

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JANUARY 9, 2022



FUNDA DAY TIMES



At the first Christmas carols service by twins

Pic. by Eshan Fernando



COMPETITIONS

PAGE 2



MATHS

PAGE 3



EVENTS

PAGE 4

follow us on
www.fundaytimes.lk



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:
January 26, 2022

Telephone: 2479337/2479333
Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

BRITISH COUNCIL

Age groups:
6 – 10 years
11 – 15 years
Word limit: 100 Words

6 – 10 years
Under the Christmas tree
 I opened some Christmas presents,
 And this is what I saw,
 Some very strange and,
 Some you've never seen before.

First a castle,
 With a moat,
 Then a ship,
 That could really float.

Then some kitchen tools,
 Very spic and span,
 Then a pair of castanet
 For the French Cancan.

My favourite was a golden ball,
 As it glittered in the sun,
 I played with it every day,
 It was so much fun.

Nulara Jayawickrama
Methodist College, Colombo

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

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.

11 – 15 years
Back to school
 Here I am facing my long lost home,
 After spending a monotonous life,
 Staring at a computer screen,
 And wondering when will school begin.

I look to the place I remember,
 To my loving teachers and friends,
 I remember the classrooms,
 swimming pool and playgrounds,
 And the memorable celebrations too.

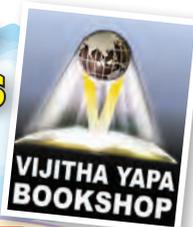
I look to the place I remember,
 The children running around and playing,
 To the teachers teaching their lessons,
 And the alarming whistle of the swimming coach.

I am glad to be back at school,
 To hear the bells of a new day,
 To see my beloved friends again,
 And my glorious Alma Mater.

Ranali Kodikara
Bishop's College, Colombo

Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.

Win super books from



Age: 9 years and below
Word Count: 150
Topic: A new term at school
Win: Look Out Secret Seven by Enid Blyton



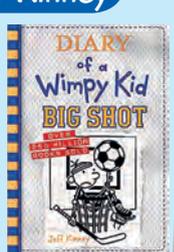
What would the Secret Seven do without Scamper the spaniel?
 First he discovers an unwanted visitor then he protects the gang when a spying mission gets dangerous.

Can the Seven track down some missing war medals on their latest adventure? Not without their trusty spaniel, that's for sure!

Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

Age: 10 – 12 years
Word Count: 150 – 200
Topic: New Year resolutions
Win: Diary of a Wimpy Kid – Big Shot by Jeff Kinney



Greg Heffley and sports just don't mix. So, Greg decides that he's officially retired from any kind of sport!

That is, until his mom persuades him to give it one more go and makes Greg reluctantly agree to sign up for basketball. But in sports, anything can happen...

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

Age: 13 – 15 years
Word Count: 200 – 250
Topic: What you know about the festival of Thai Pongal
Win: The Star of Kazan by Eva Ibbotson



Annika lives as a maid at a grand house in Vienna. She loves the other servants as if they were family and she adores the magnificent city. There is only one thing that Annika longs for: the mother who abandoned her as a baby.

So, when a beautiful aristocrat arrives to claim her, it's as if Annika has walked into her own dream. But as she unravels the truth, she finds herself in terrible danger...

Book Competition

9 years and below
 My favourite TV programme
Sithuli Dissanayake
 Hillwood College, Kandy

10 – 12 years
 How we are affecting the environment
Nadithi Kulasekera
 Ladies' College, Colombo

13 – 15 years
 What you know about Climate Change
Nisma Nawfer
 Fathima B.V., Puttalam

Maths in Action 60

By R. N. A. de Silva

Catenary Curves

When a rope or chain is fastened to two hooks at both ends and allowed to hang naturally under its own weight, the curve it describes is called a 'catenary'. Catenaries can be observed with power lines hanging between two posts or even in chains that cordon off lines of people waiting in banks.

When a catenary is turned upside down, it describes an arch, and the catenary shape is found to be the most stable shape that an arch can have. Such an arch will stand freely under its own weight, using minimal amount of materials.

The English architect Robert Hooke was the first to study the catenary mathematically, but the equation of the catenary was found in 1691 by mathematicians Christiaan Huygens, Jakob Bernoulli and Gottfried Leibniz.

