

# FUNDAY TIMES



**'Home for Christmas' at Hilton**

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

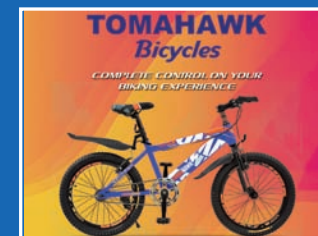
## WINNERS

### POETRY COMPETITION

PAGE 2



### EVENT PAGE 3



### COMPETITIONS

PAGE 4





**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:**

**December 29, 2021**

**Telephone: 2479337/2479333**

**Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com**

## BRITISH COUNCIL

**Age groups:**

**6 – 10 years**

**11 – 15 years**

**Word limit: 100 Words**

## Poetry Competition

This is your chance to get your poem published here.  
Entries should be in your handwriting and clearly  
certified by a teacher or parent as your own creation.  
Your poem should be posted to Funday Times with  
'Poetry Competition' written at the top of the entry.  
The winner of each age category will be awarded a  
British Council Young Learner's Library membership.

**Please note that copied poems  
will be disqualified.**

**6 – 10 years**

**Christmas**

Christmas is celebrated  
in December,  
And it's a month to remember,  
Snow falls on that day,  
Before all of us lay,  
We slide through the sides,  
And see Santa rides,  
Christmas bumps,  
Fireworks jumps,  
The tree-sized turkey is cooked,  
Christmas has much things to look.

**Omalya Senarathne  
Lyceum Int. School,  
Nugegoda**



**11 – 15 years**

**This disease made us freeze**

We talked and laughed,  
We hugged and pleased,  
We danced and yes!  
We snapped with a cheese!

Oww! But now!  
Actions changed,  
No one smiles,  
But hides the face!

"Don't touch me and 1 metre please!"  
"Don't cough and please don't sneeze!"  
"Having fever? Oh geez!"  
This disease made us freeze.

**Kavidhma Jayawardhana  
Gampola Int. School**

**Please write the date  
at the top of your entry.**



**Age: 10 – 12 years**

**Word Count: 150 – 200**

**Topic: How I plan to celebrate  
Christmas this year**

**Win: Christmas Wishes  
by Enid Blyton**

From Santa Claus  
going down the  
wrong chimney to a  
dog discovering the  
true joy of Christmas,  
these festive short  
stories by Enid Blyton  
are brimming with  
Christmas magic,  
wonder and wishes galore.



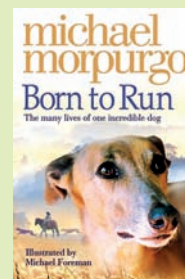
**Age: 13 – 15 years**

**Word Count: 200 – 250**

**Topic: An enjoyable Christmas event**

**Win: Born to Run by Michael Morpurgo**

For Best Mate, being  
rescued is only the start  
of his adventures.  
From unwanted burden  
to favourite companion,  
and from pet to champion  
race dog, this remarkable  
greyhound proves that it's  
not just cats who have more  
than one life. Cast aside, kidnapped,  
or living rough on the streets, Best Mate  
can always find a way to survive.  
But will he ever find a real home?



## Book Competition



**9 years and below**

How you enjoyed Children's Day  
this year

**Senuri Gunawardana  
Methodist College, Colombo 3**

**10 – 12 years**

Halloween

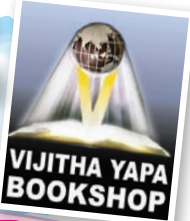
**Onithi Herath  
Royal Int. School,  
Kurunegala**

**13 – 15 years**

A UN Agency that you think  
is important

**Sandali Hapuarachchi  
Sangamitta B.V., Galle**

**Win super  
books  
from**



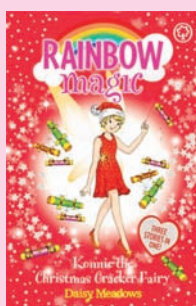
**Age: 9 years and below**

**Word Count: 150**

**Topic: A letter to Santa Claus**

**Win: Konnie the Christmas Cracker  
Fairy by Daisy Meadows**

Konnie the Christmas  
Cracker Fairy makes sure  
that everyone has fun  
at Christmas.  
But Jack Frost has stolen  
her three magical objects,  
and Christmas cheer  
everywhere is in danger.  
Can Kirsty and Rachel  
help Konnie find her  
three magical treasures?



