

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
JULY 23, 2023

FUN DAY TIMES



COMPETITIONS
PAGES 2 & 4



REPORT
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(ONLINE)

WINNERS!
ESSAYS
PAGE 5

KIDS NEWS
PAGES 6 - 8

Fun at a Farmers Market

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

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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:**

August 9, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com

**Win super
books
from**



Age: 9 years and below

Word Count: 150

Topic: A village fair or pola

Win: Stuart Little by E. B. White

Stuart Little is no ordinary mouse. Though he's shy and thoughtful, he has a very adventurous spirit. When his best friend, a little bird called Margalo, disappears from her nest, Stuart goes out into the wide world on his greatest adventure of all to look for her. But will he find her?



Write at the top of your Essay

■ **Book Competition** ■ **Essay Topic**

Market Day at Immy Kids

**Immy Kids International
Montessori held a
Farmers Market on July 13,
to help kids learn about healthy
and fresh fruits and vegetables.**

Pix. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



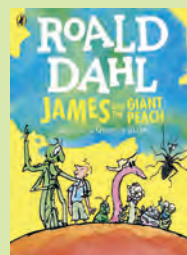
Age: 10 – 12 years

Word Count: 150 – 200

**Topic: A machine I would like
to invent**

**Win: James and the Giant Peach
by Roald Dahl**

James Henry Trotter is about to go on the adventure of a lifetime. James lives with his awful Aunt Sponge and Aunt Spiker. Life isn't much fun at all, until something peculiar happens at the bottom of his garden... A peach at the very top of a tree begins to grow... and grow... and GROW! Inside are seven very unusual insects – all waiting to take James on a magical journey.



Age: 13 – 15 years

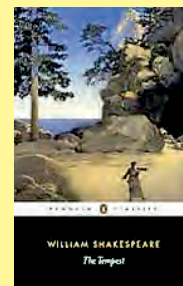
Word Count: 200 – 250

**Topic: What you know about
Nelson Mandela**

**Win: The Tempest
by William Shakespeare**

A storm rages. Prospero and his daughter watch from their island as a ship carrying the royal family is wrecked. Miraculously all on board survive. Plotting, mistaken identities, bewitching love and enchantment follow.

Shakespeare's great play is a work filled with marvels, music and strangeness, fully exploiting the power of language and the magic of theatre.



Book Competition **WINNERS!**

9 years and below

My father
Methuka Wijetilleka
Vidura College,
Nawala

10 – 12 years

Celebrating Father's Day
Nuha Riswan
Ilma Int. School,
Colombo 5

13 – 15 years

**The impact of plastic pollution
on the environment**
Dananga Karunarathne
Lakdasa De Mel College, Kurunegala

From a Funday Times Young Reporter

Food Day at Methodist College Primary

May 30 was our Methodist College Primary Food Day.

Food Day is when we make different types of simple food at school, like buns and sandwiches.

A week before the event, my teacher sent us a list of what to bring. Apart from that, I made my own lime and passion fruit juice. It was an enormous pack of goods that I had to take.

My mom helped me by making the sandwich filling with carrot, beetroot and butter. She put everything in different boxes and packed them for me in the morning. With the help of my *Thaththi*, I stuffed all my things into our car.



I was so excited to get to school that when I arrived, I rushed forwards to my class and got ready to start making food. I wore my hat and apron, so did everyone else.

Our teacher was expecting a presentable dish. So we tried our best to make it. We started off by cutting out the crusts. Once we were done, we started to flatten the bread with a rolling pin. Soon we were spreading the paste on our flat bread.

Then we began to roll our bread and gently wrapped it in a lunch sheet and waited for an hour.

While we were waiting, we started to clean our tables. After an hour, we un-wrapped the rolls and cut them into pieces.

We added decorations and served. We all enjoyed this amazing event!

Senuri Gunawardana (9 years)
Methodist College



Young Reporters

If you are interested in joining as a Funday Times Young Reporter please fill in the coupon given and send it in to us along with a recent report or interview not exceeding 300 words. Photographs or illustrations would enhance the report.

Young Reporters who have already enrolled with us, please send in new reports for publication.



Or



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Young Reporters Coupon

Name:
Date of Birth:
Address:
.....
Telephone:
School:
Parent's approval: Date:
.....

Jokes

What do you call a snowman in July?