The equation of the catenary is given in terms of a parameter 'a', which determines the width of the catenary and also the lowest point above the x-axis.

$$\frac{a(e^{\frac{x}{a}} + e^{-\frac{x}{a}})}{2}$$

e is the Euler number which is approximately 2.71828.

Catenaries are used in architecture and engineering to prevent forces from causing bending moments in bridges and arches. The catenary generated by gravity gives heavy anchor rods an advantage with larger ships. When the rope is loose, the catenary curve pulls on the anchor at a lower angle than it would if it was straight. This improves the anchor's performance and increases



Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri, USA



Dulles International Airport in Virginia, USA



Kingdom Towers in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



Marquette Plaza in Minneapolis, USA

the amount of force it can withstand before dragging.

Further, upside-down catenary curves show up frequently in architecture providing not only stability but also beauty and grace. A few examples are shown through the pictures presented in this page.



Akashi Kaikyo Bridge connecting Kobe and Awaji Island in Japan



Sheffield Winter Garden in Yorkshire, UK

Math Plot - 60

Try to find the solution to the following puzzle. You may send solutions with reasoning to ndesilva@osc.lk within the next three days. Please include your full name, date of birth, home address, contact details and the name of your school along with the solution.

Given that $a - b + c = 9$, $a + b - c = 11$ and $a - b - c = 5$, find the value of $a + b + c$.

Math Plot 59 – Solution

The missing number is 25

The winner is **Kithmi Rajapaksha** of **St. Bernadette's Model School, Polgahawela**. Congratulations!

Happy Birthday



Nadithi Kulasekera
12 years on January 11



Methara Edirisinghe
4 years on January 9

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.

**Christmas Carols
by Twins**

(featured on our Cover page)

A programme of Christmas carols by more than 50 pairs of twins, said to be a world's first, was held at St. Anthony's Church in Mahara, Kadawatha on December 19, 2021.

The Christmas songs for the event were written by twins themselves and the musical instruments were also played by twins.

The Sri Lanka Twins Organization conducted the event, under the theme 'Let's Protect Freedom of Religion or Belief.'

Participants came from different communities and religions.

The organizers are seeking to enter the event in to the Guinness World Records.

An upcycled Christmas tree

One of the most creative ways to upcycle a glass bottle is to convert it to a decorative statement piece for your home.

In an effort to communicate their core values of sustainability and circular living, the team at Olu Tropical Water began the first phase of this initiative in-house.

Art packs containing Olu bottles, traditional Christmas-themed paints and glitter were distributed to the kids of staff members across the island.

The team at the Olu Tropical Water facility built the frame that these bottles would be showcased on with scrap materials from decommissioned PET manufacturing machinery parts.

The completed tree stood at eight feet tall with upwards of 150 bottles layered over it.



Tomahawk

QUIZ
No.191

Questions for Tomahawk Quiz No. 191 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times of December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 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. 191' 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: January 31, 2022

Tomahawk Quiz No. 190

- ▶ Joel Rambukkange, Kandy
- ▶ Rashmitha Visvanathan, Colombo 6



TOMAHAWK
Bicycles

*COMPLETE CONTROL ON YOUR
BIKING EXPERIENCE*



@TOMAHAWKBICYCLEOFFICIAL | 245 B, GALLE ROAD, COLOMBO 04 | @TOMAHAWKBICYCLES
BAMBALAPITIYA - 011 250 7307

QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 191

1. Who were the colonial rulers of Ceylon at the time Captain Edward Henry Pedris was arrested?
2. What was the first book authored by Jane Austen? Which book is considered her most famous novel?
3. Who were the first people to visit Baby Jesus?
4. Name the architect of St. Paul's Cathedral and state one of the cathedral's most well-known features.
5. Which country donates the famous Christmas tree seen decorated in London's Trafalgar Square every year?



