

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JUNE 18, 2023



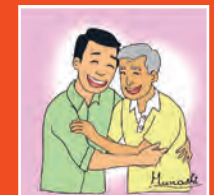
FUNDA DAY TIMES



Celebrating Poson

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

COMPETITIONS
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EVENTS
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(ONLINE)



MATHS
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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.

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:

July 5, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

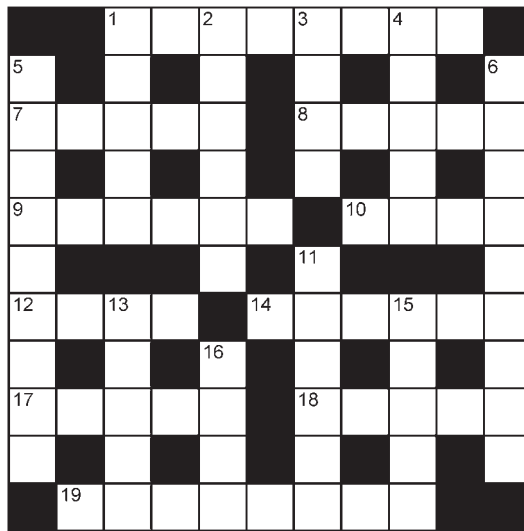


In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Maths
- **Page 6** – Animals
- **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.

Junior Crossword – No. 980



Across

- Least expensive
- Your body's pump
- A raffle winner gets this
- Manufacturers
- Untidy shambles
- This liquid chemical can burn skin
- Take photos with this
- Requirements
- Book name
- Murderer

Down

- Blackboard writing-stick
- Goes in
- Young dogs
- Grin
- A special French wine
- A daily publication
- A prickly desert plant
- Thoughts
- Chewed up and swallowed
- The largest continent

Please write your full name, date of birth, home address, mobile number and school on your entry.



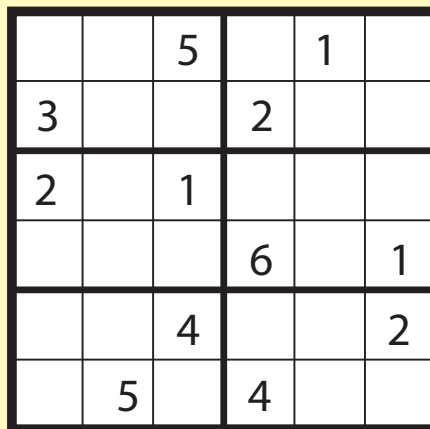
Tharindu de Silva,
Galle

All entries must be certified by a teacher or parent as your own work.

Solution - No 978



Sudoku
341



Compiled by Peter Fernando

1. In the large square you can see three features:

Vertical columns

Six vertical columns with six small squares in each column.

Horizontal columns

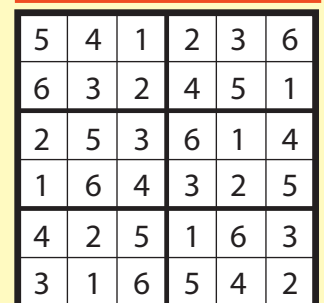
Six horizontal columns with six small squares in each of them.

Grids

Six boxes or grids with six small squares in each grid

2. Insert Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 in the small squares in a way so as not to repeat the same number twice.

Solution – No. 339



Now try to complete Junior Sudoku 341 using logic and reasoning. This is a good exercise for your mind.

Happy Birthday



Yashan Ibrahim
8 years on June 15

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.

The Best Father's Day

By Manoshi De Silva

It was Father's Day!

Sadaru held his sister Savee's hand before crossing the road to get to the little bookshop on the other side. The two children were planning on making a card to give their father for Father's Day. The bookshop had shiny paper and other things that could make their card extra beautiful. Their father had gone out promising that he'd be back by evening, which gave them enough time to make a card.

A well dressed elderly gentleman at the bus halt caught Sadaru's eye. He just stared blankly as the two children passed him, as if he was deep in thought. "I haven't seen this *Seeya* around here before. Maybe he's waiting for a bus," thought Sadaru as he walked passed him.

The children bought a lot of nice things to make the card, with the pocket money they had saved. "This card is going to look great!" said Savee as they walked out of the shop. "Yes, *Thatththa* will be very happy when we give it to him, this evening," smiled Sadaru.