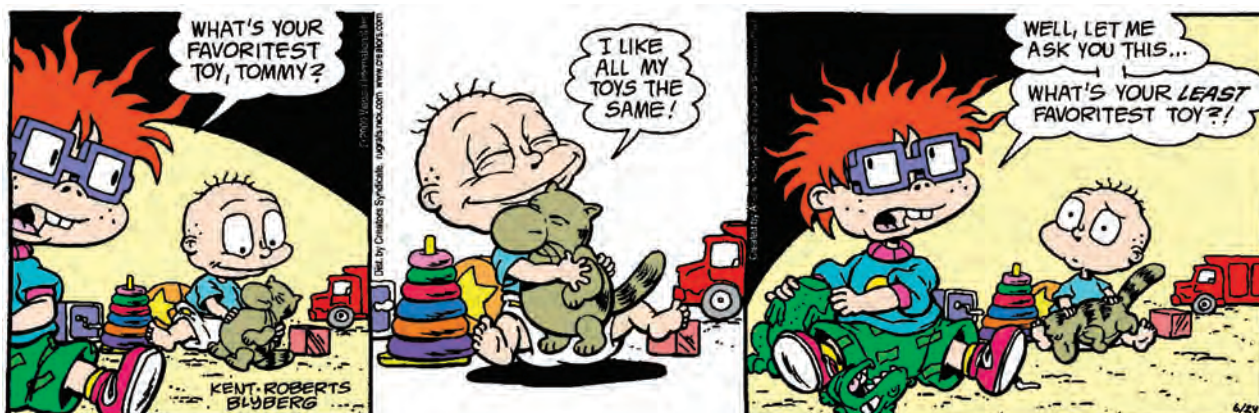
A puddle.



What happens when you throw a green rock into the Red Sea?

It gets wet.

Rugrats



In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Book Comp. Essays
- **Pages 6 & 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. 209

Questions for Tomahawk Quiz No. 209

are based on articles appearing in the
Funday Times print issue and e-papers
of June 4, 11, 18 and 25, 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. 209' 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: July 31, 2023

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QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 209

1. When is World Oceans Day commemorated and what is the theme for 2023?
2. Which landmark is considered as the birthplace of Buddhism in Sri Lanka?
3. Which species are the largest turtles on Earth? Name two hazards they face.
4. When is World Refugee Day held and what does it aim to raise awareness of?
5. Name the submersible that went missing in the North Atlantic recently.



Or



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7 - 9 years

WINNERS

- ▶ Minthaka Odamsath, Ruggahawila
- ▶ Zaid Shifaz, Dehiwala
- ▶ Abdur Rahman, Colombo 2
- ▶ Oshin Wijeweera, Battaramulla
- ▶ Yashan Sarosh, Mattegoda

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

7 – 9 AGE GROUP

Spot 7 differences between the pictures.



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9 years and below

My father

My father's name is Kanchana Wijetilleka. He is 44 years old. He studied at Ananda College, Colombo. My father is an IT consultant. He works at Virtusa.

He loves 'Tintin' since his childhood. He has a big collection of 'Tintin' books. Reading, listening to music and watching movies are his hobbies. His favourite singer is Michael Jackson. 'You Are Not Alone' is the song he likes the most. He likes to eat pasta and he cooks tasty pasta for us. His favourite colour is blue. He brings toys and chocolates for my brother and me. On Sundays he takes my brother and me to music class. For my 7th birthday he gave me a LEGO Ninja set. He helps me to do my homework well. I help him all the time.

My father always protects us. My father loves my mother, my brother and me very much. He is the best father a son could ever have. I love him very much. I am going to make him proud on Father's Day.

Methuka Wijetilleka (7 years)
Vidura College, Nawala

Book Competition



10 – 12 years

Celebrating Father's Day

A father is a male parent who is role model for us. A father is an important person in a family. Father is a person who protects and safeguards the family. A father also teaches the children how to be kind, helpful and respect others. So we celebrate Father's Day annually.

We can celebrate Father's Day by spending time with our father and by giving memorable gifts. We can cook a special meal for our fathers. And the most important thing of celebrating Father's Day is to show your love and gratitude towards your father.

We celebrate Father's Day at our homes or we can go out to restaurants and parks and

engage in activities to make it a memorable moment. Father's Day is celebrated on June 15 this year. We can make cards and crafts for our fathers and make them happy. Father's Day can involve creating a joyful atmosphere where the entire family comes together. We can organize a family gathering or a surprise party which is even better!