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

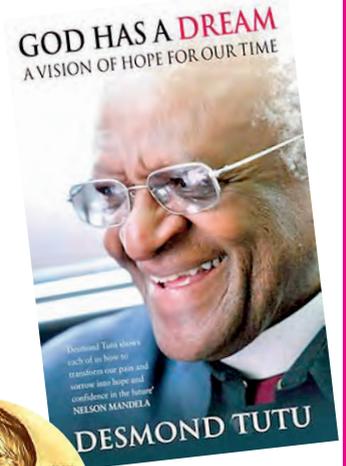
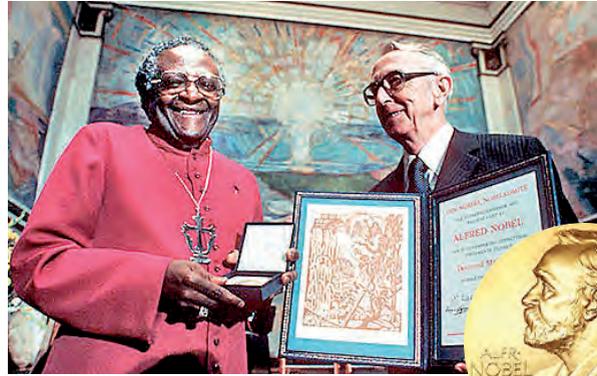


Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Desmond Tutu (1931–2021), South African Anglican bishop and outspoken social activist, received the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1984 for his efforts to bring a nonviolent end to apartheid, South Africa’s policy of racial segregation.

Desmond Mpilo Tutu was born on October 7, 1931, in Klerksdorp, Transvaal province, South Africa. His father was a teacher, and after graduating from the University of South Africa in 1954, Tutu himself taught at a high school for three years.

Resigning his post in 1957, he began to study theology and was ordained an Anglican parish priest in 1961. He later moved to London, England, where he earned an M.A. from Kings College and from 1972 to 1975 was an assistant director for the World Council of Churches. He served as Dean of St. Mary’s Cathedral in Johannesburg from 1975 to 1976 — the first person of colour to hold that position.



On October 7, 2010 — his 79th birthday — Tutu began his retirement.

Although he mostly withdrew from public life, he continued his work with a group called the Elders until 2013 (when he became an Elder emeritus). He had cofounded that group of international leaders in 2007 to promote conflict resolution and problem solving throughout the world.

Tutu published ‘God Has a Dream: A Vision of Hope for Our Time’, a collection of personal reflections, in 2004. ‘Made for Goodness: And Why This Makes All the Difference’, about his beliefs on human nature, was published in 2010.

In addition to the Nobel Prize, Tutu received numerous honours. In 2009, he was awarded the U.S. Presidential Medal of Freedom, and in 2013, he received the Templeton Prize, an award presented to those who have “made an exceptional

contribution to affirming life’s spiritual dimension.”

Tutu died on December 26, 2021, in Cape Town.

Source:
kids.britannica.com



In 1976, Tutu was named Bishop of Lesotho. Two years later he accepted an appointment as the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches and

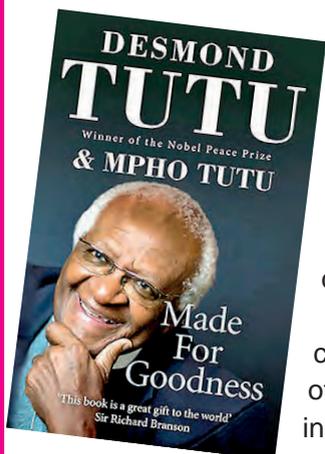
became a leading spokesperson for the rights of Black South Africans. Gaining national and international attention, he emphasized peaceful means of protesting apartheid and encouraged the application of economic pressure by countries dealing with South Africa.

The Divine Intention, a collection of his lectures, was published in 1982, followed by Hope and Suffering, a collection of his sermons, in 1983. In presenting him the Nobel Prize for Peace, the Nobel Committee described Tutu as “a unifying leader” and cited him for his determination “to choose a peaceful way to freedom.”

In 1985, Tutu became Johannesburg’s first Black Anglican bishop, and a year later he was elected the first Black archbishop of Cape Town, thus becoming head of South Africa’s 1,600,000-member Anglican Church; he stepped down as head of the church in 1996, becoming Archbishop Emeritus.

In 1995, South African President Nelson Mandela appointed Tutu head of the Truth and Reconciliation Committee, which investigated allegations of human rights abuses during the apartheid era.

In 1988, Tutu became chancellor of the University of the Western Cape in Bellville, South Africa.



