

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

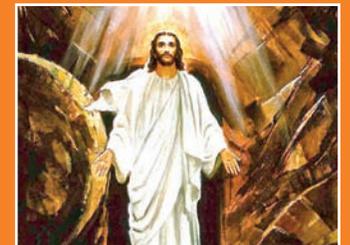
SUNDAY
APRIL 17, 2022



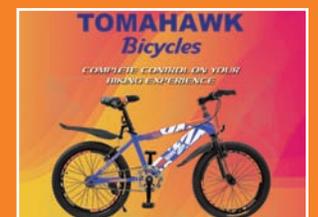
FUN DAY TIMES



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Fun Avurudu Games

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

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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:

May 4, 2022

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Photographs of members and non-members between 4 - 15 years, for the birthday page, should reach us at least ten days before the birthday, along with a letter from a parent giving full details.

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.



Avurudu Festival

Avurudu celebrations held at Little Angels AMI Montessori, Nugegoda

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara





EASTER

By Cecilia Hewavitharana

Easter is the celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and is the most important event in the Christian calendar (despite Christmas getting more attention worldwide).

According to the Bible, Jesus was crucified on a Friday (now commemorated as Good Friday) and rose from the dead, on Easter Sunday.

When is Easter?

Easter is the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, which is the first full moon on or after March 21 (an approximation of the calendrical spring equinox). Therefore, Easter always falls between March 22 and April 25.

The Easter Fox

In some countries (or parts of them), such as Westphalia, Germany, the eggs are said to be brought by a fox, not a bunny as in most of the world.



What is Passover and how is it related to Easter?

In many languages, the word for Easter is derived from the Hebrew word for Passover, "Pesach".

Passover is the commemoration of the liberation of the Israelites by Moses, from the Egyptians, which is told in the Old Testament of the Bible.

Jesus was crucified during Passover, which is why Easter is named after it. Jesus' liberation of mankind through his death (in the New Testament) and the liberation of the Israelites (in the Old Testament) are also often paralleled.



Fabergé Eggs

Fabergé eggs are ornate, jewelled eggs containing a surprise inside, created by the House of Fabergé.

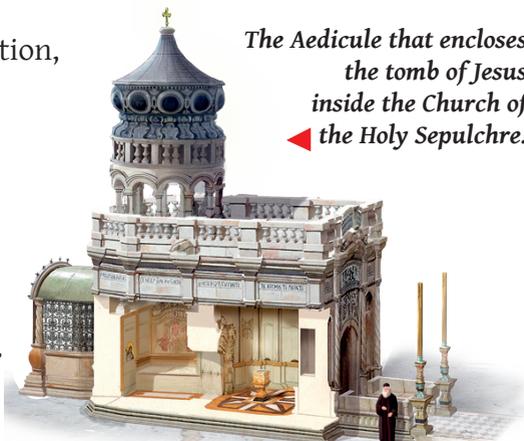


Peter Carl Fabergé was first commissioned in 1885 by Alexander III, the Tsar of Russia, to create such an egg as an Easter gift for his wife.

Church of the Holy Sepulchre



According to tradition, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem houses the two holiest sites in Christianity: the site where Jesus was crucified and the site of Jesus' empty tomb.



The Aedicule that encloses the tomb of Jesus inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Notable incidents on Easter Sunday

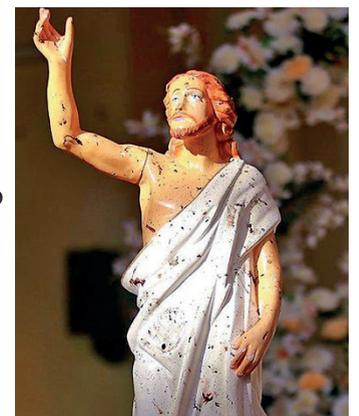
Easter Sunday Raid 1942

Eighty years ago on April 5, during World War II, the Japanese Navy conducted an air attack on Colombo, aiming to destroy the British Eastern Fleet. A similar attack targeted Trincomalee a few days later.

Easter Sunday Attacks 2019

On the morning of April 21, 2019, coordinated bombings took place in seven locations across Sri Lanka, including three churches (St. Sebastian's Church – Katuwapitiya, St. Anthony's Church – Kochchikade, Zion Church – Batticaloa) and three luxury hotels in Colombo (Shangri-La, Cinnamon Grand and The Kingsbury).

The attacks claimed the lives of 269 people and injured over 500 others.



Statue at St. Sebastian's Church stained with the blood of the victims of the bombing.



Tomahawk

Quiz No. 194

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 194 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of March 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2022.

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. 193' 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.)

