ios and Amorgos have also been affected.

Authorities have asked residents and tourists to take safety measures and schools have been closed on all four islands until the end of the week.

Santorini is one of Greece's most

popular travel destinations, with nearly 3.5 million visitors every year.

Even though the island lies above an inactive volcano, Greek authorities said that the recent minor earthquakes were down to tectonic plate movements rather than volcanic activity.



Scientists are closely monitoring the quakes, but have said that the seismic activity could continue for many more weeks.

Emergency crews and experts have arrived on Santorini to help support the islanders and Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis has asked people on the island to "stay calm".





Grammy Awards 2025

February 3, 2025

The Grammy Awards — one of the music industry's biggest award shows — took place in Los Angeles in the US on February 2.

There were live performances from pop stars Sabrina Carpenter and Chappell Roan, and the ceremony also raised money for those affected by the LA wildfires,

show.

raising more than \$7 million with local firefighters taking

part in the awards

One of the biggest

was Beyoncé, who took

winners of the night

home the award for

Album of the Year,

for 'Cowboy Carter'.

This was a pretty

huge moment for the

singer, who holds the

Beyoncé finally took home the prize for Best Album.

MUSICARES FIRERELIEF

Sabrina Carpenter won two awards.

record for winning the most Grammy Awards but has never won the Album of the Year category.

Beyoncé also won Best Country Album, which she accepted from Taylor Swift — a bit of a big moment in Grammy history.

The 67th Grammy Awards show saw lots of other artists and music makers celebrated throughout the evening.



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February 5



Kathmandu, Nepal

Duchess of Edinburgh, during a visit to Maiti Nepal, a non-profit organisation dedicated to helping



Shanghai, China Dragon dancers perform in the lobby of the Shanghai Tower in the Pudong financial district after workers return from the Lunar New Year holiday.



Children perform a traditional dance for Sophie, the victims of human trafficking.

La Rosière, France A dog takes part in a search-and-rescue training exercise for avalanche survivors in the French Alps.

Amman, Jordan

Abdul Rahman Makhlouf, 19, who hopes one day to achieve a Guinness World Record, practises calisthenics in a wheelchair.





Orebro, Sweden A woman lights a candle, the day after the school shooting at Risbergska School in Orebro, Sweden.



Kyiv, Ukraine UK Foreign Secretary, David Lammy, and his Ukrainian counterpart, Andrii Sybiha, visit the Wall of Remembrance to pay tribute to Ukrainian soldiers killed since the Russian invasion.

Potomac River, USA A crane retrieves part of the wreckage from the Potomac River, in the aftermath of the collision of American Eagle flight 5342 and a Black Hawk helicopter that both crashed into the river, by the Ronald Reagan Washington National





Santorini, Greece People board a ferry to Piraeus, during increased seismic activity on the island of Santorini.

Airport, in Arlington,

Virginia.

Sources: The Guardian & Reuters



Heron Island, Australia A green sea turtle hatchling attempts to find its way to the ocean. The hatchlings often face predators such as seagulls and reef sharks, resulting in an estimated survival rate of one in 1,000.