

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JANUARY 15, 2023

FUN DAY TIMES



Little performers on stage

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

**KIDS'
WORLD**

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**EVENTS
PAGE 4**

ONLINE

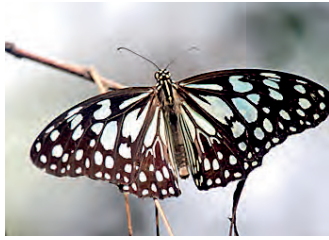


**ICE FESTIVAL
PAGE 6**

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Coming Home

Flitter flutter
once upon a time
A little merry excited
butterfly
Laid brown eggs
in a long line
Then it flew high above the sky



A caterpillar hatched from one of many eggs
The little creature was so hungry, that it ate and ate
It explored the leaves and trees with its tiny legs
It was so tired; it thought a nap would be great

It found a place, but it was so freezing cold
So, it voted that a blanket would be fine
It thought it should curl up and fold
And spin a gossamer that would shine

One starry night, it woke up hanging on a branch
It tried to wriggle out with all its might
A tiny sunray and a little warmth it could catch
And without knowing it flew with its wings so bright

Flitter flutter it landed on a leaf which is green
It didn't know why it was so excited to come
Then it remembered what it had once seen
And finally looked at what it had become!

Mumudi Gajadeera (9 years)
Horizon College Int., Malabe

Tribute to my teacher

I have a lot of teachers who teach me at school. My favourite teacher is Ms. Basnayaka. She is a very loving and kind teacher. Every day I learn lots of new things from my teacher's exciting lessons.

My teacher always wears a beautiful smile on her face. She looks very pretty. She always gives dictation and also marks our books. She teaches me things that I don't know and things that I don't understand. She is very smart. She has taught me many things since I started my school days. She gives me stars to encourage me. She does what is best for us. I love her so much.



Senuri Gunawardana (Grade 3)
Methodist College, Colombo

My school

My school is Negombo South International School. It is in Piliyandala. I am in Grade 2 of the Primary School. The Primary School has classes from Grade 1 to Grade 5. The Senior School is away from the Primary School.

The Primary School Principal is Mr. Anushka Perera. My school has a music room, a computer lab and a playground. Our school motto is 'Today's Knowledge is Tomorrow's Success'.

I love my school very much.

Yashan Ibrahim (7 years)
Negombo South Int. School,
Piliyandala

My pet

I have a pet cat. Her name is Leo. She is black in colour. She likes milk. She cuddles with me. She sleeps on her favourite cushion. I love her very much.

Jenuli Sethumsa (Grade 1)
JMC Int. College

The night sky

The moon is up
The sun disappeared
The sky is filled with stars
I gazed around to find any shooting stars
But could find none.

The night sky, oh! The night sky
Is the most wonderful place
Bats voices echoing in the dark,
And owls' flying by.

Nadithi Kulasekera
Ladies' College, Colombo

Back to School



Nethmi Batuwita (12 years)
St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo 7



Adeesha Jayasekara (6 years)
Wesley College Primary, Colombo 6



Thinaya Rathnayake (7 years)
JMC Int. School, Maharagama

My horse



Haadiya Khalid (9 years)
Ilma Int. Girls' School

Note

The Reeves Art Competition has come to an end in December 2022.
We are hoping to start a new Art Competition as soon as possible.
All further details will be published in the Funday Times in due course.

Our Earth



Sineli Dewmini (Grade 4)
Royal Int. School, Kegalle

Perahera



Chanuli Cooray (9 years)
Good Shepherd Convent, Panadura

An evening



Thenuja Meedeniya (Grade 3)
Kirillawala Primary School, Kadawatha

Environment



Nayanaganeshan Hananya (5 years)
Unique Int. School, Nawalapitiya

My school

My school is St. Michael's College. It is a boys' school. It is having classes from Grade 1 to Grade 5. There is a principal and vice-principal. There are altogether 24 teachers. There are about 350 students.

