

Bamboozle Mystery



Senara Hirudini
Mallawaarachchi

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Author's Other Publications

1. Fish All Around Us
2. Fly High Little Birdy
3. Animal Information
4. Natural Disasters
5. Water's Journey
6. Solar System Poem Wisdom
7. Poems Around the World
8. Mary and Sungold Catch Criminals
9. Bamboozle Mystery
10. Talking Guitar
11. A Search for Blue Whales
12. Harry and Jen
13. Lucy's Pet
14. The Amazing Child

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Foreword

In an increasingly complex global future, the "Hemamala Upahara" book project, led by Mahamaya Girls' College, stands as a turning point in girls' education. Over a decade, it has successfully nurtured thousands of children to become young authors.

This year, by collaborating with other schools, we aimed to provide students with a wealth of new experiences. The goal was to develop multi-faceted skills, including communication, values, and creative growth. As a result, children have written books that pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic—the supreme symbol of the Buddhist world—to the Hill Country (Kandy).

I extend my gratitude to everyone involved, including the students who contributed their creativity and the teachers who guided them.

Shashikala Senadhira

Principal

Mahamaya Girls' College

Congratulatory Message

It is a great honor for me, as the Governor of the Central Province, to send a congratulatory message for the launch of the books created through the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project initiated by Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy.

Education is the fundamental foundation for the progress of society, and it is further strengthened through books and literary creations. It is clearly commendable that students' talents, creativity, and intellectual abilities are emerging through projects such as this.

I believe that this book creation project will provide valuable knowledge and a precious literary contribution not only to the students but to the entire society. Furthermore, I hope that through such efforts, future writers who will bring pride to Sri Lanka will emerge.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation and blessings to the Principal, the academic staff, the students, and everyone involved who dedicated themselves to this successful endeavor. I wish this project and the book launch ceremony great success.

Sarath B.S. Abeykoon

Governor, Central Province

Emeritus Professor, University of Peradeniya

2026-05-10

Congratulatory Message

I highly appreciate the noble and outstanding effort of the Principal and the academic staff of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, the student daughters, the students of other participating schools, and everyone who dedicated themselves to plan and implement this book publication project. The project was organized under the leadership of Mahamaya Girls' College, Kandy, with the participation of other schools in the Kandy Zone, with the aim of encouraging children toward book creation within the current school system, as a tribute to Hemamala Kumariya who brought the Sacred Tooth Relic to Sri Lanka.

For several decades, Sri Lanka has been committed to providing free, compulsory, quality, and equitable education to all children, thereby producing a future generation of intelligent and skilled citizens. In such a context, this book creation program for school children helps develop creative ability, critical thinking, and other positive qualities for a balanced and well-rounded personality, and contributes to building a future knowledge-based society.

May all activities of the Hemamala Tribute Book Creation Project be successful through the blessings of the Sacred Tooth Relic.

Pradeep Nilanga Dela

Diyawadana Nilame,

Sri Dalada Maligawa.

2026.05.10.

"Hey, everyone!" shouted Bethy. "Whatever's the matter with you?" asked Jane. "There has been a robbery. My mothers' jewellery has been stolen," replied Bethy.

"Let's go and investigate," cried Alice.

So they all went to Bethy's house. And what a shock they got. Windows everywhere were open. All the doors were open too. Footprints were all over the garden. Hand marks were all over the walls.

"How can we solve this mystery without knowing what the real clues are?" asked Jane.

"We search for little clues," answered Alice, grinning.

"What a great idea," said Bethy, her face glowing with excitement.

Bethy was never one to be sad for too long.

They started investigating and searching for little clues. "I think we should see which window has a scratch or an other little clue. Because if the doors and windows were locked the thief must have prised a window open. First of all let's check all around to see if the thief is still here hiding," whispered Bethy.

They all started searching. Bethy and Jane searched for the thief while Alice looked at the windows. Bethy and Jane came back after a very thorough search for thief. "No thief," said Jane. "Any luck with the windows?" "Yes, this window has a scratch where it has been prised open, so the thief had come through here."

Next they searched for other clues but couldn't find any. That's when..."

They heard Alice shouting. "What is it Alice?" asked Jane and Bethy together. "We could draw these footprints and handprints in our notebooks and then we can search for someone who has those shoes and

handprints. But that is bit too hard. Yet look at that. The thief had carelessly stepped on a muddy puddle when he was tricking us by putting footprints all over. And if he had time to trick us he must live nearby. So if we follow the muddy footprints we will catch the thief," said Alice.

Whizz-bang idea Alice," said Jane clapping her on the back.

"Yes good idea Alice!" said Bethy smiling.

So they followed the muddy footprints and they saw a man. Jane and Bethy hid behind a bushes while Alice went to call the police. The police quickly came and searched everywhere in the cottage for the jewellery they found them and arrested the thief after he gave his guilty confession.

"What a bamboozle mystery!" exclaimed Bethy. Jane and Alice both agreed.

Afterword



With the approval of the Ministry of Education, this research-based project has empowered thousands of student authors for over ten years. Educationists recognize it as a program that significantly enhances the quality of school education.

In alignment with modern educational reforms, encouraging students to author a research work is a milestone in this journey. In this digital age of "Smart" technology, the modern school must demonstrate through research that books and technology should be used together. This is because the unique joy a child receives from a book cannot be replaced by anything else.

To prevent children from drifting away from books—which remain our primary educational tool and storehouse of human knowledge—Mahamaya Girls' College has spearheaded the "Hemamala Upahara" project for many years. Its primary objectives are to foster academic discipline, promote values, and pay tribute to Princess Hemamala, who fulfilled a historic mission to empower women.

We express our gratitude to the Principal, teachers, parents, alumni of Mahamaya Girls' College, representatives of other schools, the Diyawadana Nilame, and the staff of the Sri Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic) for their support.

Seneviratne Mahalekam

(Project Creator)

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