

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JULY 31, 2022



FUNDAY TIMES



Birds in my garden

Art by Siheli Sathwika

KIDS'
WORLD

PAGES 2-3



FUN STUFF
PAGE 4

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KIDS IN COLOUR

With



Kids in Colour together with Reeves Art Competition is conducted monthly. A topic is given for each month. Three winners from three age groups will be selected. Winners will be announced on the second Sunday of each month and all winners will receive an attractive gift pack from Reeves.

Please note that all paintings should be certified by a teacher or parent, refer page 2 for further details.

All paintings should be on A4 size paper. Please write Reeves Art Competition at the back of your entry, together with your name, date of birth, address, telephone no., and school.

Topic - Perahera
Closing Date : July 31, 2022

Mail to:

Kids in colour with Reeves Art Competition
Funday Times
C/O The Sunday Times
8, Hunupitiya Cross Road, Colombo 2
P.O Box 1136 Colombo

Winners of Reeves Art Competition please contact us in order to collect your prizes!



Wax Crayons • Oil Pastels • Paint Sets • Colour Sets • Water Colours • Oil Colours • Poster Colours • Powder Paints • Brushes

Ninehearts (Pte) Ltd. 758/1, Baseline Road, Colombo 09. Contact: 0112 663500 / 2 687541 / 077 387039. Email: photoproducts@ninehearts.com

Tesla

Elon Musk who was born on June 28, 1971 in Pretoria, South Africa, invented an autopilot vehicle at the age of 32 on July 1, 2003 in San Carlos, California with the help of two other co-founders. It was named Tesla to honour Nicola Tesla.

'Tesla' is an American electric vehicle and clean energy company based in Texas, United States. It is one of the world's most valuable companies with a market cap of nearly \$1 trillion. Tesla began production in 2008. The main feature of Tesla is the autopilot condition which means the car can drive on its own and is safer than other cars.

Tesla price ranges from \$44,990 to \$129,990. The vehicle holds the record for the fastest electric car in the world. There are different models for Tesla such as 'Tesla Model X', 'Tesla Model 3' and 'Tesla Model S' etc.

This vehicle is the most expensive car in the world. Therefore only rich people can afford it. The 'Tesla Model S' is the only Tesla available in Sri Lanka.

It would be my dream to ride a Tesla one day.

Muhammad Shibly (11 years)
Wesley College, Colombo

World War II

World War II was the most terrible war ever fought. It not only killed over 17 million soldiers but also killed twice as many civilians through starvation, bombings and massacres.

World War II truly started when Hitler invaded Poland on September 1, 1939. Great Britain thought that the USSR (Russia) would defend Poland but Hitler and Stalin made a pact. Germany invaded Poland from the west, and a few weeks later USSR invaded from the east.

It was the first true Global War fought on the plains of Europe, in jungles of Southeast Asia, on deserts of Africa and on and under the Atlantic Ocean.

In May - June 1940, the Germans quickly over-ran Norway and Denmark, then Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Belgium and France. By August 1940, Italy joined the war on the German side and Germany launched air-raids on England.

Hitler feared that the USSR would turn against him so he launched a sudden invasion on the USSR on June 22, 1941. The United States of America joined the forefront of the battle when Japan bombed the US fleet without warning in Pearl Harbour, Hawaii on December 7, 1941.

Germany, Italy and Japan joined forces as the main 'Axis' powers. Britain, USA, USSR and to a lesser extent China and several other nations together were called the 'Allies'.

In 1942, the Allies halted the Axis in Africa and invaded Italy in 1943 and France in 1944. In 1945, the Allies drove into Germany from east and west. Germany surrendered in May 7, 1945. It all ended when the US dropped atomic bombs on Japanese cities Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Japan surrendered on September 2, 1945.