As the children stood by the road to cross it, Sadaru turned and looked at the elderly gentleman who was still there. A couple of empty buses went past him, but he didn't bother to get into them or even look at them. "Maybe, he's waiting for someone," thought Sadaru as they crossed the road.

The children went home and started making the Father's Day card. They worked hard till afternoon. "This is so pretty!" said Savee. "Now let's write 'Happy Father's Day' and sign our names," said Sadaru. He took out the glitter pen and wrote the letter 'H' but nothing got written on the card.

Savee took a rough paper and scribbled on it with the pen. But it didn't work. "Looks like the ink is over," sighed Sadaru. "Shall we write with a normal pen?" asked Savee. "No, we worked so hard on this. Let's not spoil it now," said Sadaru. "We have a little more pocket money left. I'll run to the bookshop and buy a new pen."

Sadaru ran out to the road. He was surprised to see the elderly gentleman still at the bus halt.



"He can't be waiting for a bus or anyone for this long!" thought Sadaru. As Sadaru crossed the road, he took a good look at the old man. He didn't look like he was begging for money, like some people who stayed near the bus halt sometimes.

The elderly gent just stared at the sky. He looked tired. The sun was shining brightly and it was a very warm day. "He must be so hungry, being here from morning!" thought Sadaru. He went and bought a glitter pen from the bookshop. There was a small bakery not too far from the bookshop. Sadaru went and bought a bun and a water bottle from there.

"Will this *Seeya* get angry if I give him this?" he wondered holding the bakery bag tight. Nevertheless, he decided to give the elderly gent the food and water. He slowly went near him and asked, "Excuse me, would you like to have a bun and some water?" Sadaru was ready to run away if he was scolded.

The gentleman lifted his tired face and looked at the boy as if he had just woken up from a dream. Then he took the bag. "Thank you!" he said very softly. The gentleman started eating quickly, as if he had been starving for days. "I saw you in the morning too, *Seeya*."

Are you waiting for a bus?" asked Sadaru. "I am waiting for my mother," replied the elderly gent. Sadaru was surprised. This gent looked as old as his own *Seeya*, and Sadaru knew that it was not possible for him to be waiting for his mother. Something was not right here.

Sadaru very gently asked the elderly gentleman for his name and address. But he could only remember his name. He couldn't remember anything else. Sadaru felt that he couldn't just leave the *Seeya* there and ignore him. So he asked him to stay there and quickly went home and told Savee what had happened. Then they called their father and informed him.

When Sadaru's father came home, both children went with him to where the *Seeya* was. Sadaru's father spoke to him kindly and realized that the elderly gentleman was suffering from memory loss. "We have to help this *Seeya* find his home,"

said the children and their father agreed. So they contacted the nearby Police Station.

How happy the two children and their father were to learn that the elderly gentleman's family had informed a few police stations about his disappearance, after searching for him everywhere. He was from about two towns away. The police contacted the gentleman's family and within a very short time, his son rushed to the police station and hugged his father with tear-filled eyes.

The *Seeya*'s son, who was around the same age as the children's father, thanked them so much and so did the Police. They also commended the kids for being such caring children.

The *Seeya*'s son explained that his father was suffering from Dementia, a condition where people forget things. He was also under medication.

The son hugged the two children and their father and thanked them again before he left with his father. "I can't thank you enough for finding my father!" he said.

After going home, the children quickly completed the Father's Day card and handed it to their father. "Thank you two so much for this and also for making Father's Day extra special for another person as well. I am so happy that father was united with his son. This has got to be the best Father's Day!" he said hugging his two children.



Vidura College held Poson celebrations on June 2 at Vidyalankara Pirivena, Kelaniya.
Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



Asian International Montessori School, Battaramulla held its annual Art & Craft exhibition titled 'Artist's Heart' recently. The entire school was beautified with all the children's talent on display.

Pix by Eshan Fernando

Achievement

Yashan Ibrahim, a Grade Three student of Negombo South International School, Piliyandala won First Place in the Under 10 Boys 75 m and 50 m events and was selected as Champion in his age group.



