



FUN DAY TIMES



Jumping for joy

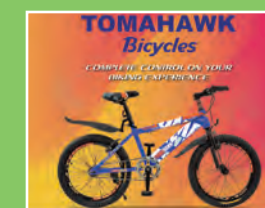
Pic. by Nisal Baduge



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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 (except Reeves Art) are accepted by email.

Please 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 No. 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 weekly competitions:

October 6, 2021

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Tales from the School Days (Under the Tamarind Tree)

Tales from the School Days (Under the Tamarind Tree) retells interesting stories related by three school friends who made it a habit to meet at their favourite spot under the Tamarind tree at school.

This is the latest book authored by former Assistant Principal (Primary) of Royal College, Colombo, Mr. Heras Fernando who has authored several books including educational, fiction and true stories for school children.



Hey kids,

Here's your chance to win a copy of 'Tales from the School Days' (Under the Tamarind Tree)!

Send in your essays along with your full details, to Funday Times.

Topic : A happy or interesting school day memory

Age Groups : 8 - 11 years / 12 - 15 years

Word Count : 200 words



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Address: No. 8, Hunupitiya Cross Road, Colombo 2.

NOTE

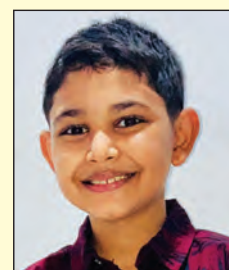
Please log on to the Funday Times website on www.fundaytimes.lk

or check out the

Sunday Times epaper on

www.sundaytimes.lk

for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.



Adnan Irshad
9 years on September 22



Read-a-Book and win a voucher from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop

Read any book of your choice and write briefly about it.

What we want is not just a summary of the story but your views on the book.

The best account in the three age groups will be awarded book vouchers of Rs. 500 each from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop. Three winners will be selected each month.

Your account should not exceed 200 words.

Please indicate word count.

Please fill in the coupon and attach it to your entry.



Read-a-Book Competition

Name :

Date of birth :

Address :

School:

Tel:

Finished book on :



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 report or interview not exceeding 300 words. Photographs or illustrations would enhance the report.



Young Reporters Coupon

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Telephone:

School:

Parent's approval: **Date:**

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



Or



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From a Young Reporter

An Interview with a Retired Pilot

Captain Lalith Wijetunge is a former Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) pilot (1978 – 1988) who served Air Lanka for 17 years. He is a past Trinitian who hails from Kandy and served as Captain in both the Kingfisher (2007 – 2008) and Mihin (2009 – 2015) Airlines. Aircraft he flew include the Lockheed Tristar, Airbuses 340, 330, 320, 319 and 321. Here is a short interview on his lifetime career.

Q: *What sparked your interest in aviation?*

A: Growing up, I'd seen aircraft only in the sky but never been inside. One of my uncles had served in World War II as a navigator. This created somewhat of an interest. As things had changed I went in to fly but not as a navigator.

Q: *Could you describe your most unforgettable flying experience?*

A: I was in the Air Force during the * Vadamarachchi operation. The Palaly airfield was considered safer to land despite plenty of enemy fire. The right-hand side engine caught fire. The left-hand engine, though damaged, was partially working. We just managed to make it. The whole aircraft was damaged, except the ** flight deck where I was flying with my co-pilot!

Q: *What was your highlight achievement?*

A: Becoming a Captain.

Q: *What was the most difficult decision you made as a pilot?*

A: Flying the Airbus 340 out of London with a full load of fuel and passengers, there was a technical failure during the climb. This limited the flight level to 20,000 feet. We wouldn't reach Colombo alongside the excessive fuel combustion. I had to *** dump the fuel and land in London for repairs, regardless the cost, as no spares were available en-route.

Q: *Have there been pitfalls in your way? Are you pleased with your career choice?*

A: There were several pitfalls but nothing serious. Yes, I'm pleased!



Lalith in the Air Force (standing 4th from left)



Q: *In your opinion, what defines a professional pilot?*

A: Being a pilot trained to handle an Airliner – ability, expertise and dedication are everything.