The school starts at 7.30 a.m., and ends at 1.45 p.m. It has a big compound too for us to play during our free time. The teachers are very strict but are also very kind. They teach us our subjects and good manners. I like my teachers and my school.

R. Harnish (Grade 5)
St. Michael's College, Batticaloa

Dreams

All the people see dreams when they are sleeping. Even animals see dreams in their sleep. Sometimes dreams are very joyful. Some dreams are fearful. Sometimes it can make you feel happy. It occurs involuntarily in the mind during sleep. But most of the dreams are quickly forgotten. Dreams are not fully understood. There are lots of books about dreams. I like to see only joyful dreams in my sleep.

Nethupama Wijerathne (Grade 4)
Holy Cross College, Gampaha

Road Safety

With the development of technology today, we can see a lot of vehicles on the road. It's good to have our own vehicles because we can go wherever we want to go. Also it's much faster than walking. But we should be careful when driving.

Both pedestrians and motorists have the responsibility to use the road safely. Excessive speed, drunkenness, using phones while driving and also sleepiness lead to accidents. As pedestrians we must cross the road using a pedestrian crossing. Also we must walk on the right side of the road.

If we use the road safely we can avoid accidents.

Rashmi Ranasinghe (14 years)
B/ Kuda Kusum Balika M.M.V., Bandarawela

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.



My village



My village is Udumagama. It is a small village. Our nearest town is Kegalle. Kalu Oya goes through our village. There is a temple, a school in the middle of the village. Our village is surrounded by paddy fields.

I love my village.

Gawri Madhushika (Grade 3)
Royal Int. School, Kegalle

My friend

My friend is blind,
And she is kind,
She couldn't write,
Or she couldn't find,
She is the only helpful girl,
I have ever seen.

Hafsa Fowzie (Grade 5)
Girls' High School, Kandy

My pet

My pet is a chicken. It has many colours, white, red, black, brown and orange. So my father, mother and I have named it 'Multi'.

It likes to eat dhal. It likes to drink water. It can run very fast. I have many chickens. Five of them are hens. Seven of them are cocks. But I like Multi best.

When I go to school, I see other chickens like Multi. I think they are Multi's relatives, because they too have Multi's colours. I enjoy when I see them. I have many pets but Multi is the best.

Clara Nimtharani (Grade 2)
Holy Family B.M.V.,
Kadawatha



**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 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:**

February 1, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Little Angels AMI Montessori, Nugegoda held their annual concert recently.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



Ashwini Rajivekanth
7 years on January 18

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.

Tomahawk Quiz 201

**Winners of the
Tomahawk Quiz
collected their
bicycles from the
Tomahawk
Bicycle Mall in
Bambalapitiya
recently.**



Gobinath Gowrishanan

Tomahawk Quiz 200



Ruzaiq Junkeer

In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Book Competition /
Read-a-Book Competition
- **Page 6** – Ice Festival
- **Pages 7 – 8** – Kids News

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.

Win super books from

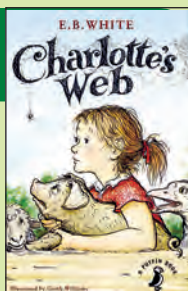


Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

Topic: Back to school

Win: *Charlotte's Web* by E. B. White



One spring morning, a little girl called Fern rescues a runt and names him Wilbur. But then Wilbur is sent to live on a farm where he meets Charlotte, a beautiful large grey spider.

They become best friends and, when Wilbur is faced with the usual fate of nice fat little pigs, Charlotte must find a clever way to save him.

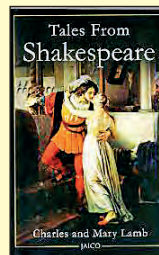
Age: 10 – 12 years
Word Count: 150 – 200
Topic: Your resolutions for 2023
Win: *Rowley Jefferson's Awesome Friendly Adventure* by Jeff Kinney



From the imagination of Rowley Jefferson, comes an adventure of epic proportions.