Tomahawk Quiz



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



Tomahawk Quiz 206
Santhisha Abayakoon



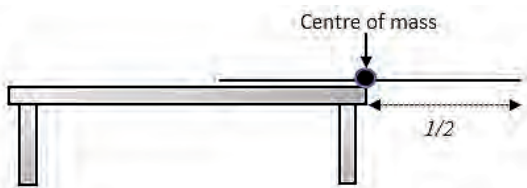
Tomahawk Quiz 204
Gavith Belligaswatta

Maths in Action 74
By R. N. A. de Silva

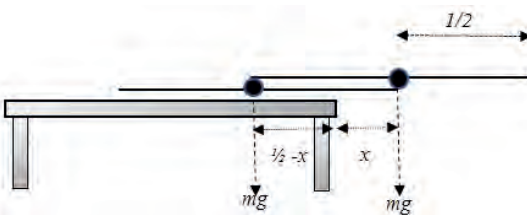
The Leaning Tower of Lire

We are all used to stacking books or other similar items on top of each other to make a pile. Similarly, placing identical books or rectangular blocks in a stable stack on a table edge in such a way as to maximize the overhang is called the 'block stacking problem' or the 'leaning tower of lire'. How far do you think that you can stack? Mathematicians have shown that there is no end - that you can keep stacking forever.

Consider the first block. As the centre of mass is in the middle, you can balance it so that the overhang is half the length of the block.



Now consider two blocks, where the second block is kept below the first. To find out, the overhang of the second block (x) which is now resting on the table, we need to use the 'principle of moments'.



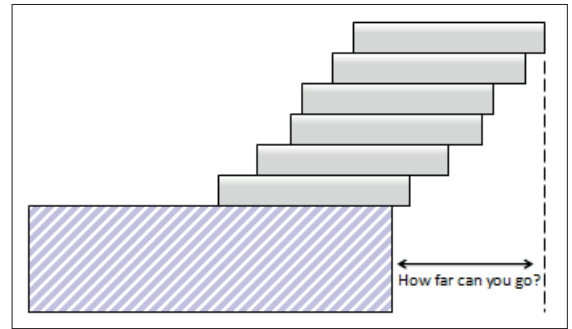
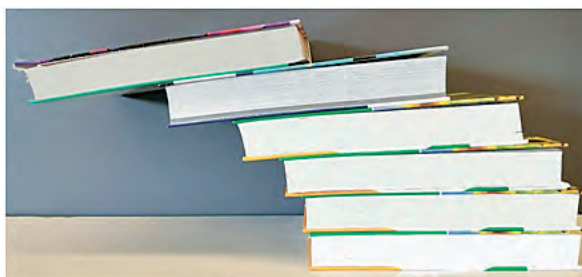
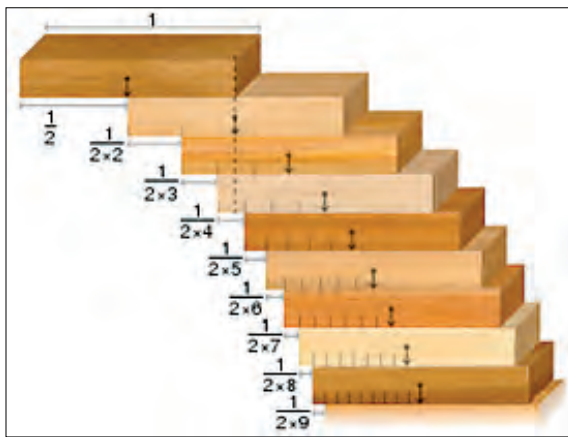
If the weight of each block is mg , we obtain $mg(\frac{1}{2} - x) = mg \cdot x$ which gives $\frac{1}{2} - x = x$.

Therefore $x = \frac{1}{4}$ and the total overhang is $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ of the length of the block.

If you consider a third block, you will find that the total overhang is $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{11}{12}$, which is almost the length of a book.

If you consider 'n' blocks, the total overhang will be $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{8} + \dots + \frac{1}{2n}$, which can be simplified as $\frac{1}{2} (1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots + \frac{1}{n})$.

This type of series based on successive reciprocal numbers is known as the harmonic series. This is known to be a divergent series which means that the sum approaches infinity as 'n' approaches infinity. This means that you can keep on stacking without end.



Math Plot - 74

Try to find the solution to the following puzzle. You may send solutions with reasoning to rnades@gmail.com 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.

