



FUNDA DAY TIMES



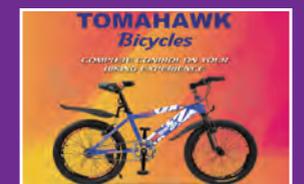
Interactive Storytelling at British Council

Pic. by Priyanka Samaraweera

WINNERS!
POETRY & ESSAYS
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(ONLINE)

KIDS NEWS

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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 are accepted by email.

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 this week's competitions:
June 28, 2023

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



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

Freedom

I was free like a bird in the sky,
 With wings to fly.
 But soon realized, my wings had vanished,
 Now I'm here with walls surrounding me,
 Nowhere to go, I'm trapped,
 One way to fly again is rebirth,
 I wait, but that wouldn't help.
 Soon realized that there is a key,
 None other than my mind itself,
 Took a breath, looked at the sunshine
 Peeping through the edge of the wall,
 Gained my courage,
 Trusting the voice inside me...

Sanumi Hesanya (13 years)
Lyceum Int. School, Gampaha

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

6 – 10 years

I wish

I wish I could fly high.
 To the far blue sky,
 To touch the clouds,
 I will try.

I wish I could,
 Run on the rainbow,
 And spread love and colours
 To the whole wide world.

Maryam Shuaib (10 years)
Methodist College, Colombo 3

11 – 15 years

WINNERS!

Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.

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Age: 10 – 12 years

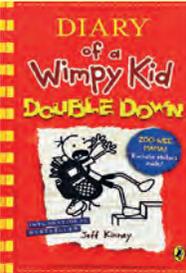
Word Count: 150 – 200

Topic: Celebrating Father's Day

Win: Diary of a Wimpy Kid – Double Down by Jeff Kinney

The pressure is really piling up on Greg Heffley. His mom thinks video games are turning his brain into mush, so she wants her son to put down the controller and explore his 'creative side'.

As if that's not scary enough, Halloween is just around the corner and the frights are coming at Greg from every angle.



Age: 13 – 15 years

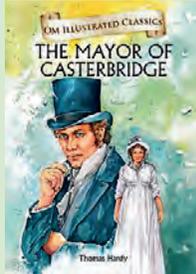
Word Count: 200 – 250

Topic: The impact of plastic pollution on the environment

Win: The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy

Michael Henchard, an unemployed hay-trusser, in a state of drunkenness sells his wife Susan and daughter Elizabeth-Jane for five guineas to a sailor during a fair. When Henchard realizes his mistake, he vows to stay away from liquor for 21 years.

Susan and Elizabeth-Jane return in search of Henchard 18 years later and find that he has become the Mayor of Casterbridge.



Book Competition

9 years and below
 A visit to the zoo
Saqeef-ul-Haq
 Matala Int. School

10 – 12 years
 Vesak Festival
Tenitha Wijetilleka
 Vidura College,
 Thalawathugoda

13 – 15 years
 World Press Freedom Day
Dananga Karunarathne
 Lakdasa De Mel College,
 Kurunegala

Win super books from

Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

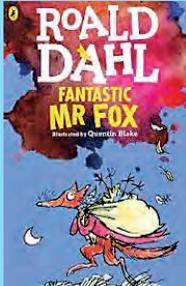
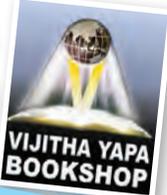
Topic: My father

Win: Fantastic Mr. Fox by Roald Dahl

Mr. Fox is so clever that every evening he creeps down into the valley and helps himself to food from the farms.

Now the farmers have hatched a plan to shoot Mr. Fox.

But just when they think Mr. Fox can't escape, he makes a fantastic plan of his own...

Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic

Storytelling at British Council, Colombo

An interactive storytelling session was conducted by the British High Commissioner to Sri Lanka, Sarah Hulton on May 27 at the British Council Library in Colombo.