Join Roland and his best friend, Garg the Barbarian, as they leave the safety of their village and embark on a quest to save Roland's mum from the White Warlock.

Age: 13 – 15 years
Word Count: 200 – 250
Topic: Your hopes and expectations for 2023
Win: *Tales from Shakespeare* by Charles and Mary Lamb



William Shakespeare is acknowledged as the greatest writer and the world's pre-eminent dramatist.

Charles and Mary Lamb interweave the words of Shakespeare with their own to bring 20 of his best plays to the young reader.



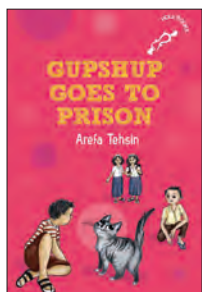
Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

Gupshup Goes to Prison by Arefa Tehsin

"Khalid's cat Gupshup has run away to the grounds of a prison.

An open prison, it is called, but everyone knows that prisons are full of horrible people. Or are they? How on earth will Khalid get Gupshup home?"



Usually, a prison is a place where criminals are locked up. This story is about an open prison where prisoners are not locked but free to move in and out.

The Pallekelle Open Prison Camp in Sri Lanka is one such open prison. It prepares prisoners for day-to-day existence in the community.

Over the years it has grown into a sprawling rural village, where there are no boundary walls or cells. Residents work and participate in leisure time activities. Many cultivate private plots of land and sell their produce.

Competition

Win a copy of 'Gupshup Goes to Prison'.

Write your own short story about your pet or an animal you like.

Age group: 7 – 10 years

Word count: Maximum of 300 words

Please include the following details:

Full Name (including Surname), Date of Birth, Address, Telephone No. and School.

All competition entries should be certified as your own work.

Or 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.



Or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Read-a-Book Competition

Name :

Date of birth :

Address :

School:

Tel:

Finished book on :

Read-a-Book for December 2022

10 – 12 years

Nivethikaa Yogendran

Five Get Into Trouble by Enid Blyton



13 – 15 years

Zainab Hisham

A Murder is Announced by Agatha Christie

Harbin Ice Festival

The Ice Festival takes place in the city of Harbin in China every year, with 2,000 displays on show, more than 100 events taking place, and a 3D winter theme park.



The annual Harbin Ice and Snow Festival opens in late December and lasts for around two months, until late February of the next year.



It has all sorts of amazing structures and sculptures made entirely from ice - some of which people can even go inside.



If you've ever wondered what Elsa's ice palace might look like in real life, this sculpture can help to give you a bit of an idea with ice turrets, a castle and even trees.

Source : CBBC Newsround



At night the structures are lit up with brightly coloured lights so tourists can get a whole other experience after dark.



If visitors come soon after the festival opens they can have the chance to see how the sculptures are being carved and made.



Because it is so popular, it can be almost impossible to take photos of the charming ice buildings without any visitors getting in the way.



Many visitors spend several hours wandering around the huge array of ice sculptures - and it would be a shame to miss all the fireworks!

The Life and Legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 9, 2023

Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) was one of America's most influential civil rights movement leaders. His life and achievements are celebrated annually on the third Monday of January.

The federal holiday, which will be observed on January 16 this year, is designated as a National Day of Service. Americans are encouraged to spend the holiday volunteering to improve their communities.

MLK was born in Atlanta, Georgia, on January 15, 1929. He grew up in a world where Blacks and Whites led disparate lives. They went to different schools, ate at different restaurants and even sat in specially assigned seats on buses and trains. The young boy believed segregation was a way of life across the country. He learned to accept it.

That changed in 1944 when he went to work in the tobacco fields in Hartford, Connecticut. In a letter to his father, the then-15-year-old MLK said, "After we passed Washington, there was no discrimination. The white people here are very nice. We go to any place we want to and sit anywhere we want to."

