

NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL MATHROVER ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

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IN THIS ISSUE:

Introduction

pg. 1

A Summer Well Spent

WRITTEN BY MIA

pg. 2 - 3

The Spooky Chronicles

WRITTEN BY GLADYS

pg. 4 - 5

My Trip To The Ostrich Farm

WRITTEN BY CHLOE

pg. 6 - 7

Fun Math Questions

pg.7

Welcome back to the third issue of the MathRover English newsletter! This month, we've decided to include some fun math questions at the end, so make sure to check those out for the chance to win a prize! The writers for this month's release are Mia, Gladys and Chloe, and the newsletter itself was designed by Adila. We hope you enjoy!

Another year of quarantine has gone by, and before I knew it, it was June the 28th! At the beginning of summer, my family and I went on a three-day camping excursion. It was actually on that trip that I learned of news that changed my summer break. And now, I can't remember a time without it!

What exactly is this news, Mia?

Well, I'm talking about volunteering!

A Summer Well Spent

Written by Mia

In this particular case, my mom had played a recording of a Harvard acceptee while we were attempting to pack up our things and go to sleep. I distinctly remember a single part of this video: when the university student talked about how volunteering made such a big impact on her.

Perhaps that's when I started feeling curious. I had arranged a meeting with Global Youth Philanthropy, a non-profit organization aimed at youth growth and guidance. From that day on, I became busy with meetings with the other volunteers, preparing materials, and much more. The teachers and founders replied quickly to any questions or thoughts I had, and there was never a moment where I felt overwhelmed.

There were two programs I signed up for: the Reading Program and the Global Ambassadors Program. The Reading Program — which required me to read and teach English to kids — needed a lesson every week and slideshows to be prepared every so often. On the other hand, the Ambassadors — which led us to explore the areas of marketing and promoting — had me create social media posters about philanthropy and GYP.

A Summer Well Spent

Continued . . .



Hello, I am Mia Liu and I am in grade 7. I enjoy reading, writing, and composing!

The summer of 2021 came to an abrupt end, with school starting almost immediately. But I will never forget the memories I created during my time volunteering; all the skills and friends I made from countries all around the world. I was very lucky to have met all of them

I volunteered because I felt curious, and my instinct was right — it was a lovely experience, and I would do it again in a heartbeat. Would you?

The Spooky Chronicles

Written by Gladys

It's the month of October — almost the time of the year that everyone has been looking forward to: Halloween! On October 31st, there are special activities such as putting up scary decorations, trick-or-treating with friends, dressing up in fun costumes, and eating unfathomable amounts of candy. There is so much to be anticipated and freaked about, but have you ever thought of how this spooky holiday really started?

Halloween actually originates from a Celtic festival of Samhain. 2000 years ago, a large population called the Celts lived in Ireland, the United Kingdom and north of France. They celebrated their New Year on November 1st. They believed that on this day,

summer officially ended and the cold winter days would begin. Winter was associated with death. Therefore on the last day of October, the boundary of life and death would open, and they celebrated to welcome the ghosts to Earth. To commemorate, the Celts lit big bonfires and put out food for the ghosts. Similar to the present, they would wear costumes, however back then, they were made of animal parts.

When the Romans took over the Celt's land prior to 43 A.D., they noticed that they celebrated similar festivals and combined their traditions. One of the many traditions of Halloween originated from the Romans. On October 2nd, they honoured the goddess of fruits and trees, who was symbolized by an apple. This led to the creation of apple bobbing.

The Spooky Chronicles

Continued . . .

The European and American's customs combined into what we now know as Halloween. In the 1800s, they began hosting "play parties" to celebrate the harvest. The neighbourhood would gather around to tell stories, read fortunes, dance and sing.

Halloween is approaching and by participating, you can experience the unique and special traditions of the festival. Remember to dress up and have fun.

Have a spooktacular Halloween!

The Name of Halloween

Pope Gregory III decided to celebrate all saints on November 1; therefore, it was named the "All Saints Day". The day was also known as "All Hallows Day". The night before, October 31st, became "All Hallows Eve" and then shortened to the current name, "Halloween".

Jack-o'-lanterns

The popular tradition of carving pumpkins originated from Ireland. At first, people carved faces on turnips or potatoes to scare away the soul of a man named Jack and shine light for the good spirit to come. Then pumpkins became the replacement because they were easier to carve.



Hi, I'm Gladys Wang and I'm in grade 9. I love to listen to music, play badminton, and watch movies and shows!

My Trip to the Ostrich Farm

Written by Chloe

On September 4th, my family and I went to Ostrich Land. We got there a little early, so we visited the small animal farm they had in the back. We walked over to the animal pen and I noticed a chicken was squeezing out. I briefly wondered if that was allowed, but forgot about it soon after. There were a total of 13 chickens, 2 goats, and 2 alpacas. There was a pen for bunnies too. At first, I didn't see any, but then I noticed that they were hiding under the sleeping houses. A little while later, we took the ostrich tour! Our tour guide showed us what the ostriches like to eat. He even let us go in and feed them. I didn't go though, because I didn't want to get pecked. I learned a lot of interesting things about ostriches; for instance, they grow one centimeter every day! The tallest ostriches there were only 2 years old! Our tour guide said that they only keep some ostriches that are 2 years or older. The other older ostriches get slaughtered and butchered.

Ostriches don't mind the cold and they like to play in the snow. The workers keep the eggs and baby ostriches warm with electrical heaters. Ostriches lay eggs every other day. There was an ostrich that broke its wing and had a bone sticking out, but later it was laying eggs! Also, did you know the difference between an ostrich and an emu is that an emu has three toes, and an ostrich has two?

They had a little gift shop, and my parents bought ostrich oil. They said it was a very expensive painkiller. They also had an outdoor restaurant that sold ostrich eggs and ostrich meat. The ostrich meat is \$90 a pound, and just one ostrich egg is \$75! After that, our trip ended, but I learned a lot and had lots of fun!



Hello! My name is Chloe Xu and I am in grade 5. I like to play video games, read books, and play violin. In my spare time, I watch cartoons and draw/edit on my tablet.

Fun Math Questions!

First question: Gr. 7 - Gr. 12

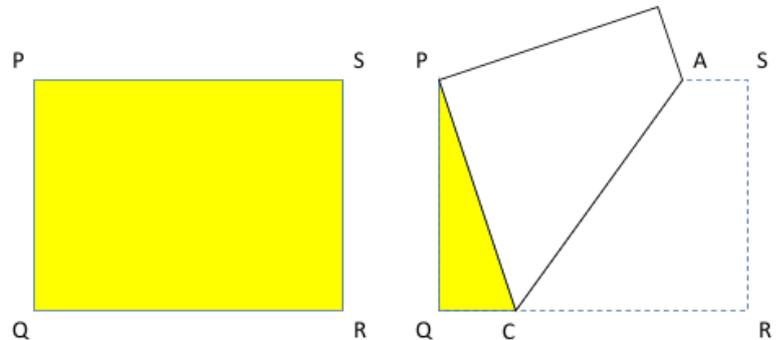
Second Question: Gr. 1 - Gr. 6

Fold Once

A rectangular piece of paper, PQRS, has $PQ = 30$ cm and $PS = 40$ cm. The paper has YELLOW color on one side and is plain white on the other.

The paper is folded so that the two diagonally opposite corners P and R coincide. This creates a crease along line segment AC, with A on PS and C on QR.

Determine the length of AC



Fill in appropriate numbers in the circles so that sum of the numbers on each side equal to 21.

The first three students to send the correct answer to info@mathrover.com will receive a prize!