Father's Day is a special occasion to celebrate and honour our amazing dads. Let us make Father's Day a memorable and meaningful day filled with love and gratitude for our fathers in our lives.

Nuha Riswan (12 years)
Ilma Int. School, Colombo 5

13 – 15 years

The impact of Plastic Pollution on the Environment

Plastic pollution has emerged as a grave environmental issue, with far-reaching consequences for our planet. The detrimental effects of plastic waste on the environment are evident, affecting ecosystems and posing a significant threat to the natural world.

One of the most concerning impacts of plastic pollution is its effect on marine ecosystems. Every year, enormous amounts of plastic waste enter our oceans, causing harm to marine life. Animals mistakenly ingest or become entangled in plastic debris, leading to injuries, suffocation and death. This disruption in the marine food chain has far-reaching consequences for the balance and biodiversity of aquatic environments.

Plastic pollution also takes a toll on terrestrial habitats. The accumulation of plastic waste contaminates soil, hindering its fertility and negatively impacting plant growth. Additionally, microplastics – tiny fragments of plastic – infiltrate the soil and persist for extended periods. These particles can find their way into the food chain, potentially endangering animal and human health and further disrupting the delicate equilibrium of ecosystems.

Moreover, plastic pollution significantly affects human well-being and the environment. Improperly managed plastic waste leads to the blockage of drainage systems, resulting in floods and damage to communities. The incineration of plastic waste releases toxic pollutants into the atmosphere, contributing to air pollution and its associated health risks. Single-use plastics and excessive packaging contribute to the global waste crisis, overwhelming landfills and exacerbating environmental degradation.

In conclusion, the impact of plastic pollution on the environment cannot be ignored. Urgent action is needed to address this issue through reducing plastic consumption, promoting recycling, and embracing sustainable alternatives, in order to safeguard our ecosystems and secure a healthier future.

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

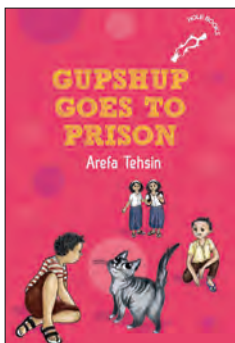
Gupshup Goes to Prison by Arefa Tehsin

"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?"

This story is about an open prison where prisoners are not locked but free to move in and out.



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.

Brothers build model boats to sail around Antarctica

July 17, 2023

Model ships built by two young brothers have been launched on a mission to sail or travel all the way around Antarctica.

Ollie 13, and Harry 11, from Turriff in Aberdeenshire are hoping to be the first people ever to do this, anywhere in the world.

After waiting for official approval for the project for two years, the boys were delighted when the boats were finally launched last week. The metre long boats will go on a journey of more than 12,500 miles, which could take up to two years.

They took inspiration from the Ross scientific expedition of 1839 – 43 where the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror discovered the Ross Ice Shelf, the largest ice shelf of Antarctica which is several hundred metres thick. They decided to build replicas of the two vessels from elm wood, which have been fitted with bespoke tracking and monitoring devices, and have a battery life of more than six years.

During the journey, the boats will transmit back scientific data including



Ollie and Harry built the boats which are replicas for HMS Erebus and HMS Terror which discovered the largest ice shelf of Antarctica.

air temperature, ocean temperature and ocean pH which can be markers of climate change. They are also fitted with cameras which will be able to send around one image a month.

How has the journey been going so far?

After the boats were completed, they were shipped to family friends in the Falkland Islands until the family received official approval from authorities that they could be launched into the Southern Ocean.

The Pharos SG, a South Georgia fisheries patrol vessel, then transported them out and launched them on July 11 into the circumpolar current, the strongest current system in the world oceans and the only ocean current linking all major oceans.

The boats were attacked by seabirds – a pair of petrels – which seemed to think the boats were food but fortunately they soon lost interest and flew away.

The boys hopefully haven't got too attached to their boat creations, as Harry has admitted he doesn't think they will ever be able to be returned. He said: "We're interested to collect data about climate change and also just trying to see what happens to the boats and the end result – though there is a very low chance – to see if we will ever see them again."

The boys are no strangers to such challenges as they have undertaken many adventures, previously setting the world record for the longest distance travelled at sea by a toy boat.