The kids enjoyed the session while expressing their imagination and creativity. It was also a good opportunity for the kids and their parents to meet the British High Commissioner.

Pix. by Priyanka Samaraweera



'Parade on Wheels'

It was not the normal traffic but little ones clad in colourful attire on wheels who took to the streets of Batticaloa on May 27.

This was 'Parade on Wheels' set in motion by the students, parents and staff of the Batticaloa Early Years School (BEYS) to create awareness on the physical and mental development of children.

The parade, a first of its kind, began at the gates of BEYS and wound up at the Batticaloa Fort.

It consisted of the very young ones pushing prams and carts beside their parents and other children riding bicycles, tricycles and scooters with eco-friendly tyres, while some more joined on foot.

"The aim was to raise awareness that little ones should spend time with family and outdoors, instead of being glued to a screen whether it is a smart phone, tablet or television," BEYS Founder Ramani Edwards said.



At the conclusion, all child-participants received a certificate along with a medal and also enjoyed a healthy brunch and drink.



In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Book Winners' Essays
- **Page 6** – Father's Day Craft
- **Page 7** – Kids News
- **Page 8** – News in Pictures

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.

Tomahawk Quiz No. 208

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 208 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issue and e-papers of May 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2023.

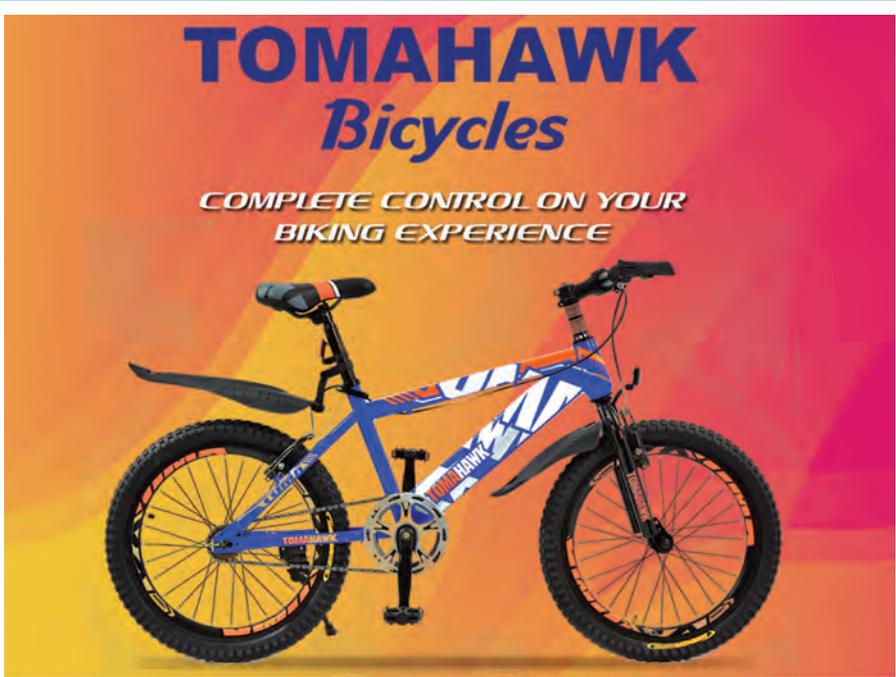
All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard, Cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 208' seen at the top of this page and paste it on your postcard. Please get your entries certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

One lucky winner will receive a brand new Tomahawk Mountain Bike 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: June 30, 2023

Tomahawk Quiz No. 207
 ▶ Abdullah Ilham, Dehiwala **WINNER!**



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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 208

1. Name a species of monkey, endemic to Sri Lanka.
2. Which crown was used by King Charles III for his coronation, and for whom was it originally made?
3. Who wrote 'Anne of Green Gables'?
4. What is pollination? Name two invertebrate pollinators and two vertebrate pollinators.
5. What was Edward Lear famous for and what was his most popular work?