- * The military offensive carried out by the Sri Lankan military during May to June 1987, to regain the territory of Vadamarachchi in Jaffna peninsula from LTTE control.
- ** Cockpit area
- *** A procedure used by aircraft in certain emergency situations to reduce the aircraft's weight.

**Priscilla Rambukkange
(15 years)
Hillwood College, Kandy**

Tomahawk

Quiz
No.187

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 187 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of August 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2021. All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard. Cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 187' seen at the top of this page and paste it on your postcard. Please get your entries certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

Two lucky winners

will receive brand new

Tomahawk Mountain Bikes

with the compliments of

Tomahawk Bicycle Mall

All Funday Times readers between 8 – 15 years are eligible to participate.

(Those who have already won a bicycle are not eligible to participate.)

Closing Date: September 30, 2021



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QUESTIONS — QUIZ NO. 187

1. What is the production and emission of light by a living organism called?
2. Name two groups of Indigenous Peoples who live in North America.
3. Which king first built the Dalada Madura that can be seen in Kandy today?
4. What is the Summer Paralympics and in which year did Sri Lanka first compete?
5. State how to differentiate between a maze and a labyrinth.



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4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Match the stars of the same colour.



We regret that we are unable to announce winners this week since we are working from home. Stay safe.



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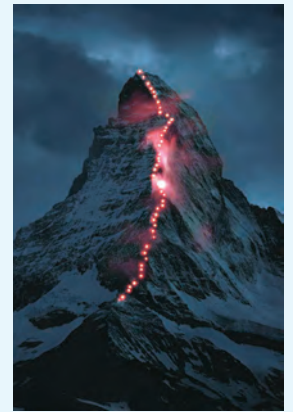
Matterhorn

The Matterhorn is one of the most recognized peaks that make up the Alps. It straddles two countries, Switzerland and Italy. This mountain is the result of the collision of two pieces of the earth's crust, the African Plate and the European Plate.

It is also the tenth highest mountain in Switzerland at a height of 4,478 metres. The pyramid shaped colossus of a mountain, which is very difficult to climb, is said to be the most-photographed mountain in the world.

This mountain's name is German, where Matte means "meadow" and horn means "peak". In Italian, it is called Monte Cervino and in French, Mont Cervin. All four faces of the pyramidal-shaped mountain face the four cardinal directions East, West, North and South.

The Matterhorn is part of the Swiss Federal Inventory of Natural Monuments since 1983.



Matterhorn lit up

- It is estimated that over 500 alpinists have died on the Matterhorn since the first climb in 1865, making it one of the deadliest peaks in the world.
- In 2015, the route of the first explorers to ever conquer the Swiss Matterhorn has been lit up to mark 150 years since their climb. Lamps have been positioned along the historic route taken by Edward Whymper and his roped team when they scaled the iconic mountain.
- The world's largest snow igloo was built at the mountain's base.

Quick Facts

- The first ascent to the top of Mount Matterhorn was made by a team of seven members on July 14, 1865. They made their ascent from the Swiss side.
- During the descent, four of the seven climbers fell to their deaths.



A climber falling on the 1865 Edward Whymper Matterhorn expedition

The remaining three men were saved because the rope linking all of them broke.

- Just three days later, another team completed the ascent through the Lion Ridge from Italy.
- On July 22, 1871, Lucy Walker became the first woman ever to reach the top of the mountain.
- Ulrich Inderbinen was the oldest mountaineer to have climbed the mountain. He was 89 years old at that time.
- On August 20, 1992 Italian alpinist Hans Kammerlander and Swiss alpine guide Diego Wellig

climbed all four Matterhorn ridges in just 23 hours and 26 minutes.

- In total, up to 150 climbers attempt the Matterhorn each day during summer.
- Around 3,000 people climb the Matterhorn every year.

It measures 42 feet in diameter inside.

The Guinness Book of World Records confirmed it as the largest in 2016, after construction was completed.