Haritha Silva (15 years)
St. Joseph's College, Colombo

Spiderman



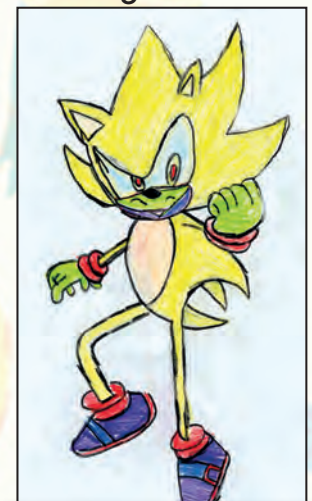
Amaan Yusuf (Grade 1)
Royal College, Colombo

Garden view



Aminah Azmi (15 years)
St. Paul's Girls' School, Milagiriya

Mega Sonic



Irshad Muadh (7 years)
OKI Int. School, Kaduwela

In the desert



Thinaya Thilakarathne (9 years)
Musaeus College, Colombo

Sunrise



M. G. Janulya Benadhi (Grade 2)
Sangamitta B. V., Galle

My family



Thasanya Senevirathne (5 years)
Dreams Pre-School, Hingula

My garden



Ashini Sandalika (Grade 2)
Royal Int. School, Kegalle

Protect against COVID



Maryam Roomy (Grade 5)
Sherwood Girls' College, Kandy

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka is a beautiful island. It is home to 21,503,615 people. There are 3,400,000 children in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka has a rich culture. There are 492 species of birds in Sri Lanka. There are 123 species of animals in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka is very hot. The capital of Sri Lanka is Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte. Sri Lanka is 268 miles long. The dry zone is very large but the wet zone is very small.

Sri Lanka's Independence Day is on February 4. There are 19 mountains in Sri Lanka. The highest mountain in Sri Lanka is Pidurutalagala. It is 2,524 m tall. Sri Lanka is a poor country. Sri Lanka's ocean is dirty.

Senuth Rupasinghe (9 years)
St. Joseph Vaz College, Wennappuwa

Importance of trees

Trees are very important things for us. They give us food. They give us shelter. And they give everything for our daily life. Trees give us oxygen. So it helps us to breathe. They protect the environment. We cannot live without them.



Nethupama Wijerathne (Grade 4)
Holy Cross College, Gampaha

COVID-19 and the holidays

Because of COVID-19 we had to stay home and couldn't even go on trips. There were many holidays for us. So I stayed home and studied via zoom. I could see my friends and my teacher through the online classes. But I felt that it was boring without going to school.

I was scared with this pandemic because of my father. Always he needed to cover his body. As a doctor he had to face many difficulties. We were worried about him.

To get rid of my sadness I played my organ and guitar. Most of the time, we helped the people who suffered from the virus.

I hope that there would be a better future for Sri Lanka after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sandali Sidangana (Grade 4)
Royal Int, School, Kegalle

The National Flag

The flag of Sri Lanka also called the Sinha Flag or Lion Flag, consists of a



golden lion holding a sword in its right fore-paw, in a maroon background with four gold bo-leaves in each corner. This is bordered by gold and to its left are two vertical stripes in equal size in green and orange, with the orange stripe closest to the lion.

The lion and the maroon background represent the Sinhalese, while the saffron border and the four bo-leaves represent concepts of *metta*, *karuna*, *muditha* and *upeksha* respectively. The stripes represent the country's two largest minorities, with the orange representing the Tamils living in Sri Lanka, both the native Sri Lankan Tamils and the Indian Tamils of Sri Lanka and the green representing the Muslims of Sri Lanka.

Dahami Menikdiwela (Grade 6)

My cat and a rat

I have a cat
Its name is Pat.
It sits on the mat
It catches a rat.

The rat is scared
I was very sad
I chased cat away
Rat ran to a hole.

Cat is angry with me
It's not talking to me
Oh sorry my cat
I love you very much
It says mew, mewwoooo!

Thimali Liyanage (11 years)
Holy Family B.V., Kurunegala



Please remember that **ARTICLES**, **POEMS** and **PAINTINGS** sent, will not be published unless they are certified as your own work by a parent or teacher.

Also please mention the topic, your full name, date of birth and address in your entry. Articles should not exceed 200 words. Art should be on A4 size paper.



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:

August 17, 2022

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



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 July



13 – 15 years

Tharushi Siriwardana

Keeper of the Lost Cities by Shannon Messenger

Read-a-Book Competition

Name :

Date of birth :

Address :

School:

Tel:

Finished book on :