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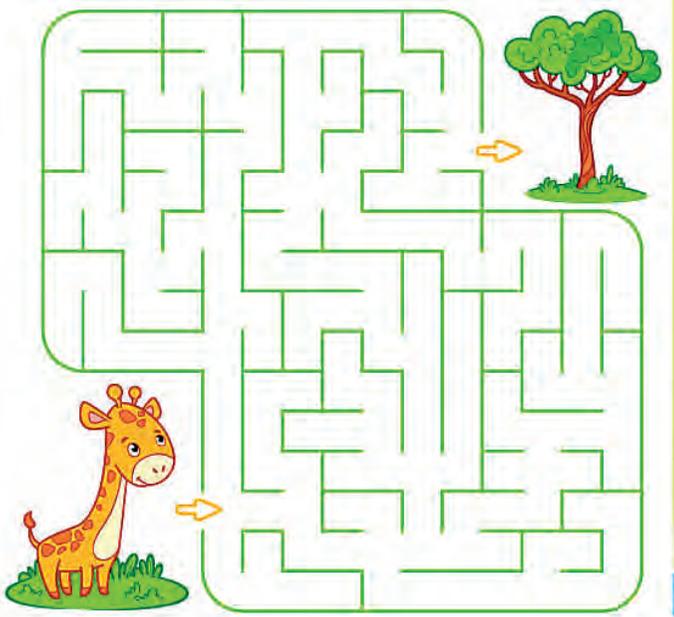
4 - 6 years **WINNERS!**

- ▶ Nisali Perera, Ja-Ela
- ▶ Zainab Ilham, Dehiwala
- ▶ Risali Seneviratne, Galle
- ▶ Sulaiman Hashim, Colombo 5
- ▶ Tashen Pelawaththa, Polgahawela

Winners please call Funday Times on 2479333/2479337 and arrange to collect your prizes.

4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Help the giraffe through the maze.



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Book Competition **WINNERS!**

9 years and below

A visit to the zoo

All kids like to visit the zoo because children like to see animals. My mother, father, brother and myself, went to the zoo in Dehiwala. We went early in the morning. We reached the zoo at around 10 o'clock. It was a very nice journey. We entered the zoo very happily.

We saw many animals, birds and other varieties. We followed the rules and regulations in the zoo. According to that we enjoyed our visit to zoo.

We saw camels, lions, giraffes and other animals and enjoyed happily. I noticed some animals were different when I saw them directly. In pictures they are a little bit different. I can say that animals in the world are very funny to watch.

Saqeef-ul-Haq (8 years)
Matale Int. School

10 – 12 years

Vesak Festival

Today is Vesak full moon Poya day. Buddhists celebrate Vesak Festival in May. This is the most sacred day for Buddhists. The reason for this celebration is because Lord Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment and Parinibbana happened on a Vesak full moon Poya day.

On the night of Vesak Poya the full moon shines brightly in the dark sky. Lots of Buddhists go to temples carrying flowers, incense sticks, wicks and oil to light oil lamps, to pay homage to Lord Buddha. Children and adults make Vesak lanterns and Vesak cards. Some people make pandols based on Jathaka stories and display Buddhist flags along

roads and their houses. Buddhists listen to *bana*, meditate, organise almsgivings and dansals to get blessings from the Triple Gem.

On Vesak Poya day children observe *sil* with their parents and grandparents. In the evening we light oil lamps and Vesak lanterns. Most people illuminate their houses with multi-coloured bulbs and raise Buddhist flags.

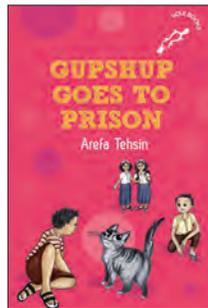
On Vesak Poya we should engage in religious activities and spend the time peacefully. Then all of us can live happily in a peaceful country.

Tenitha Wijetilleka (10 years)
Vidura College,
Thalawathugoda

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 a short story or essay 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.