Handwritten signature of Desmond Tutu.



January 4

Penguins: New clinic opens in South Africa to protect endangered species

A new clinic has opened in South Africa to help protect the endangered African penguin.

The world famous penguins – also known as Cape penguins – live on the islands and coast of South Africa, including Cape Town. Tourists from all over the world travel to the country to see them.



The penguins have lived in South Africa for millions of years, however due to climate change and overfishing, their numbers have halved in the last twenty years.

As a result, a special penguin clinic has been built on the coast to help protect and look after the species. The penguins are brought to the clinic for a health check-up and to access any treatment they may need. Around a thousand penguins are rescued a year and looked after by a group of twenty carers.



African penguins are on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's red list, meaning they face a high risk of extinction.

Gavin Peterson, a ranger at the reserve said, "Climate change is changing the life of this colony. The birds don't reproduce like they used to. Because of overfishing the chicks are thinner."

He added, "The penguins are trapped in the nets. Today the population is decreasing."

The centre has a special swimming pool for baby and injured penguins to help them get used to the open water, so they can be released back into the wild.

Aidan Belligan, a carer at the clinic said, "We let them swim for 20 minutes, three times a day. It allows us to see if their feathers are waterproof."



"It's very important otherwise in the wild they can get cold," he added.

Once the animals are well enough, the centre transports them in special cardboard boxes back to the coast so that they can be released back to their colonies and natural habitat to return to their normal lives.



Did you know?

Because African penguins live in a warm climate, they don't migrate like other birds do – instead they remain in a large colony, working together to keep one another safe.

Source : CBBC Newsround

New Space Telescope may reveal secrets of the stars

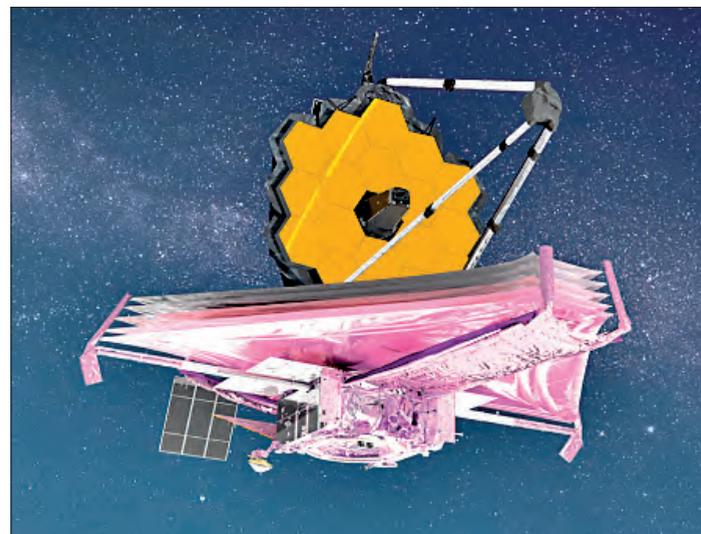
On December 25, the James Webb Space Telescope was launched into space. The telescope is expected to teach scientists much about how stars, galaxies, and systems of planets develop, and could bring new information about the early history of the universe.

Studying far-away stars is a way of studying history. Light travels extremely quickly, but it still takes time to cover long distances. This means that the light we see from far-away stars actually left those stars long, long ago.

Scientists believe the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST) will help them see light from as far back as 13.6 billion years ago – not long after the universe began.

The JWST is a project developed by the US space agency NASA with help from Canada and Europe.

When the rocket carrying the JWST took off, scientists around the world were very nervous. That's because people had been working on the project for over 20 years.



NewsForKids

January 4

News in Pictures



Tokyo, Japan
People visit Kanda Myojin Shrine to offer New Year prayers on the first business day of the year.