They sailed their Playmobil pirate ship Adventure more than 3,700 miles across the Atlantic to the Caribbean as part of a list of 500 adventures.

– CBBC Newsround

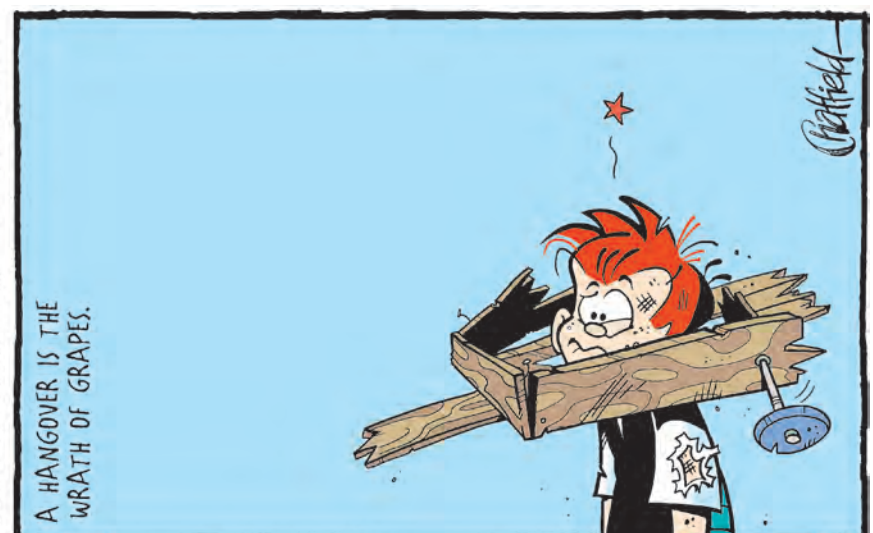


The hulls of the replica boats have been fitted with trackers.

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Heat waves around the world

July 18, 2023

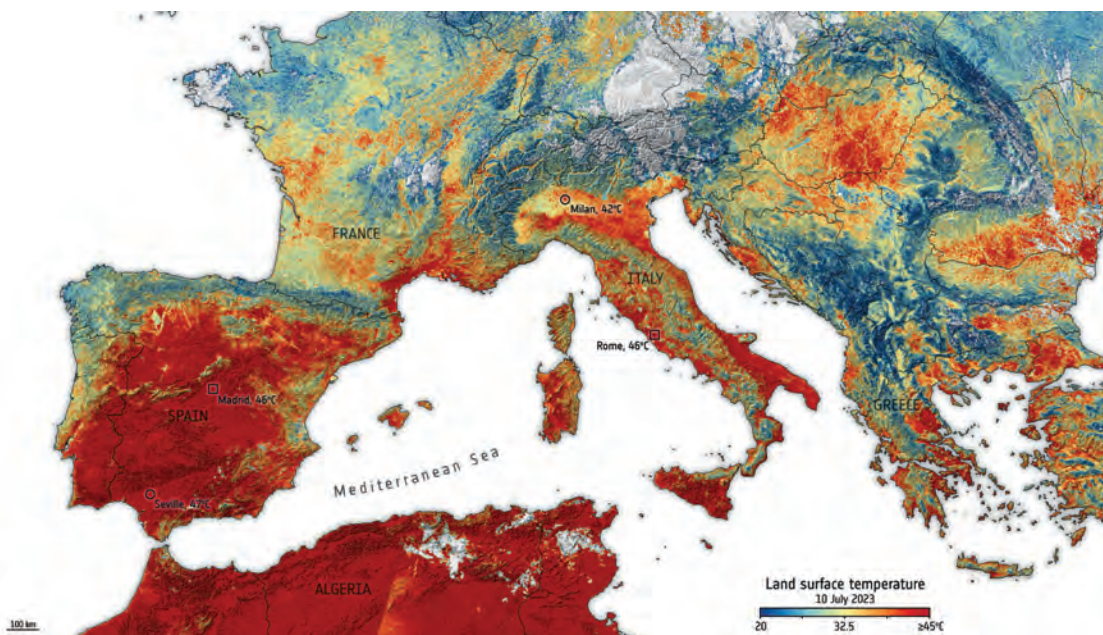
Recently, people around the world have been experiencing some of the hottest weather ever recorded. In some places, the weather has been so hot that it's been dangerous. The extreme weather is being caused by climate change.