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13 – 15 years

World Press Freedom Day

World Press Freedom Day is an annual event celebrated on May 3rd to raise awareness about the importance of press freedom and to highlight the challenges faced by journalists around the world. This day was proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1993, following the recommendation of UNESCO's General Conference.

The main objective of World Press Freedom Day is to promote and protect the freedom of the press as a fundamental human right. The day also serves as an occasion to assess the state of press freedom worldwide, to defend the media from attacks on their independence, and to pay tribute to journalists who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

Press freedom is essential for the proper functioning of democracy. A free and independent media plays a crucial role in informing citizens, holding governments accountable, and fostering transparency and accountability. Unfortunately, press freedom is under threat in many countries, with journalists facing censorship, harassment, imprisonment and even violence.

On World Press Freedom Day, we should recognize the vital role played by journalists in promoting democracy and protecting human rights. We should also call on governments to respect press freedom and take steps to protect journalists from harm. By doing so, we can ensure that the press remains a vital and independent watchdog, holding those in power accountable and providing citizens with the information they need to make informed decisions.

Dananga Karunarathne (15 years)
Lakdasa De Mel College, Kurunegala

Best Dad Badge

Father's Day is just around the corner and you may be looking for some easy Father's Day craft ideas.

Let's see how to make this awesome gift for Father's Day!

Method:

Step 1

Cut the coloured A4 paper into two equal sized pieces vertically.



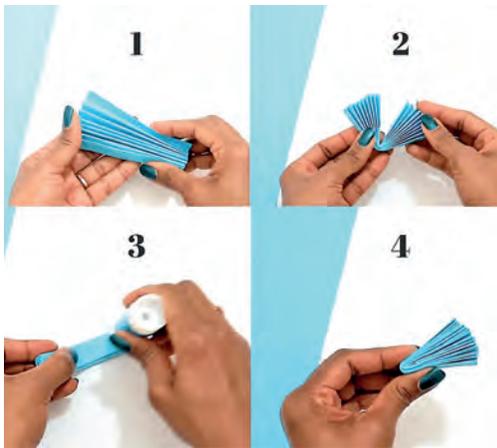
Step 2

Take one piece of paper and start making accordion folds, all the way till the end.



Step 3

Once you have completed making the accordion folds, fold it in half. Then apply glue on one side and glue it together by pressing from both the sides.



What you need:

- ◆ A4 coloured paper
- ◆ Two paper strips, approximate size 4 x 13 cm each
- ◆ White paper
- ◆ Glue
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Colour pen or marker



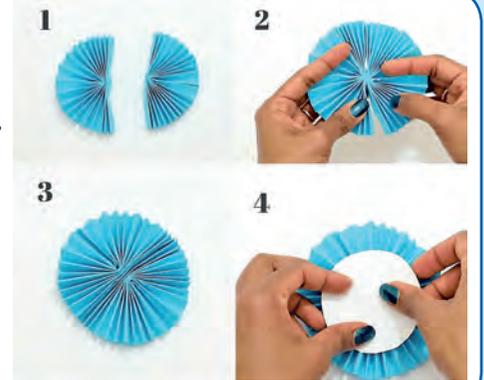
Step 4

After gluing both the sides together, you will get a mini paper fan. At the bottom of this paper fan, you will see two or three folds which are loose and can be stretched out. We don't want them to stay loose. Apply some glue at the centre and glue them together.



Step 5

Take the other piece of paper left from Step 1 and repeat Steps 2 to 4. Now, you will have two paper fans. Glue them together at the bottom and you will get a rosette. Cut a circle out of white paper and glue it over the rosette. Make sure it is smaller than the rosette.