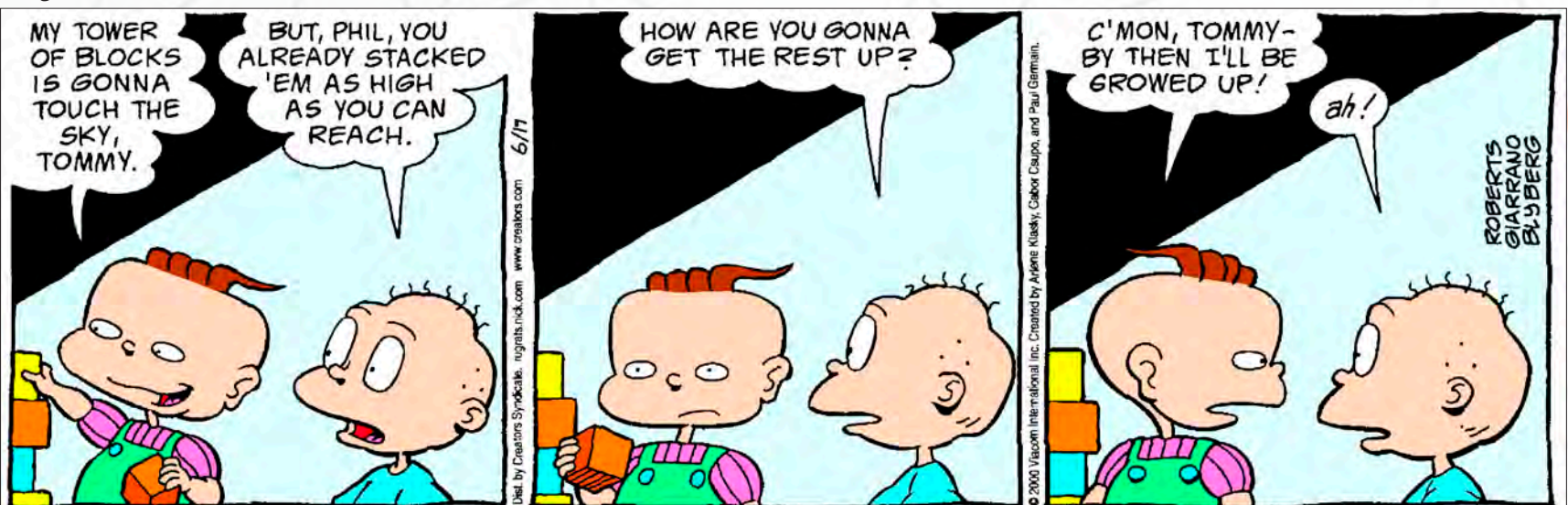
On every birthday since Jack was born, he has had a cake decorated with the appropriate number of candles. He has had 210 candles blown out so far. How old is he?

Math Plot 73 – Solution

The smallest number divisible by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 is 2520.

The winner is Onithi Herath of Royal Int. School, Kurunegala. Congratulations!

Rugrats



Leatherback Sea Turtle

Leatherback sea turtles are the largest turtles on Earth. An adult leatherback sea turtle is generally longer than an average-size man is tall and they can weigh up to a massive 900 kg – that’s heavier than 11 men!

Leatherbacks have four broad flippers, a triangular head and a barrel-shaped body covered by a large, black, speckled (with white or yellow spots) shell (or carapace). But unlike other species of sea turtles, such as the loggerhead and green sea turtle, the leatherback’s shell isn’t hard. Instead, as its name suggests, this ocean giant has a leathery shell that’s quite soft and flexible; it feels almost rubbery.

Like other turtle species, leatherbacks migrate huge distances between their breeding and feeding areas. During the ‘nesting season’, the female crawls onto the beach where she hatched as a baby many years before, and digs a hole in the sand. She then lays about 100 eggs in the hole, covers them with sand and heads back to sea. Sea turtles do not guard their nests, so the babies are on their own. The eggs take about two months to hatch. The tiny hatchlings are only 2 – 3 inches (5 – 8 cm) long.

Newly hatched sea turtles dig their way out of the sandy nest and instinctively head from the nest to the sea, but in areas where people live, the hatchlings often become confused by lights from houses built along shore.