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Happy Birthday



Janagan Aagash
10 years on July 29



Janagan Aaghesh
10 years on July 29

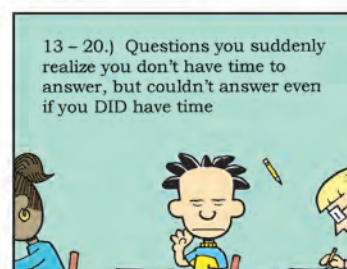
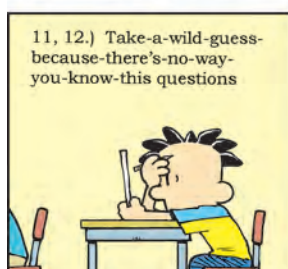
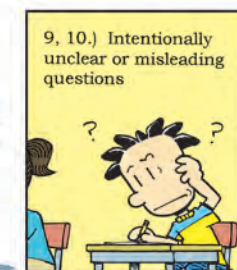
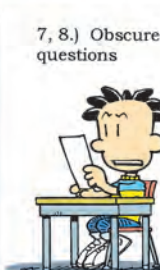
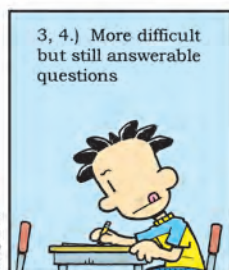
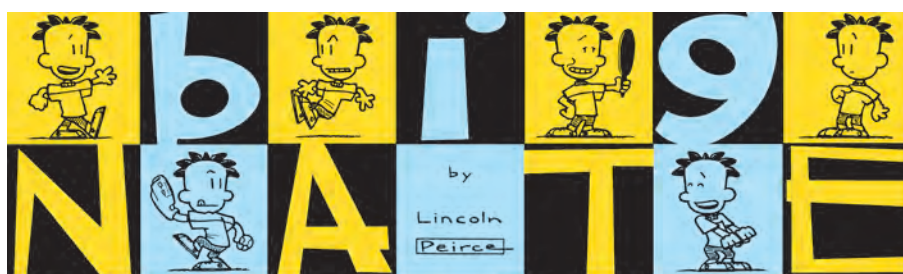


Naqeeb Shamroz
14 years on July 26

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.



NASA releases first images from the James Webb Space Telescope

July 18, 2022

The James Webb Space Telescope (Webb) was launched into space on December 25, 2021, with high expectations. Scientists hoped the \$10 billion space observatory would allow them to explore the origins of the Universe, its galaxies, and perhaps even the formation of the first stars. The initial photos, released by NASA on July 12, 2022, indicate that Webb is living up to its promise.

“Every image is a new discovery, and each will give humanity a view of the universe never seen before,” NASA administrator Bill Nelson said before revealing the images at a press conference.

The deepest image of the Universe

President Joe Biden unveiled the first of Webb’s debut images on July 11, 2022. The image is the deepest view of the Universe captured to date. The large white galaxies are part of the SMACS 0723 cluster, located in the Southern Hemisphere sky, about 5.12 billion light-years from Earth. It is the same age as the Sun and Earth. The faint red galaxies are believed to have formed 13.5 billion years ago, shortly after our Universe formed.

Stephan’s Quintet

Stephan’s Quintet lies in the Pegasus constellation, about 290 million light-years from Earth. It comprises five tightly-bound galaxies, each with as many as 100 billion stars.

European Space Agency (ESA) astronomer Giovanna Giardino says the image shows “[four of the galaxies] locked in a sort of cosmic dance driven by gravitational force.” Two of the galaxies appear to be in the process of merging.

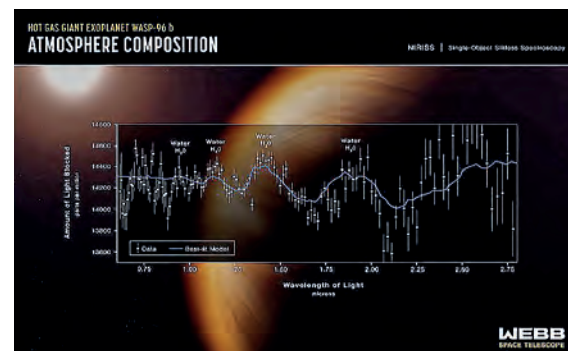
Southern Ring Nebula

The Southern Ring Nebula is a figure eight-shaped cloud of gas and dust. Located about 2,500 light-years from Earth, it is the debris of a massive dying star. Scientists believe the dust particles could someday come together to form new stars or planets. Studying this kind of nebula will help researchers better understand how stars die and get reborn in the cosmos.



The James Webb Space Telescope captured the deepest, sharpest infrared image of the Universe to date.