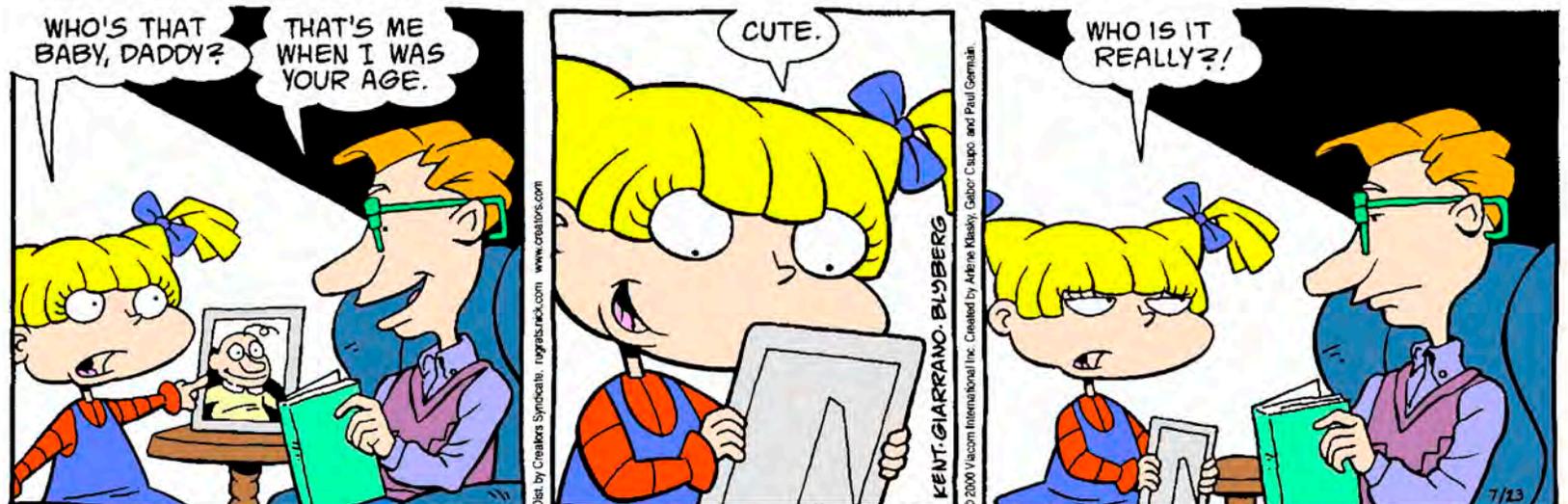
Step 6

Cut ribbons out of two coloured paper strips and glue them together. Now, you can glue the ribbons at the back of the rosette and write your favourite words for daddy on the white paper!



Source: Internet

Rugrats



Apple Vision Pro: AR headset 'you look through, not at'

June 6, 2023

Tech giant Apple has revealed its first headset called Vision Pro.

Apple's CEO Tim Cook described it as "the first computer you look through, not at" while demonstrating it at the firm's US head office in California.

He said the technology "seamlessly" blended the real world with the digital world allowing users to "see, hear and interact with digital content just like it's in your physical space".

It has a two-hour battery life and will be released in the US in early 2024.

The predicted retail price is expected to be \$3,499 (£2,849).

How does Vision Pro work?

The product uses a combination of Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) technology.

AR, also known as Mixed Reality, allows people to see and interact with digital objects and information while viewing the real world at the same time.

The headset design has been compared to ski-goggles that you could wear and look through to use apps, watch movies and write documents in a virtual world. Apple said Vision Pro was like a new TV, surround sound system,



Apple's CEO Tim Cook showed off the new tech at the firm's US headquarters in California.

powerful laptop and games console all in one.

The device has five sensors, 12 cameras and six microphones and is controlled using your hands, eyes and voice – by doing things like tapping your fingers together to select items, and flicking them to scroll.

"Apple Vision Pro will change the way we communicate, collaborate, work and enjoy entertainment," Mr. Cook said.

Disney's chief executive, Bob Iger, said Disney would work with Apple to create new experiences specifically for the device, and showed off examples like Star Wars-themed virtual cinemas, AR replays for sports and a Marvel VR experience.

