

The happiest day of my life

December 20, 2006 was a special day in my life. Because the results for the Grade Five scholarship exam for 2006, were out.

On that day I got up in the morning and listened to the morning news on the radio. At that time I heard the good news about my results. I was able to get 190 marks for the scholarship exam. My District Rank was Third and the All Island Rank was Fifth. I was so happy.

My parents, the principal, the teachers, my friends, my neighbours, and my relations were very happy about my results. My school is Sri Bodhi Vidyalaya. It is a primary school. My results were the highest results in my school.

I was the head prefect in my school. I was a side drum player in our Western Band. I was a member of the Cub Scouts. I received the Gold Star Medal at the 2006 Prize Giving for Cub Scouts.

I received a lot of certificates for art competitions, handwriting and essay competitions. I am following a computer course and I was able to get merit certificates for them. I have won silver cups for elocution exams.

I am also a Funday Times Club Member.

I hope to learn very well and be a useful person in Sri Lanka.

**Ravindu Dias
(10 years)
Sri Bodhi Vidyalaya,
Gampaha**

My Ghoulfriend

Have you met my Ghoulfriend?
I ask everyone I meet,
Have you met my Ghoulfriend?
I ask, walking down the street.

She's giddy, she's so cool!
And she lives right in my room.
She's invisible, she's fantastic,
She does the lindy with my broom!

She finishes all my homework
She eats my beans for me!
She tidies up my messy room
How useful a ghoulfriend can be!

She scares away my pest of a sister
She bites the snoopy maid, Ms.
Chun,
She's everything a girl could want
Say 'hi' to my Ghoulfriend every-
one!

**Hasani Dassanayake (11 years)
Gateway College**

My trip to Kataragama

I went to Kataragama with my family during the school vacation. Our journey started from Kandy around 9 a.m. We went by the Mahiyangana-Bibile Road. We saw several reservoirs including Victoria and Rantambe.

The mountains were beautiful and the waterfalls were gorgeous. Due to heavy rains everywhere it was very beautiful. We arrived at Buttala around 2 p.m. Then we proceeded to Kataragama through the Yala National Park. We came to Jayasinha Rest, where we stayed that night. Around 3 p.m. after having a late lunch we went to worship at the famous Tissamaharama Temple in the night. Then we went to the Kataragama Devale for the pooja. There we saw lots of people dancing kavadi.

**Varuni Karalliyadde (Grade 4)
Mahamaya Girl's College, Kandy**

Tamil Thai Pongal

We celebrate Thai Pongal every



year in January. Early in the morning we get up and have a bath. We clean our house. We make *Pongal* at home. *Pongal* is specially to thank the Sun God. We give pooja's of sweet *Pongal* and plain *Pongal* when the sun rises.

We decorate the entrance of our house with *kolam* and then we go to the temple. After that we enjoy our *Pongal* with our family. We give *Pongal* to our relatives, cousins and friends. With plain *Pongal* we have dhal curry.

The next day, farmers make *Pongal* and give to cows, goats and other farm animals.

Thai Pongal is a thanksgiving festival.

**Lakshikaa Srithar
(7 years)
Colombo International
School, Kandy**

My new sister

My new sister's name is Sanduni. She is very small and sweet. She can eat rice, bananas and dhal. She likes to play. Her eyes are blue. I like her so much. She likes me too.



**Udani
Navaratne
(7 years)
Hillwood College,
Kandy**

How to be happy

Happiness is very elusive. Try your best to keep it and it will escape. Usually the more you try to be happy the more you become disappointed. You think you will be happy by eating a lot of delicious food and you do so. In no time, you will feel very uncomfortable due to a heavy stomach.

Some people believe that they will be happy if they have a lot of money. But are rich people really happy? You may see them travel in Pajeros, Volvos and Benzs. You may be fascinated by their expensive clothing. With all that, they are not happy at heart. They worry a lot about their wealth.

The world around us is not empty of things which bring us happiness. Good health is self healthy. Then there is work. Do some honest, good work that will benefit both you and others equally.

Sports, fine arts, social work and being kind and helpful to people around you, brings you happiness. When you see how differently abled and sick people are made happy with your help, you too will feel happy. So can't we be happy?

**Sachethana Madushani,
(14 years)
R/Embilipitiya Central College**