**Write at the top of your Essay**

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic





## State Children's Art Festival and Exhibition

State Children's Art Festival and Exhibition 2021, was held at Nelum Pokuna Theatre in Colombo on December 1, 2021.



Pix by Akila Jayawardana



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

#### Read-a-Book for November

##### 9 years and below

Kaveen Gnanaweera

Bug Boy: Spider Camp by Jeanne Willis and Ben Mantler

##### 10 – 12 years

Nethmi Batuwita

Charlotte's Web by E. B. White

##### 13 – 15 years

Hajara Ashroff

Private Peaceful by Michael Morpugo



### Read-a-Book Competition

Name : .....

Date of birth : .....

Address : .....

School : .....

Tel : .....

Finished book on : .....



Winners of the Reeves Art Competition of 2020, who have not collected your prizes please call Funday Times on 2479333/2479337 and arrange to collect your prizes on Tuesdays or Wednesdays from our office.

Please log on to the Funday Times website on [www.fundaytimes.lk](http://www.fundaytimes.lk) or check out the Sunday Times epaper on [www.sundaytimes.lk](http://www.sundaytimes.lk) for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.





# Tomahawk

Quiz No.190

Questions for Tomahawk Quiz No. 190 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of November 7, 14, 21 and 28, 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. 190' 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: December 31, 2021

## Tomahawk Quiz No. 189

- ▶ Sashen De Silva, Colombo 5
- ▶ Angelina Muller, Nugegoda



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## QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 190

1. a) When is World Tsunami Awareness Day held?  
b) Name two natural defenses that help mitigate the impact of a tsunami on land.
2. Who produced the world's first permanent image and what was it named?
3. Give the scientific name for the tree which produces the beans that chocolate is made from. What is the literal meaning of this name?
4. Finding the best possible route between several points, is a well-known problem to mathematicians. What is this problem called?



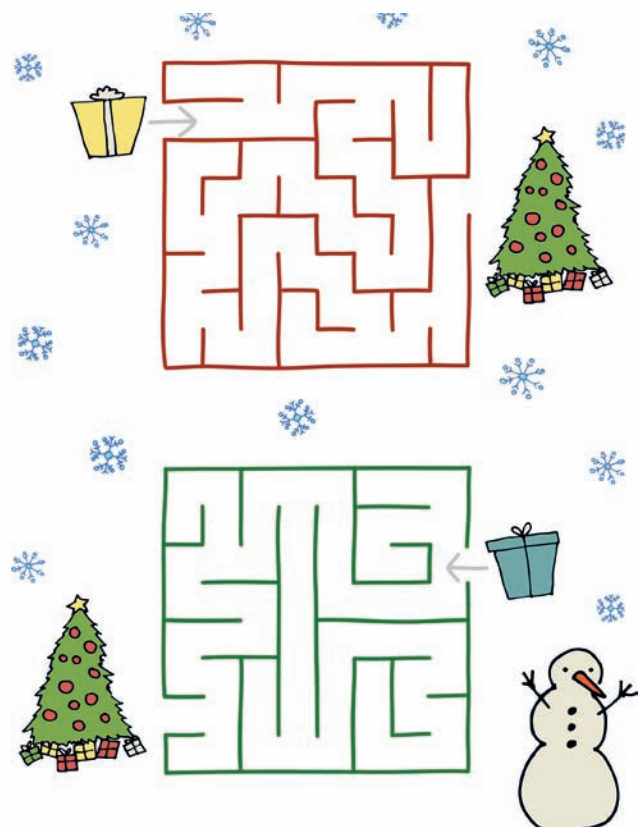
Or



[fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)

## 4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Deliver the presents to the Christmas tree.



Awakens A Child's Mind

Panther Educational Activities are specifically designed to assist brain development in a child. Available at all leading supermarkets and book shops.

[www.panther.lk](http://www.panther.lk) | [facebook.com/panther.toys/](https://facebook.com/panther.toys/) | +94 777 441 144

A lucky winner each week  
will win a 100 piece 'Santa' puzzle  
during the month of December.



Or



[fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)





# Jane Austen

*Jane Austen was an English author who wrote about the lives of the British upper class in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Her novels famously made fun at how people at the time expected women to behave. Today, she is one of the most popular authors in the English language.*

## Childhood

Jane was born on December 16, 1775 in the county of Hampshire, England. Both her father, George, and mother, Cassandra, came from fairly wealthy families. They provided Jane and her seven brothers and sisters with a home that encouraged creativity. Her father owned a large library, which Jane would often use for her studies.