What do all the words mean?

- ◆ **Extended Reality (XR)** – is the umbrella term that refers to augmented reality, virtual reality and mixed reality.
- ◆ **Augmented Reality** – allows people to see and interact with digital objects and information while viewing the real world at the same time.
- ◆ **Virtual Reality** – creates a completely digital experience. It means you can look through a VR headset and see a completely different place, like outer space or a jungle.
- ◆ **Mixed Reality** – also known as Augmented Reality (AR) uses a combination of Virtual Reality (VR) and the real world.



People can see their work, as well as chat to other people.

So far, the demand for wearable technology, such as VR headsets, is pretty low. Vision Pro's high price tag might also put people off, compared to cheaper headsets currently available to buy.

'Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse' sweeps US box office

June 6, 2023

The latest Spider-Man film, 'Across the Spider-Verse', has broken box office ticket sale predictions in the US. It was projected to make \$100 million in its first weekend and has made more than \$120m.

What is the film about?

'Across the Spider-Verse' is the sequel to 2018's 'Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse'.

The film follows young Miles Morales as he discovers more about the multiverse and meets a team of Spider-people, tasked with keeping the Spider-Verse safe.

As well as the fate of the Spider-Verse, Miles has to deal with his own concerns as a teenager – such as balancing his school grades and



Miles Morales stars in a new adventure 'Across the Spider-Verse'.

college prospects, with his role as the neighbourhood Spider-Man.

The film features some old favourites from 'Into the Spider-Verse', as well as some cool new additions to the team, like Spider-Punk.

Box office smash

The predicted ticket sales forecast for the opening weekend is based on how much interest fans and the public have

in the film, so achieving higher ticket sales on release than forecast is great news for the filmmakers.



The film gives more backstory about Miles' friend Spider-Gwen also known as Spider-Woman.

The previous film release, 'Into the Spider-Verse', was extremely successful and won a Golden Globe award for its animation. It was also nominated for an Oscar. It is part of a trilogy and the final instalment, 'Beyond the Spider-Verse', is due out next year.

Source: CBBC Newsround

June 6

News in Pictures



Djenné, Mali
Children help during the replastering of the Great Mosque of Djenné in central Mali. Thousands of people gather each year to replaster the walls of the mosque, the current mud structure of which dates from 1907.



Surabaya, Indonesia
An environmental activist wears plastic next to a mannequin dressed in plastic waste as part of a campaign against climate breakdown, marking World Environment Day.



Delhi, India
The Yamuna River covered with toxic foam caused by industrial discharge.



Ver-sur-Mer, France
A D-day veteran wipes away tears during the Royal British Legion service of remembrance to commemorate the 79th anniversary of the D-day landings, at the British Normandy Memorial. The service remembers the 22,442 service personnel from 38 different countries who died under British command on D-day and during the Battle of Normandy in the summer of 1944.

June 5

Bogotá, Colombia
Members of a bike collective join forces to create a monumental bike using their own bicycles. Bogotá, a city of about 8 million people, has cycle paths covering over 360 km of it. Almost 84,000 people use Bogotá's cycle network every day, cutting costs and reducing pollution.



Balasore, India
A drone image shows diggers removing damaged carriages after three trains collided in the eastern state of Odisha in India's worst rail disaster in decades.



June 4



Paris, France
Participants attempt to beat the record of the 'World's Biggest Dictation' on the prestigious Champs-Elysees Avenue, transformed into a giant classroom.

La Paz, Bolivia
Dancers from the Morena da fraternity perform during the Jesus of the Great Power Festival, which was added to UNESCO's list of Cultural Intangible Heritage of Humanity in 2019.

San Juan La Laguna, Guatemala
A Salvadoran team takes on rival players from Honduras during the third Central American Mayan ball game tournament. Teams from Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador are competing in a tournament that seeks to keep the ancestral game alive.



Source : The Guardian