

## I was alone in my home at night

One day my father went on a trip with his friends. My mother went to my brother's night class. I had fever and that was why I didn't go with my mother. It was a dark, rainy day. My mother told me to stay in bed.



The day before, I had watched a scary film. There was a ghost in the film. That ghost came into my mind. Oh! The devil mask on the wall, the blood on his tongue! He said "I will catch you!"

How could I stay alone? I was so scared. I shouted out.

There was my mother. How lucky! It was only a dream! I heaved a sigh of relief.

**Anjalee Gunarathne  
(11 years)  
President's Girls' College**

## The Nutcracker ballet

What better way is there to end the year 2007 than the elegant Nutcracker ballet? The Deanna School of Dancing (DSD) decided to stage this beautiful ballet for our year-end show 2007. Being one of the children at the Christmas party, I really enjoyed myself, glad that I had studied ballet at the DSD. The event was held at the BMICH on December 18 and 19, 2007.

In the story, a young girl called Clara received a wooden Nutcracker at a Christmas party, and is delighted with the gift. But her jealous brother Fritz grabs it and accidentally breaks it. But Grandfather Drosselmeyer repairs it and gives it back to Clara. She is still worried about the Nutcracker, so she sleeps with him in the parlour.

At midnight she awakes to find her Nutcracker battling the sinister Mouse King and his army! She

helps the Nutcracker to destroy him but she is shrunk to the size of a toy by an evil spell. Now they are on a trip to find the Sugarplum Princess, who is the only one who can undo the evil spell.

A special word of thanks to my parents, who encouraged me to go to ballet class, looked after me during practice days, and spent the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> watching the concert. More thanks to Aunty Deanna and the other aunties, for showing me exactly how I should do the ballet steps. More thanks to Sayuni, Minami, Aznah, Taliya and Aisha, for making my group do so well!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

**Thirandi De Silva  
(7 years)  
Ladies College**

## Hans Christian Anderson

Hans Christian Anderson was born in Denmark in 1805. He was the son of a poor shoemaker. His father died when he was only 11 years old. Later on he attended a city school for poor children. He left home when he was only 14 years old, and nearly starved without money to buy food.

Later on, he got a Royal scholarship to study. He wrote 168 fairytales and folktales. Some of his stories became world famous. 'The tinder box,' 'Little Claus and Big Claus,' 'The travelling companions,' are some of his stories. 'The Emperor's new clothes' became world famous. It is a humorous story that children and adults love so much. He died in 1875. He is considered a world famous author.

**Shannon De Visser (11 years)  
Good Shepherd Convent,  
Kotahena**

### Note

Please remember that articles, poems and paintings sent, will not be published unless they are certified as your own work by a parent or teacher. Articles should not exceed 200 words.

## A road accident

One day when I was coming back from school with my father, I saw a boy running across the road. At the same time, a car which was travelling very fast knocked the boy down. His clothes were full of blood. Soon the ambulance came and took the boy to the hospital.

From that day on, I always look at both sides of the road and then cross the road.

**Shoban Soorya (10 years)  
S. Thomas College,  
Mt. Lavinia**

## My brother

My little brother  
Is a naughty little brother  
He makes me cry  
By tearing my books  
And breaking my toys  
But please don't bother  
Because I love him dear  
He is my sweet little brother!

**Nihara Wijeratne (Grade 5)  
St. Bridget's Convent**

### Portrait



**Rezayad Azhard (14 years)  
Carey College**

## A design with insects



**Shallni Sivananthan (8 years)  
Wycherly International School**

Topic for January – Back to school  
Closing Date: January 31, 2008

## My pet

My pet is a dog. I love it. Its name is Timmy. It likes to eat meat. My pet is good. It likes to drink milk. It is brown.



**Therunee Karunaratne**  
(6 years)  
Musaeus College

## Relaxing in the evening



**Barathi Bahavan (Grade 3)**  
Alethea International School, Dehiwala

## Beauty of the jungle



**Sachini Jayasooriya**  
(8 years)  
Musaeus College

## My favourite chocolate

My favourite chocolate is Mars chocolate. I like it very much. My father bought three boxes of chocolate from England. After lunch everyday, I eat a Mars chocolate. Sometimes I eat Mars ice-cream as a dessert too.

I give my friends lots of chocolates when they come to my house. I store the chocolate in a cool place because it could melt. I like this chocolate because it tastes so good.

**Hassan Jauber (12 years)**  
Amal International School

## The beach



**Ishani Dissanayake (Grade 6)**  
Ananda Ballika M.V., Kotte

## My garden



**Abhiru Dissanayake (Grade 3)**  
Ananda Shasthralaya, Kotte

## A Poem for the Week

Create your own little poem and send it in to us. This competition is open to age groups from 4 – 14 years. The poems will be judged according to the age of the competitor.

**Please remember that the poems you send should be your own original composition and not copied from anyone or anywhere.** Entries should be in your own handwriting and clearly certified as your own creation by a teacher or parent.

**Word limit: 100 words**  
**Please write 'A POEM FOR THE WEEK' at the top of your entry. The winner will receive a book voucher for Rs. 500.**

## The 'Sweet' Fight

The sweets were having a long squabble,  
Who was the best? That was the problem.

"I'm the prettiest of the lot!"  
said the strawberry lollipop.  
"You!" snorted caramel toffee.  
"You look more like a mop  
to me."

"I'm not pretty,  
but I'm tasty."  
Said the chocolate  
Who was not very friendly.

"You are too expensive,  
but we are nice and cheap."  
Squeaked the chocolate drops,  
Who thought themselves sweet.

The sweets were busy fighting,  
No one noticed the fridge opening.  
The kid of course took the best,  
And THEN the sweets knew  
who was finest!

**Githmi Wijenarayana**  
(11 years)  
Southlands College,  
Galle