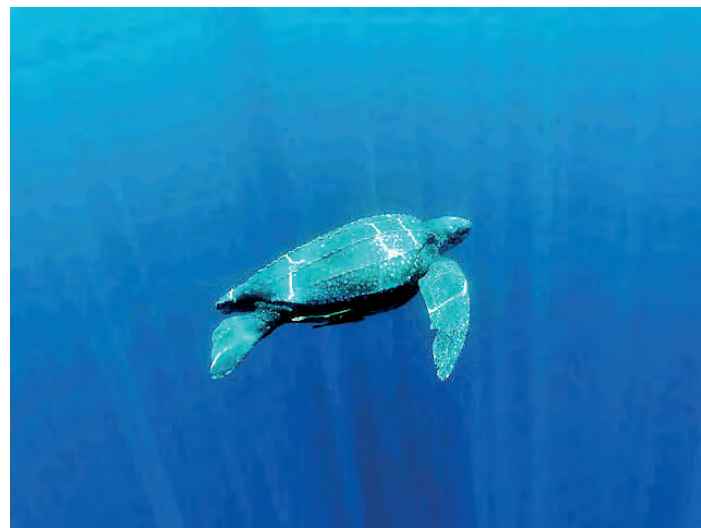
So, instead of heading to sea, they head toward the lights.

As the hatchlings scurry across the sand, gulls and other birds often scoop them up. They also have to be careful of snakes, crabs and other predators. Those that do make it to the water, face further threats from other predators, such as sharks and big fish, who await them in the waves. It is estimated that as few as one in a thousand may make it to adulthood.

Another hazard for sea turtles is floating plastic trash, which they often mistake for jellyfish, their main food. Leatherbacks must breathe air at the surface, but can stay underwater for up to 35 minutes at a time. Only females ever leave the ocean. They are often caught by accident in fishing nets. Stuck underwater, they drown.

These brilliant, big reptiles have been on our planet for a seriously long time – a 100 million years in fact, when dinosaurs roamed the Earth! But sadly, their future is uncertain. Due to destruction of sea turtle nesting beaches, the illegal collection of turtle eggs and pollution, leatherback turtles are today one of the more endangered creatures on Earth.

National Geographic Kids



Common Name:	Leatherback Sea Turtle
Scientific Name:	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>
Type:	Reptile
Diet:	Carnivore
Average Life Span in the wild:	45 years
Size:	Up to 7 feet
Weight:	Up to 2,000 pounds
IUCN status:	Vulnerable



Children survive alone in rainforest for 40 days

June 13, 2023

Four children have survived alone in Colombia's Amazon rainforest for 40 days. On May 1, their small airplane crashed. Somehow, the children managed to survive for over a month in the jungle before being rescued. News that they were safe brought joy to the entire country.

The children were flying with their mom from the village of Araracuara, to San Jose del Guaviare. Their small plane had engine trouble and crashed in the rainforest. Sadly, all three adults on the plane died, including the children's mother. This left the four children alone in the jungle. The oldest was a 13-year-old girl. Next was a 9-year-old, a 4-year-old, and an 11-month-old baby.

The children are members of the Indigenous Huitoto tribe. The Huitotos live in the Amazon rainforest, so the children were familiar with some of the plants and fruits that could be found there. At first, the children lived off of flour made from cassava roots. They had found the flour in the airplane wreckage. When they ran out of flour, the children used their knowledge of the forest's fruits and seeds to survive. Luckily, it was a time when many rainforest plants were producing fruit.

As soon as the plane went down, people started searching to see if anyone had survived. After two weeks, the plane was found. The people searching found signs that the children

might still be alive. Rescue teams flew in helicopters and dropped boxes of food, hoping the children would find them. But they couldn't see the ground because the forest was so thick. The helicopters even played a recorded message from the children's grandmother, encouraging the kids to avoid moving around.

Over 150 soldiers were sent out with dogs to search on the ground. The teams left whistles around, hoping the children would find and use them. Around 70 Indigenous volunteers also helped search. At different points in time, the search teams found signs of the children – a bottle, a partly-eaten piece of fruit, and even a rough shelter made by the children.

Last Friday, after more than a month, the soldiers finally found the children in a small clearing in the forest, about 3 miles (5 km) from where the plane had crashed. The children were very weak, but they were alive. The soldiers who found the children wrapped them in blankets and gave them drinks. A helicopter was used to lift the kids up and out of the rainforest.