In the northern part of the world, summer began in late June. But temperatures around the world are already setting records. In fact, June 2023 was the hottest June ever recorded. From the United States, to Europe, to Africa, to Asia, huge numbers of people are dealing with extremely high temperatures. And even places which aren't so hot are dealing with other kinds of extreme weather.

In the US, the National Weather Service (NWS) has given special warnings about the heat to over 100 million people. Places like Arizona, California, Nevada and Texas are facing unusually high temperatures.

The temperature in Phoenix, Arizona hit 116° Fahrenheit (F) (47° Celsius (C)) yesterday. That was the 18th day in a row that Phoenix had a temperature at or above 110°F (43°C). On Sunday, the temperature reached 128°F (53°C) in California's Death Valley.

Europe is being hit by two heat waves in a row. Many European countries, especially Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain, are also feeling intense heat. Italy has put out 'red alerts' for 16 cities. These alerts warn that even healthy people can be hurt by effects of the heat.



The image above shows temperatures across Europe and parts of northern Africa on July 10, 2023.

Some extremely high temperatures have been predicted for this week: 104°F (40°C) in Portugal, 111°F (44°C) in Spain and Greece, and 118°F (48°C) in Italy. If Italy gets that warm, it will be a European record.

The northern African countries of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia have all experienced temperatures above 113°F (45°C). China is also facing incredibly high temperatures. The capital, Beijing, has recently seen temperatures above 104°F (40°C). The Xinjiang area of China has set a new record by hitting 126°F (52°C).

This hot weather isn't just unpleasant, it's dangerous. The World Meteorological Organization says heat waves can be one of the most dangerous natural disasters.

A recent study suggests that over 61,000 people died in Europe last summer as a result of the record-breaking heat.

But high temperatures aren't the only example of recent extreme weather. The northeast part of the US has been dealing with a record-breaking amount of rain that has caused terrible floods. South Korea and India have also been affected by large and dangerous floods.

The heat is not just affecting the land; it's also warming up the oceans. The water temperature off of Florida's south coast has gone above 90°F (32°C). Temperatures in the Mediterranean Sea are predicted to be warmer than average. These extreme ocean temperatures can be even more damaging for sea life than extremely hot air temperatures are for humans.

Scientists have long predicted that heat waves would grow more common and more severe as a result of global warming. That's certainly part of what's going on now. On top of that, this year there is a natural weather cycle called El Niño, which increases temperatures even more.

Did You Know?

The record for the hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth was set in Death Valley in 1913. That temperature was 134°F (56.7°C).



Tourists use water from the Trevi Fountain in Rome, Italy to keep cool.

July 18

News in Pictures

**Agra, India**

The flooded banks of the Yamuna River beside the Taj Mahal.

**Portland, England**

The Bibby Stockholm barge arrives at Portland Harbour after a refit at Falmouth, to serve as living quarters for up to 500 asylum seekers.

**Istanbul, Turkey**

The TQ Samsun bulk carrier transits the Bosphorus strait during the early hours. It is the last grain ship, carrying corn and rapeseed, to leave Ukraine under the Black Sea grain initiative. Russia notified the UN that it would not extend the Turkey/UN-brokered deal.

**Gaza Strip**

Palestinian children play in a swimming pool to cool down amid a heatwave.

July 17

Surrey, UK

David Barber, the king's swan marker, holds a cygnet to be measured and checked during the annual swan upping on the River Thames in Staines, west of London.

Swan upping is the annual census of the swan population on stretches of the river and dates from the 12th century.

**Hyderabad, India**

A man and two children shield themselves with plastic during monsoon rainfall.

**Hong Kong**

Mainland Chinese tourists run along a promenade during a typhoon. Schools and the stock market were closed as Typhoon Talim swept south of Hong Kong.

**California, USA**

National Park Service rangers Gia Ponce (left) and Christina Caparelli are photographed next to a digital display of an unofficial heat reading at Furnace Creek Visitor Center during a heatwave in Death Valley National Park.

**Edinburgh, UK**

Veterans Peter McKinlay, Alex Shannon and Danny Muir, who have all served with 6 Scots, rehearse in the back of an armoured Mastiff vehicle before their performance in Warriors at the Edinburgh festival fringe.

Source : The Guardian