WASP-96b



WASP-96b is a massive exoplanet located about 1,120 light-years from Earth. The primarily gaseous planet boasts about half the mass of Jupiter. WASP-96b orbits so close to its star that a year on the planet equals just 3.4 Earth days.

While the image reveals a large amount of water vapour in the planet’s atmosphere, it is too hot to harbour life.

The Carina Nebula



Webb’s powerful camera cut through dense clouds of dust and gas to capture a detailed image of the Carina Nebula.

Located about 7,600 light-years from Earth in the southern constellation Carina, it is the most active star formation region known to scientists. The best-known is Eta Carinae. Estimated to be 100 times more massive than our Sun, it may be one of our galaxy’s most massive stars.

DOGO News

Ancient forest found inside a giant sinkhole in China

July 21, 2022

The residents of Leye County in South China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region are no strangers to sinkholes. The area's 29 majestic sinkholes and underground caves have earned themselves a UNESCO World Heritage Site designation. But the one explored by scientists in early May 2022 harboured an extraordinary secret — a pristinely preserved ancient forest.

Lixin Chen, founder of the Guangxi 702 Cave Expedition Club, and his team first descended inside the massive chasm on May 6, 2022.



Lixin Chen and his team descend into the sinkhole.



Chen and his team had to trek the dense forest to reach the sinkhole's lowest point.



An underground lake inside The Eagle.

It did not take them long to reach firm ground to walk on. But the group soon realized they were nowhere close to the bottom of the 630-foot-deep sinkhole. They had to traverse through a dense undergrowth of lush green vines and trees as high as 130 feet for a few hours to get there.

Chen told Atlas Obscura that the environment reminded him of a scene from the movie *Avatar*. “The tree vines were entangling us like spider webs, and you have no idea how deep your next step was going to be,” he says. “The plants were so brittle that you could pull them down with your hands, but they’d recover just as quick. When we came back [up], the path was hidden again.”

The scientists have since returned to the sinkhole which they named “The Eagle” several times. They have found three collapsed caves, evidence of an ancient underground river, and a small underground lake. Chen says, “I wouldn’t be surprised to know that there are species found in these caves that have never been reported or described by science until now.”

Tiankeng, or “heavenly pit,” the Mandarin name for these enormous sinkholes, is a common feature of karst terrain. The natural landscapes primarily comprise carbonate rocks like limestone and dolomite. When rainwater falls on the rocks, a chemical reaction causes small cracks and tunnels to start forming in the rock structure. Over time, these cracks widen due to erosion and eventually collapse in on themselves, opening up giant sinkholes or caves.

The sinkholes, left undisturbed by human activity, can be an oasis for life, especially for previously unknown species. The massive chasms are also a conduit to underground water reservoirs, or aquifers. Karst aquifers are the primary water source for over 700 million people worldwide.

DOGO News

July 26

News in Pictures



Maskwacis, Canada
Pope Francis prays in front of Indigenous chiefs at the Ermineskin Cree Nation cemetery in Alberta, during his papal visit across Canada.



Chennai, India
Children dressed as chess pieces perform during an event before the 44th Chess Olympiad.



Bangkok, Thailand
Burmese nationals living in Thailand hold pictures of the deposed leader Aung San Suu Kyi as they protest outside Myanmar's embassy.



Perth, Australia
Officials arrive for a press conference with Spot the robot, a multi-purpose robotics platform to be used by the Western Australia police tactical response group.

July 25



Emboscada, Paraguay
A man dresses in feathers to honour Saint Francisco Solano. According to the tradition, while Solano lay on his death bed in a Peruvian convent, birds perched on his windowsill and sang to him, inspiring his followers to dress in bird costumes.



Cuicuilam de Guerrero, Mexico
Regional dancers perform at the Guelaguetza festival in Oaxaca state. The annual festival brings together music, dance, gastronomy and crafts from different ethnic groups and tribes from the state of Oaxaca.



Chichester, England
Lavender is harvested at Lordington lavender farm in West Sussex. The business was established in 2002 and during lockdown its coverage was doubled to 10 acres.



Mariposa, USA
An air tanker drops retardant in efforts to stop a wildfire from reaching the Lushmeadows community in Mariposa county, California.



Pituffik, Greenland
Meltwater flows from the Greenland ice sheet into Baffin Bay, as captured by a NASA Gulfstream V plane while on an airborne mission to measure melting Arctic sea ice.

Source : The Guardian