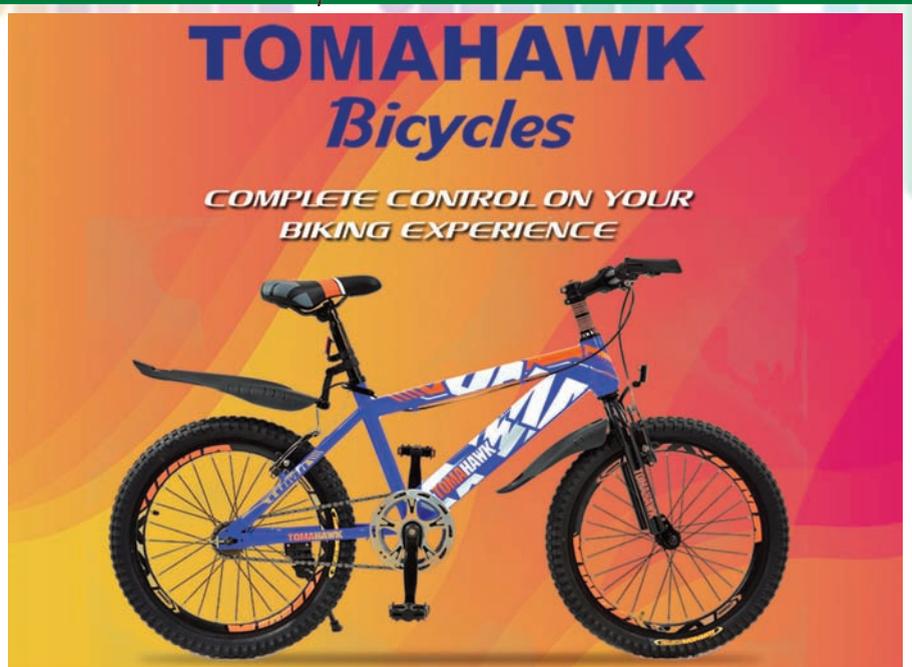
Closing Date: April 30, 2022



Or



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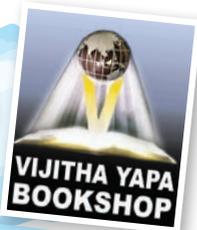


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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 194

1. Name two of Alexander Graham Bell's most famous inventions.
2. In which country is the Giant's Causeway situated and what type of rock are its columns made of?
3. What is the theme for World Water Day 2022?
4. Who is the current president of Ukraine?
5. Name the French mathematician who discovered many theorems about the 'cycloid' and state a modern use of its mathematical properties.

Win super books from



Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

Topic: My favourite book

Win: Winnie the Pooh's 50 things to do on rainy days by A. A. Milne & E. H. Shepard

It rained and it rained and it rained. The friends of the Hundred Acre Wood have 50 things to try on rainy days.

Join Winnie-the-Pooh, Piglet, Tigger and Owl as they build a rain gauge, find Eeyore's tail and take part in a scavenger hunt.



Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic



Age: 10 – 12 years

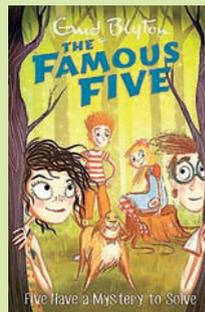
Word Count: 150 – 200

Topic: The importance of learning English

Win: Five Have a Mystery to Solve by Enid Blyton

After strong currents force their rowing boat ashore, the Famous Five find themselves stranded on forsaken Whispering Island, a strange and unwelcoming place.

When the group decide to explore, they soon make a startling discovery. Could there be any truth in the stories about the mysterious island after all?



Age: 13 – 15 years

Word Count: 200 – 250

Topic: The Festival of Easter

Win: Biggles Learns to Fly by Captain W. E. Johns

It's the First World War and Biggles is just 17. The planes are primitive; combat tactics are non-existent. The only form of communication for pilots and their gunners is by hand signals. They are reliant on the skill of their fellow crew, their wit, and above all else, bravery.

In hostile enemy skies, where instinct and fast reactions are everything, Biggles must learn to be a real fighter pilot or die...but does he have what it takes?