Largest dome igloo made of snow

- The triangular shape of the Matterhorn in the Swiss Alps is commonly believed to have given Theodor Tobler his inspiration for the shape of Toblerone.

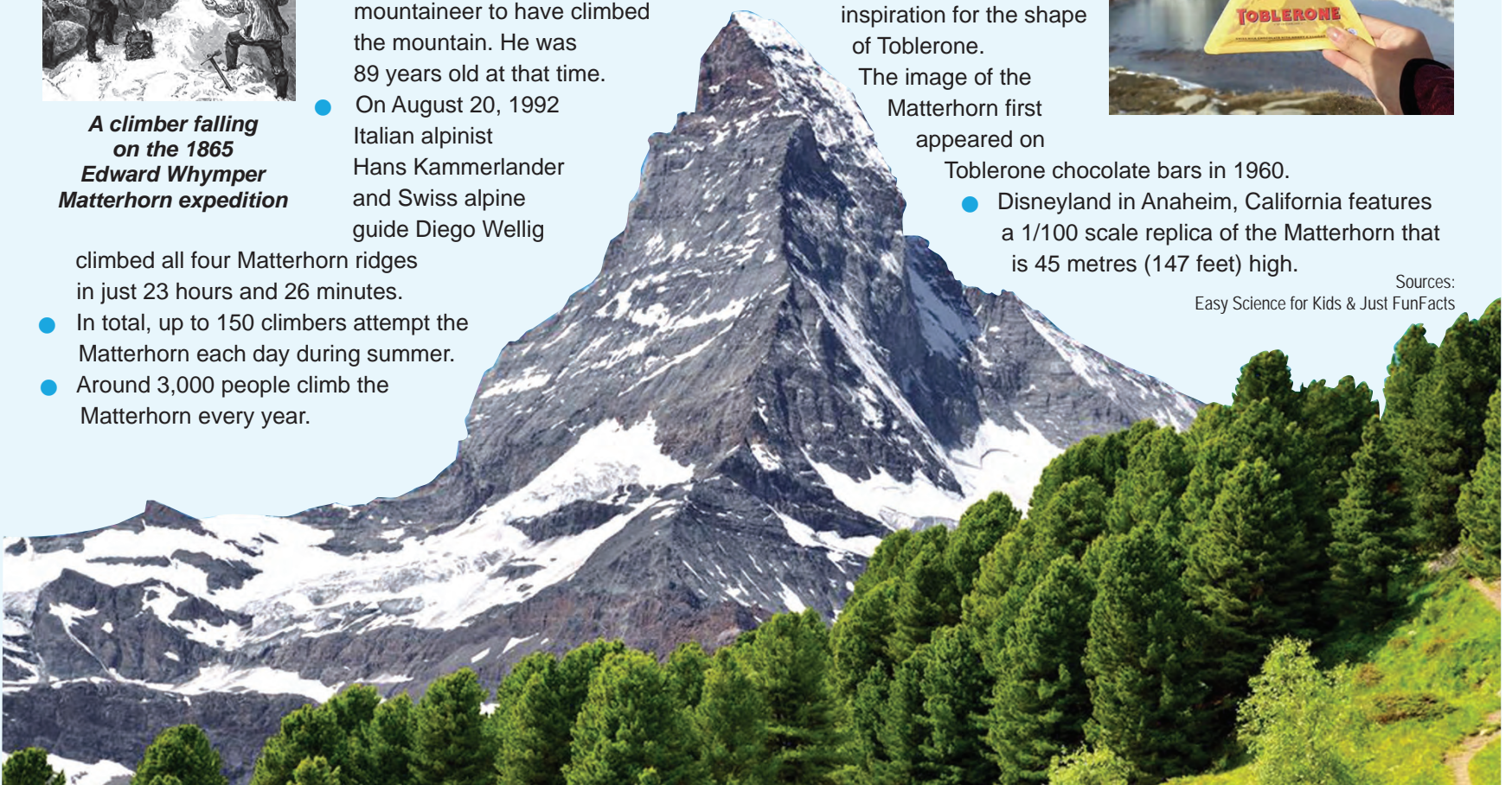
The image of the Matterhorn first appeared on

Toblerone chocolate bars in 1960.