It was a few years before MLK began the fight to bring similar equality to the Southern States. But the seed had been planted.

In 1954, MLK became pastor of a church in Montgomery, Alabama, where segregation was a way of life. He persuaded his primarily Black congregation to register to vote. He also encouraged them to join the NAACP, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization.



MLK witnesses President Lyndon B. Johnson signing the Civil Rights Act of 1964.



MLK Day has been designated as a National Day of Service.

MLK's pursuit for racial equality began in earnest in December 1955. That's when civil rights activist Rosa Parks was arrested for not giving up her bus seat to a White passenger. Upset at the injustice, MLK asked the city's African American residents to avoid taking public buses. The Montgomery bus boycott lasted an entire year and even spread to other Southern States. The first-ever joint effort to fight racial discrimination did not go unnoticed. In 1956, the United States Supreme Court ruled segregation on public transportation illegal.

Encouraged by the success, MLK urged citizens across the country to fight segregation policies by staging peaceful sit-ins, boycotts and marches. The activist became famous for his inspiring speeches. The most memorable one was delivered in 1963.

The events leading to the often quoted 'I Have A Dream' address began in June 1963. That's when President John F. Kennedy

asked the US Congress to approve the Civil Rights Act, giving all Americans equal access to public places. To persuade government officials to sign it into law, civil rights

leaders encouraged citizens to stage a peaceful rally in Washington, DC. Over 200,000 people from across the country arrived at the capital on August 28, 1963, to participate in what later became known as the 'March on Washington.' It was here that MLK, standing on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, revealed his dream of living in a country where everyone was treated equally.

The first major milestone towards achieving MLK's dream came with the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. It ended segregation in public places. The law also banned employment discrimination based on race, colour, gender or national origin. The Voting Rights Act of 1965, allowing African Americans to exercise their right to vote in US elections, followed soon after. The Fair Housing Act of 1968, prohibiting racial discrimination in the sale, rental or financing of property, was the final victory in assuring equal rights for all Americans.

Unfortunately, MLK did not live to see a segregation-free America. He was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968.

MLK's courage and efforts have allowed all Americans to follow their dreams. It is now up to us to protect his precious legacy by standing up to societal injustices and helping those in need.



MLK delivered his famous 'I Have a Dream' speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

Source: Dogo News

January 11

News in Pictures

**Silió, Spain**

A boy dressed in sheepskins and bells, part of the carnival group La Vijanera de Silió, takes part in a traditional ancient festival in the town.

**Zamboanga City, the Philippines**

A member of the coastguard carries children to safety in an area affected by floods.

**Slough, UK**

'The Knife Angel', a sculpture made from knives, arrives in Arbour Park, to raise awareness about violent crime. Standing 27 feet (8 metres) high, the artwork is made from approximately 100,000 bladed weapons collected through knife amnesty bins from 43 police forces.

Merced, USA

San Diego firefighters help a man and his dog from their flooded home as storms ravage California.



January 9

**Vatican, Italy**

Pope Francis poses with ambassadors to the Holy See inside the Sistine chapel during his annual audience.

**Yokohama, Japan**

Young women wear kimonos to mark Coming of Age Day, which honours people who turn 20 this year.

**Adelaide, Australia**

Visitors inspect the *Titan arum*, aka Corpse Flower, as it begins to bloom at the city's botanic gardens. It is the first time that the endangered plant has flowered in nearly 10 years at the gardens.

**Semmering, Austria**

Skiers practice on artificial snow. Many Alpine ski resorts have closed fully or partially because of the lack of snow and high temperatures. In Semmering about two-thirds of the slopes remain open, but visitor numbers have dropped.

**Brunnen, Switzerland**

Revellers in traditional costumes and masks inspired by those of the Venetian Commedia dell'Arte march through the small Swiss town during a parade that marks the beginning of carnival season.

Source : The Guardian