From an early age, Jane began writing and putting on plays with her sister. Her father bought her expensive paper and quill pens to encourage her writing. In 1785, Jane was sent to boarding school, where she studied foreign languages, music and dance.

## Early writings

Between 1787 – 1793, Jane began collecting her own stories and plays in notebooks, now known as Jane's 'Juvenilia'. In these stories, Jane made fun of the writing styles popular at the time.

## Jane the Socialite

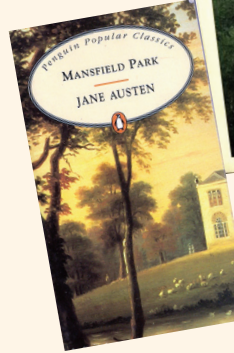
In her early twenties, Jane went to many dances and parties in Hampshire. She also travelled to social events in London and Southampton. These parties and events taught her about the lives of the upper class. These sorts of social events became a major focus of her writing. These events also taught Jane a lot about the role of women in society. The parties often seemed set-up mainly for men and women to pair up. Jane would go on to make fun of this idea in her novel 'Pride and Prejudice'.

## Jane gets published

Jane's first book, called 'Sense and Sensibility', was published in 1811. Only Jane's family knew she had written the book; instead of her name, the author was simply credited as 'a lady'.

Jane was very private about her work, but she didn't have her own space to write. She wrote in the living room and would hide her papers whenever the door creaked, letting her know someone was coming!

'Sense and Sensibility' earned Jane £140, which was a lot of money at the time. The Austens needed the money because Jane's father had died in 1805 and the inheritance didn't amount to much due to taxes.



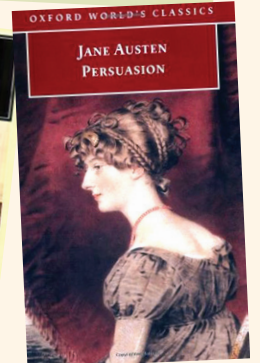
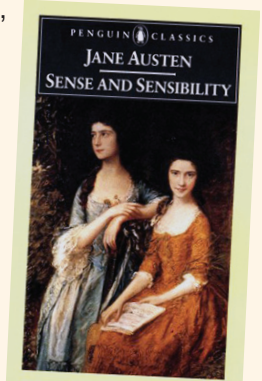
The money encouraged Jane to keep writing.

In 1813, she published the novel 'Pride and Prejudice', which she described as her "own darling child". 'Pride and Prejudice' is Jane's most famous book. The novel's funny and critical look at marriage and money still has a huge influence on romantic comedies over 200 years later.

The next year, Jane published 'Mansfield Park', which sold out in six months. In 1816, she published 'Emma', the final book published in her lifetime. In 1817, Jane became very ill. She tried to keep going to family events and writing, but eventually she had to abandon her work. She died on July 18, 1817 at age 41.

Jane Austen's books helped changed the way authors write novels. She rejected sensational stories for tales closer to real life. Her influence helped the Victorian writers who followed, to write important books about what it was like to live in those hard times.

Source: Great Women Biographies for Kids



*Jane Austen*





## December 7 *How you can be more sustainable this festive season*

*It's meant to be the season of peace and joy to all men, but Christmas can also mean lots of wasted food, discarded trees, and piles of plastic rubbish.*

*So what can you do to help turn your Christmas from something bad for the environment to a chance to help the planet?*

### Wrapping paper

There are so many options out there but whatever you pick, choose one that is easy to recycle.

Brown paper for example might not look as flash with all the glitz and bright colours but it's a good way to go for a more retro and grown-up vibe - and if you want, you can always decorate it yourself.



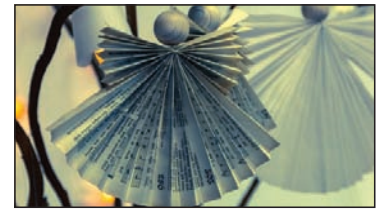
### Make your own decorations

Get creative!

If you are a potential baker, you can maybe make something like gingerbread decorations, whack on the icing and thread them through some string to hang on the tree. There's also the option of a popcorn garland!

You could also use simple white paper to make some snowflakes - there are loads of different patterns and shapes you can make by simply using a pair of scissors.

You can also make paper chains from old magazines or newspapers, and hang them around the house or on your tree. Or what about recycling old books into decorations, like baubles and angels?



### Ditch the plastic!

We know what you're thinking but yes that does include sticky tape!

Impossible you might be thinking, how can I wrap my gifts?