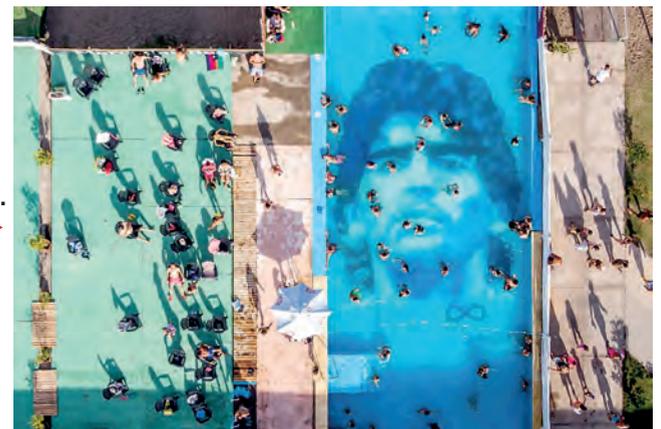


Trento, Italy
Participants recover at the finish line during the women's mass start free 10 km event at the Tour de Ski in Val di Fiemme.



Mar del Plata, Argentina
An underwater image of Diego Maradona decorates the bottom of a pool as a tribute to the late football star, at Balneario 12 beach club, south of Buenos Aires.

Rainbow Beach, Australia
People try to prevent a car stranded in strong waves from toppling over in Queensland.



January 3

Daegu, South Korea
A cold wave creates a giant ice wall at Songahe Park 300km south-east of Seoul.



Santiago, Chile
Bees fly around riot police during a protest, after beekeepers who demanded government measures to face the persistent drought that affects the country, blocked the street with honeycombs full of bees in front of the presidential palace.



Philadelphia, USA
Philadelphia's longest-running signature event, The Mummers Parade, returned to strutting down south Broad Street. The parade, which began in 1901, is the country's oldest continuous folk parade. The parade includes five divisions, Fancy, Wench, Comic, String Band and Fancy Brigade.



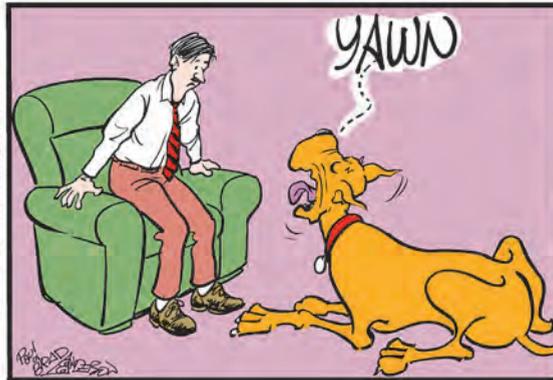
Ribnovo, Bulgaria
Bulgarian Muslim bride Kimile Avdinova has make-up applied to her face during her wedding ceremony in the remote mountain village of Ribnovo. Bulgaria has kept its traditional winter marriage ceremony alive despite decades of communist persecution. The highlight of the ceremony is the painting of the bride's face, where in a private rite open only to female in-laws, her face is covered in thick, chalky white paint and decorated with colourful sequins.



Dhaka, Bangladesh
Bangladeshi day labourers carry baskets of coal from a cargo ship in Gabtoli. They earn about \$1 for every 30 baskets of coal unloaded from the ship.

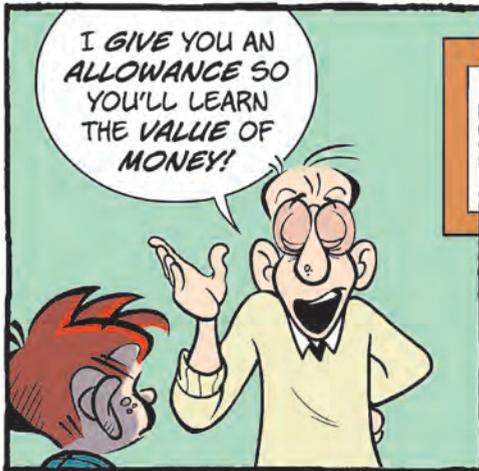


Yokohama, Japan
Male sea lion Leo writes the word 'tiger' in Chinese characters at a New Year's attraction to celebrate the Year of the Tiger at the Hakkeijima Sea Paradise aquarium in Yokohama.



DOG GONE FUNNY BURBANK, IL
BOB METZ HAS BRANDI, A MIXED-SHEPHERD ALARM CLOCK.
 6:30 AM - BARK AND WAKE UP THE HOUSE.
 11:00 AM - BARK FOR SNACK
 3:00 PM - BARK FOR MEAL TIME

Ginger Meggs



Rugrats