Book Competition



9 years and below

The uses of water

Kaveen Gnanaweera

Horizon College Int., Nugegoda

10 – 12 years

Water is essential for us

Ifthikar Rahma

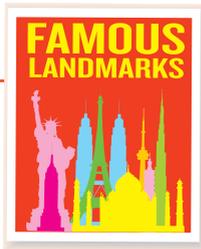
Springfield College, Kandy

13 – 15 years

World Water Day

Sachini Ayodhya

Ashoka College, Horana



Uluru or Ayers Rock

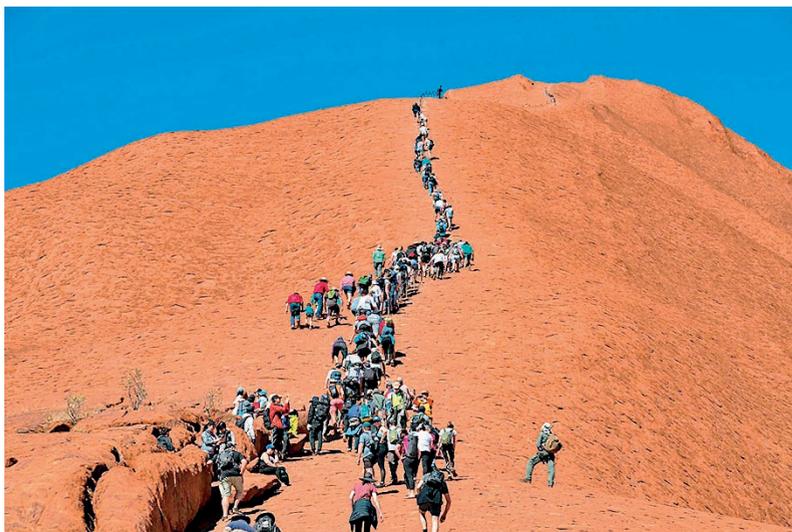


Uluru or Ayers Rock, is a large sandstone rock formation located 450 km away from Alice Springs in the middle of the Australian Outback. Officially, the rock has a dual place name of Uluru / Ayers Rock.



Interesting Facts

- The rock is a holy place for the Anangu tribe of Aboriginal people in Australia who have been in the area for around 10,000 years.
- The first foreign people to see Uluru were explorers led by English born Australian William Christie Gosse, his group set eyes on Uluru, on July 19, 1873 and decided to call it Ayers Rock after Sir Henry Ayers, the Chief Secretary of South Australia at the time.
- Uluru is estimated to be around 600 million years old. It originally would have sat at the bottom of a sea, but today it stands 348 m above the flat desert and 863 m above sea level.



- Amazingly, some 2.5 km of Uluru's mass is believed to be underground.
- The average geological composition of Uluru is 50% feldspar, 25 - 35% quartz and up to 25% rock fragments.
- The Uluru formation is 3.6 km long, 1.9 km wide and has a circumference of 9.4 km covering 3.33 km².
- Uluru is an inselberg (meaning island mountain), which is a prominent isolated bump or hill that rises abruptly from widespread flat plains in a hot, dry region. It's the hard rock of mountain left over after softer areas have eroded away.

- Uluru is also often called a monolith, which is more of a vague geological term.
- The rock has eroded valleys and ridges and little or no vegetation. The surrounding area however, has a number of springs, waterholes, rock caves and ancient paintings.
- The striking orange-red colour of Uluru is due to surface oxidation of its iron content, otherwise the formation would look more grey.

- Uluru was originally listed on the natural World Heritage site in 1987 due to its unique geology.



Uluru waterfalls ▲

- In 1997, it was also put on the World Heritage site list as a cultural site due to its importance to the local Aborigines. The rock is one of the few places in the world to have two listings.



Aerial view ▲

- Uluru is not the only rock formation in the area. Kata Tjuta also known as Mount Olga (or The Olgas) is a group of 36 large dome shaped rocks (originally being one massive monolith) located 25 km West of Uluru in the Northern Territory. The tallest of which is 546 m. Uluru and Kata Tjuta are two major landmarks within the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park.

Science Kids

Famous Landmarks Quiz 30

Q: What gives Uluru its striking orange-red colour?





April 10

Astronomers spot oldest and most distant galaxy

Scientists have spotted what may be the oldest and most distant galaxy in the universe.

It's been named HD1 and is around 13.5 billion light years away from Earth.

Astronomers think it could be one of two things. Firstly, HD1 may be forming stars at a high rate and could even possibly be home to the universe's very first stars – known as Population III stars – which have never been observed before.

The other idea scientists suggest is that HD1 may contain a supermassive black hole about 100 million times the weight of the Sun.

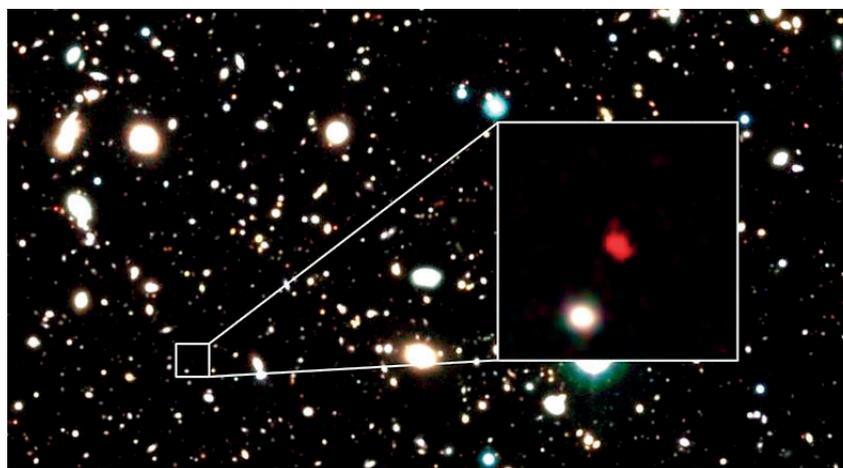
What is a galaxy?