Well masking tape (check that it is plastic free)

is an alternative or even string that you can also reuse on other occasions.



### Gifts

When it comes to presents there are lots of homemade options.

Most toys are made from plastic and the production of these things has a really big and bad impact on the planet.

There are a lot of things made from wood including toys and jewellery.

Gifts you can eat are tasty, zero waste and really good for the planet!



### Christmas crackers

Christmas crackers are a really fun part of Christmas, but they are full of plastic - which usually gets thrown away.

This is really bad for the environment - so what can be done?

Paper hats, paper jokes and even the cardboard that make crackers are all recyclable - as long as they aren't shiny or glittery!



### Trees

Can a tree even get any greener? Yes it can!

Chopping trees down and just throwing them away after Christmas isn't that great for the environment.

But you can still enjoy a 'real' Christmas tree at home and be sustainable.

You can hire a tree with its roots in a pot and have it replanted after Christmas. Or you can buy your own Christmas tree in a pot and plant it in your garden and use it year after year!



### Give a gift that isn't physical

If you've ever received a gift like this, you will know they can be the most meaningful gifts of all.

Ask a friend what they would like most and arrange it for them.

It doesn't need to be big or expensive - they might be really happy going for a walk or bowling.

After all, the most valuable gift they could ever receive is your time and friendship.





**December 7**

## News in Pictures



**Malvern, UK**

Eliza Homer (right), four, enjoys the Winter Glow outdoor light trail at Three Counties showground in Malvern, UK.



**Tokyo, Japan**

Ayaka Oshita, 27, dives in a Santa costume in preparation for a three-day Christmas feeding performance at Sunshine Aquarium at Ikebukuro.

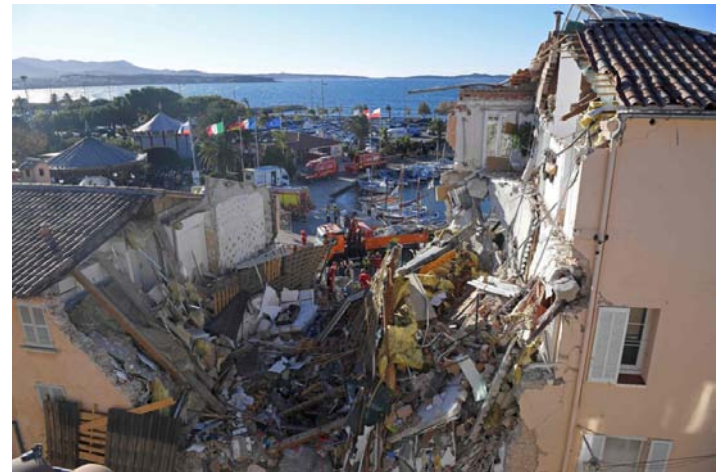


**Nawabad, Afghanistan**

Schoolgirls head home after class in the Qarabagh district, near the south-eastern city of Ghazni. Lessons have continued at their girls' secondary school since the Taliban's takeover.

**Beijing, China**

The Olympic flame safety lantern and torches are paraded during a flame exhibition tour in readiness for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics.



**Sanary-sur-Mer, France**

French firefighters search the rubble of a collapsed building for missing residents. Five people are thought to be trapped after a three-story block of flats collapsed overnight following an explosion that firefighters say may have been caused by gas.

**Bogura, Bangladesh**

A farmer packs cauliflowers for sale at the country's biggest wholesale vegetable market.



**Cape Canaveral, USA**

The United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket, with the space force's third space test program mission, STP-3, launches from Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral.