- Disneyland in Anaheim, California features a 1/100 scale replica of the Matterhorn that is 45 metres (147 feet) high.



Sources:
Easy Science for Kids & Just FunFacts



September 14

News in Pictures



East Sussex, England

A Winnie the Pooh inspired house in the Ashdown Forest which is available to book on Airbnb as part of Disney's 95th Anniversary celebrations of the children's character.



Cairo, Egypt

Visitors with umbrellas shelter from the sun while viewing the step pyramid of Pharaoh Djoser of the third dynasty at the Saqqara Necropolis.

Kyzylorda region, Kazakhstan

A Soyuz-2.1b rocket booster with a Fregat upper stage blasts off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome to deliver into orbit OneWeb Satellites as part of a project designed to provide high speed internet access all over the world.



Seoul, South Korea

Members of BTS, a popular South Korean boyband, attend a ceremony to mark their appointment as the special presidential envoy for future generations and culture.



Amritsar, India

One of the Punjab police force's Shakti teams – all-female squads formed with the aim of tackling crime against women – attend a launch ceremony.

September 13



Las Vegas, USA

People float during a zero gravity flight in a modified Boeing 727 plane which flies multiple parabolic arcs to provide 20 – 30 seconds of weightlessness.

Lake Titicaca, Peru

Health workers accompanied by inter-cultural manager Rita Subana on a visit to offer COVID jabs to vulnerable people on the floating islands of Uros.



Gazipur, Bangladesh

Students leave school via a bamboo bridge after the area was hit by floods.



South Sulawesi, Indonesia

A woman crosses a river balancing on the remains of a bridge swept away during flooding the previous year, at Malela village.

Source: The Guardian

September 14

Space travel: When can I go to space?

It's an exciting time for space travel and exploration. We've seen some pretty big missions this year, with Sir. Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic flight to the edge of space and former Amazon boss and billionaire Jeff Bezos' epic trip in the New Shepard rocket ship.

There are several upcoming missions on the horizon too, with SpaceX's Inspiration4 flight – which will be the very first all civilian mission to launch into orbit – due to take off later in September. The dearMoon project, which will see Japanese billionaire Yusaku Maezawa take eight people into space on an epic six-day tour, could take place as early as 2023. And a company called Space Perspective is offering six-hour long flights to space in a pressurised capsule for a cool £90,000!

"The capsule is gently lifted into the air under a space balloon, powered by hydrogen gas, which is 18,000,000 cubic feet in volume when fully expanded as it reaches space," said Jane Poynter who is the founder and Co-CEO of Space Perspective. "This means if a football stadium could fly, it would be able to float around inside the fully inflated space balloon."

History of space travel

Human beings have been captivated by the idea of space for a long time and lots has been done over the years not only to get people there, but to also work out whether they can survive in space's unique conditions.

In October 1957, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) successfully launched the first artificial satellite, called Sputnik 1, into space during the Cold War. It marked the beginning of what became famously known as the 'space race', which was a contest between the United States of America and the Soviet Union to see which country could make the greatest advancements in the world of space exploration.

In November of that same year, the USSR successfully launched another spacecraft. It was called Sputnik 2 and this time, there was a very special guest on board – a dog

called Laika!

The launch of Sputnik 2 was bad news for the Americans who were keen to catch up. They'd previously made two unsuccessful attempts to launch a satellite into space, but finally saw a breakthrough in January 1958 when they launched a rocket carrying a satellite called Explorer.



Yuri Gagarin was the first person to ever travel to space in the 1960s

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which is more commonly known as NASA, was created later that year.

However, the Russians remained one step ahead. In April 1961, cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first person ever to travel to space.

American astronaut Alan Shepard completed the same feat the following month



Astronauts have to undergo lots of training to prepare for life in space.

and in 1969, the US managed to successfully send the first astronauts to the Moon, with Neil Armstrong becoming the first human to set foot on its surface.