NASA defines a galaxy as, “a huge collection of gas, dust, and billions of stars and their solar systems, all held together by gravity.”

The one we live in is called the Milky Way. When you look up into the sky, all the stars and planets you can see also live with us in our galaxy.



Artwork of a galaxy



The distant early galaxy HD1, object in red, is shown at the centre of this image.

HD1 is 13.5 billion light years away from Earth, and so you can only see it using specialist equipment. It is extremely bright in ultraviolet light, according to the study.

At first, the researchers assumed HD1 was a standard starburst galaxy – one that is creating stars at a high rate. But a supermassive black hole could also explain the extreme brightness of HD1.

What is a black hole?

- A black hole is made when the centre of a very big star falls in upon itself, or collapses.
- All the matter of the star becomes squeezed into a tiny space and the force of gravity increases greatly.
- This pulls everything around the black hole towards it.

If that is the case it would be by far the earliest supermassive black hole known to humans.

Avi Loeb, an astronomer at the Centre for Astrophysics and co-author on the MNRAS study, said: “HD1 would represent a giant baby in the delivery room of the early universe.”

How did scientists find it?

HD1 was spotted after more than 1,200 hours of observing time with the Subaru Telescope, Vista Telescope, UK Infrared Telescope and Spitzer Space Telescope.

The team then carried out more investigations using the Atacama Large Millimetre Array (ALMA) – a giant radio telescope in the mountain desert of Chile – to confirm the distance.

Yuichi Harikane, an astronomer at the University of Tokyo who discovered it, said: “It was very hard work to find HD1 out of more than 700,000 objects.”

Soon the researchers will use the James Webb Space Telescope to again observe HD1 to check its distance from Earth.

If the scientists are correct, HD1 will be the most distant – and oldest – galaxy ever recorded.

Dusky pademelon: ‘Mini kangaroo’ born at Chester Zoo, UK

Keepers got a quick glimpse of the new joey – a dusky pademelon – as it started to peek out from mum’s pouch for the very first time.

The dusky pademelon is a species with a close likeness to its distant kangaroo cousin in Australia. However, it only grows to be around two feet tall which is why the small, hopping marsupial got its ‘miniature kangaroo’ nickname.

They can only be found in the wild in the forests of New Guinea and some smaller nearby islands in Indonesia.

The new baby arrived to mum Styx and dad Kai.

The creature is officially listed by the International Union for the Conservation of

Nature (IUCN) as vulnerable to extinction and is closely monitored in the wild to ensure its long-term survival on New Guinea.

The major threats it faces are hunting and habitat loss to human rice farming and logging. Sadly, experts say its numbers have dropped by 30% in the last two decades.

‘Jelly bean’

Dusky pademelon babies begin their lives the size of a ‘jelly bean’ and are born after just 30 days,

They stay inside the mother’s pouch while they grow and develop until they emerge almost six months later.



The rare ‘miniature kangaroo’.

Source: CBBC Newsround

April 10

News in Pictures



Jerusalem, Israel
People carry palm branches during Palm Sunday at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.



Kolkata, India
A young girl uses her mobile phone after participating in the Kumari Puja at the Adyapith temple.



Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Members of the Kuala Lumpur Freefly group gather with their macaws during free fly session. Macaws are categorised as an endangered species and require a licence or permit from the Department of Wildlife and National Parks.

Przemysl, Poland
A cat in a pink carrier is held by a Ukrainian refugee girl and boy. Many animals are turned away at the border and there is nowhere to shelter them, leading to hundreds of thousands of people fleeing war in Ukraine being forced to abandon their pets.



Dhaka, Bangladesh
A student from the Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University works on a mural in preparation for the Bengali New Year.



Rotterdam, the Netherlands
Runners cross the Erasmus Bridge in the 41st Rotterdam Marathon.

Blyth beach, UK
Anthony Burgess practises his freestyle on a jet ski off the Northumberland coast.



British Columbia, Canada
Dancers perform for the Vaisakhi night celebrations.



Elkton, USA
An osprey brings building material to its mate on their nest in an old-growth Douglas fir tree along the Umpqua River near Elkton in rural south-west Oregon.

Source : The Guardian