**Skjervoy, Norway**

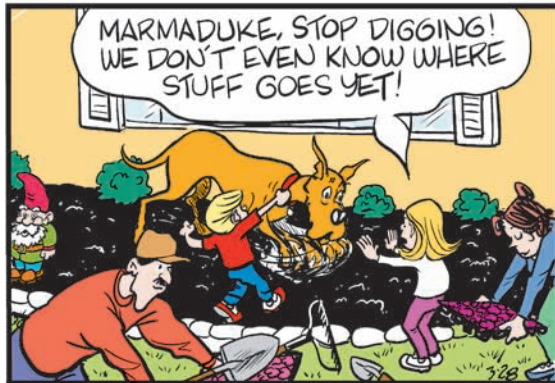
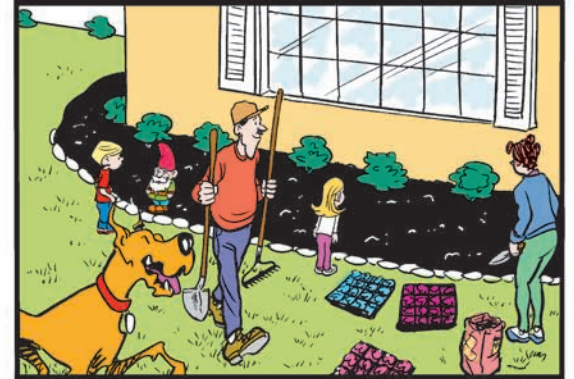
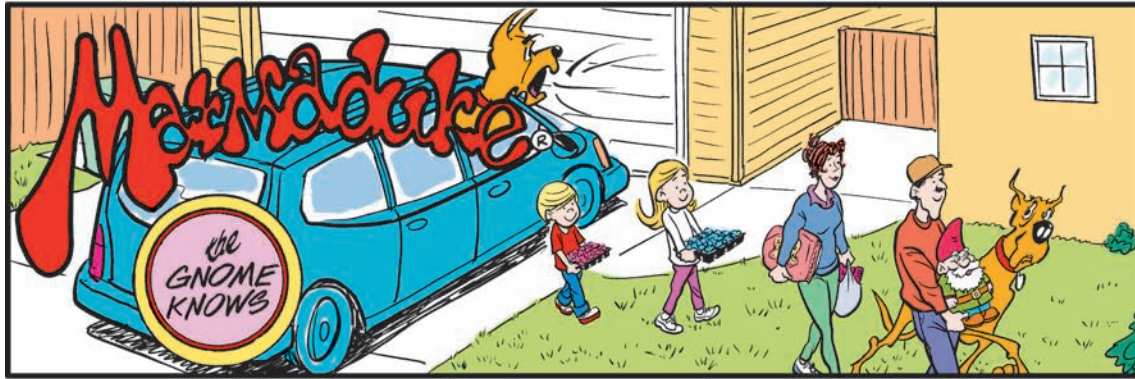
Tourists keep a lookout for orcas and humpback whales in a fjord. Between October and February the whales hunt Atlantic herring to build their stock of protein.



**Curah Roboan, Indonesia**

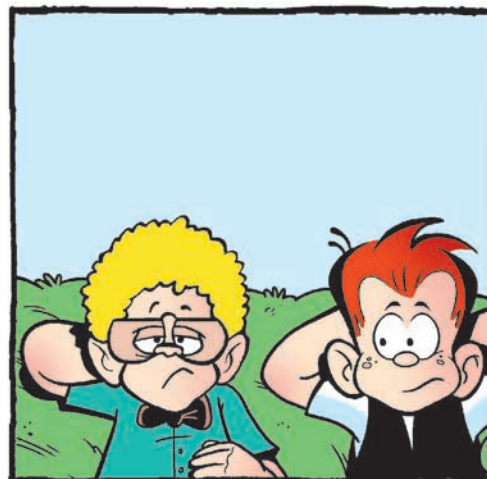
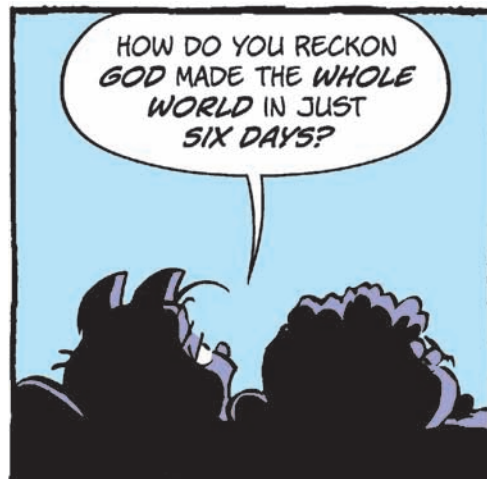
Local people evacuate their livestock as the Mount Semeru volcano continues to spew ash and smoke in the background.





**DOG GNOME FUNNY** LONGMONT, CO  
JANICE MCCALLISTER'S  
DAUGHTER, ERIN, BROUGHT  
HOME A WEIMARANER PUPPY,  
PENNY, TO JOIN HER  
GOLDENDOODLE, FINN. PUPPY  
PENNY WANTED TO PLAY  
AND BIT FINN'S TAIL.  
SO, FINN PICKED UP A TOY AND  
PUT IT IN PENNY'S MOUTH!

### Ginger Meggs



### Rugrats