Fast forward to the present day and it is clear that advancements in space travel have come a very long way!

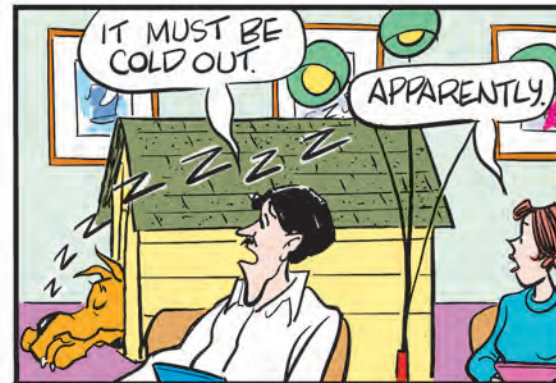
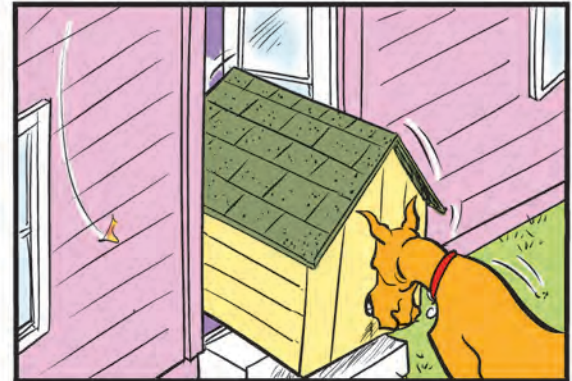
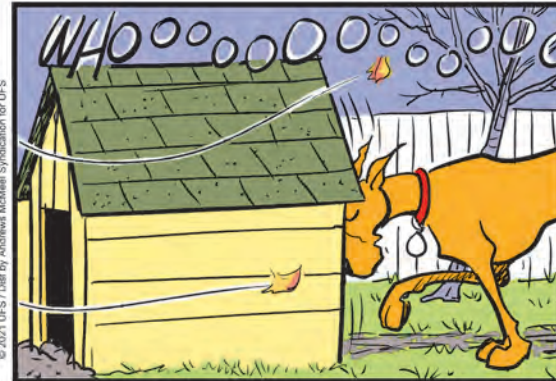
There are currently a number of astronauts and cosmonauts living on the International Space Station (ISS) which has been in orbit since 1998.

Last June, two NASA astronauts made history after they successfully made it to the ISS on a SpaceX rocket owned by billionaire businessman, Elon Musk.

There are also plans for NASA to send astronauts back to the Moon within the next decade, although it will no longer be as early as 2024 which was the original plan.

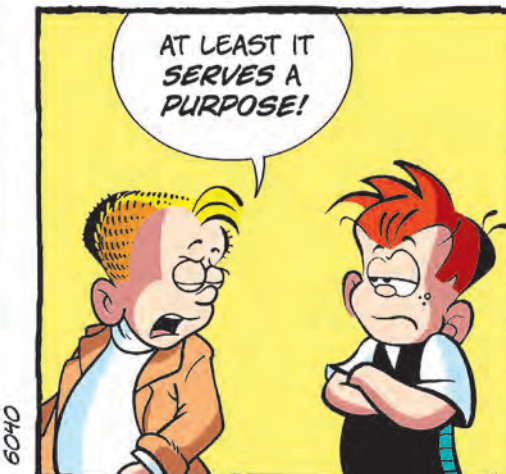


Former Amazon boss and billionaire Jeff Bezos travelled to the edge of space for the first time this year along with a small crew.



DOG GONE FUNNY PIONEER, CA
CATHY O'BRIEN HAS **TURBO**, A ROTTWEILER. IT DOESN'T MATTER **WHERE** CATHY IS - OUTSIDE, IN THE KITCHEN OR THE BATHROOM - IF THE PHONE STARTS **RINGING**, **TURBO** STANDS BY THE PHONE AND **HOWLS**. **TURBO** LIKES TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY **MUSIC**!

Ginger Meggs



Rugrats