Everyone was extremely happy and relieved that the children were safe.



Colombian soldiers and volunteers help the children.

Colombian President Gustavo Petro said they were an "example of total survival that will go down in history."

The children are now at a hospital in Colombia's capital, Bogota, where they are expected to stay for about two weeks. The story of the children's survival has inspired many people. It has also shown how the knowledge and skills of Indigenous people can help in difficult times.

Did You Know?

The search for the missing children has also brought together two groups that have had trouble getting along – the military and Colombia's Indigenous groups.

In the past, these two groups have often disagreed. But during the search, everyone worked together to find and rescue the children.

Spelling event takes over Paris street

June 8, 2023

The famous Champs-Elysees street in Paris was turned into a giant outdoor classroom last Sunday, for a special spelling event known as "La Grande Dictée des Champs", or "The Big Dictation of Champs-Elysees."



The event was a chance for people who love words, to show off their listening and spelling skills in an unusual setting.

Sunday's massive event was organized by a writer named Rachid Santaki, often called "Monsieur Dictée," or "Mr. Dictation." Mr. Santaki came up with the idea of large groups of people taking part in dictations back in 2013. He thought it could help people in France get better at reading and writing.

Over 50,000 people asked to join the special spelling event on the Champs-Elysees, which turned one of Paris's busiest streets into a classroom,



with cars replaced by desks. In the end, around 5,000 people, aged 10 to 90 were chosen to take part.

'The Big Dictation' also wanted to break the record for the largest dictation event ever. The previous record was set in 2018 at France's national stadium, Stade de France, with 1,473 people taking part.

Source: NewsForKids

June 13

News in Pictures



Brodsworth, England
Members of Brodsworth Hall Croquet Club play on the lawns in South Yorkshire. The game is thought to have been played at the hall since the 1860's.



Dakar, Senegal
Penda Fall (13 years), is pictured on International Albinism Awareness Day. Penda said she wanted to become a paediatrician one day so that she could help other children suffering from albinism and other diseases.



Munich, Germany
Matthias Weniger, curator of the Bavarian National Museum, lifts a silver object stolen by the Nazis from Jews during the Third Reich. Museum staff have made it their mission to return as many of the 111 silver objects it holds as possible, to the descendants of the original owners.

Kherson, Ukraine
Streets are flooded in Kherson after the Nova Kakhovka dam was blown up. Ukraine's president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, declared the destruction of the dam an 'environmental bomb of mass destruction' and said only liberating the entire country would stop new 'terrorist' acts.



June 12

Paris, France
A joyous Novak Djokovic returns to the locker room with his third French Open title. The all-conquering star has also won ten Australian Opens, seven Wimbledon and three US Open titles to hold a record-breaking total of 23 Grand Slam titles.



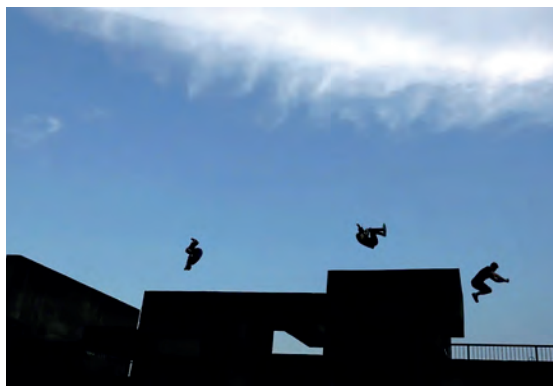
Ampara, Sri Lanka
Wild elephants eat rubbish containing plastic waste at a dump in Ampara. Sri Lanka is launching a nationwide clean-up of plastic waste before new laws banning the sale of single-use plastics after a spate of deaths of elephants and deer.



Tokyo, Japan
A visitor looks at a model of La Sagrada Família, displayed during the press preview of the Gaudí and Sagrada Família exhibition at the National Museum of Modern Art. The exhibition presents more than 100 drawings, models, photographs and materials.



Dhaka, Bangladesh
Schoolgirls return home by rickshaw as streets are flooded during heavy rain.



Peterlee, England
Parkour athletes Craig Cheel, Dan Calvert and Jai Smith during a practice session at the Apollo Pavilion in County Durham.

Source : The Guardian