

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
AUGUST 13, 2023



FUN DAY TIMES



A race to win...

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

WINNERS! 

POETRY & ESSAYS
PAGE 2



EVENTS
PAGES 3 & 5



LANDMARKS
PAGE 4

(ONLINE)

KIDS NEWS
PAGES 7 - 8

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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 30, 2023

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



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

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

6 – 10 years

Flamingo

Flemi the flamingo,
What a beautiful bird,
With pretty pink wings,
Up he springs with a beautiful swing.

Lands in the sea.
With his face full of glee,
Shines like a star,
But not so far.

What a majestic bird you are,
Like a gorgeous model,
What soft, silky wings you have,
You are an angel in the sea.

Senuri Gunawardana
Methodist College, Colombo

Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.



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

The wind's spell

Oh, the wind's spell so enchanting, so grand,
Whispered secrets carried across the land,
With every gust, a tale is unfurled,
An ethereal dance, enchanting the world.

With a mystical voice, it softly sings,
Unfolding stories on unseen wings,
It dances and flutters, in a graceful flight,
Guiding the birds, soaring in delight.

Branches caught in its graceful chase,
Echoing tales of courage and want,
It carries dreams of those who dare,
Blowing away troubles and filling the air.

So, let us surrender, wind's spell take hold,
Allow its enchantment capture our soul,
For in its whispers secrets are unfurled,
And the wind's spell weaves magic in our world.

Chirathi Sethmini
Wycherley Int. School, Colombo



Win super books from



Age: 9 years and below

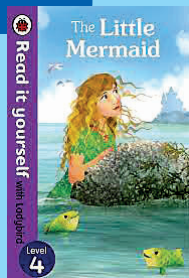
Word Count: 150

Topic: My favourite subject

Win: The Little Mermaid (Ladybird)

The Little Mermaid desperately wants to be human.

Find out what happens when the sea witch grants her wish.



Age: 10 – 12 years

Word Count: 150 – 200

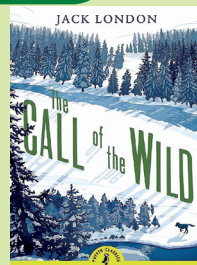
Topic: A country I would like to visit

Win: The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Life is good for Buck the dog in Santa Clara Valley, where he spends his days in the golden sunshine.

But one day, an act of betrayal leads to his kidnap, and he is forced into a life of danger. Dragged away to be a sledge dog in the freezing-cold Yukon, Buck must fight for his survival.

Can he rise above his enemies and become the master of his realm once again?



Age: 13 – 15 years

Word Count: 200 – 250

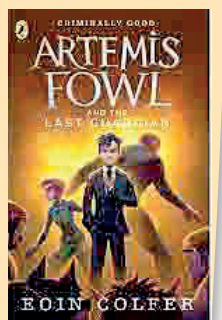
Topic: What you know about Sri Lanka's Indigenous People

Win: Artemis Fowl and the Last Guardian by Eoin Colfer

Opal Kobol is back and up to no good. Some power-crazed pixies never change.

Now Opal plans to wake the spirits of some deadly and angry, long-dead fairy warriors, before releasing an ancient spell to wipe out all human life.

Artemis and his friends must make a final stand against Opal to save humanity.



Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic



Book Competition



10 – 12 years

A superpower I would like to have

Chenaya Somaratne

Musaeus College, Colombo 7

13 – 15 years

Social Media: Pros and Cons

Abilashini Yogendran

St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo 7



Braddy Shield

The second leg of the 77th Braddy Shield encounter between Royal College, Colombo and Trinity College, Kandy was held on August 5 at the Royal College Sports Complex.

Pix by Akila Jayawardena

In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – British Council Event/ Book Winners Essays
- **Page 6** – Young Reporter
- **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.

Vidura College Sportsmeet



Vidura College held their annual sportsmeet on August 2 at the Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

K2

K2 is the second highest mountain in the world, with a peak rising 28,251 feet (8611 m) above sea level. Situated on the border of Pakistan and China, it is commonly known as the 'Savage Mountain' due to its difficult ascent and high fatality rate. The first successful ascent was by an Italian expedition in 1954, though not every climb since has been as successful. In fact, a quarter of those attempting to climb K2 have died as a result of their efforts.

Location

The K2 Mountain is actually situated in two countries (China and Pakistan). It is part of the Karakoram mountain range that straddles the Pakistan-China border.

Interesting Facts

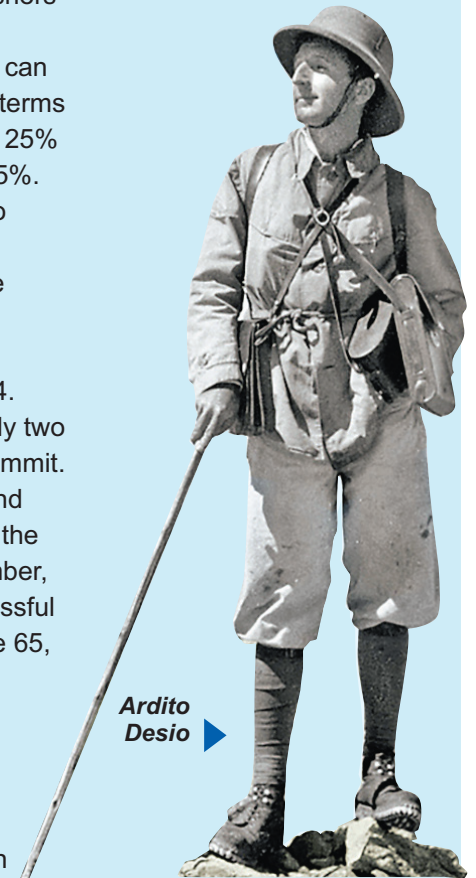
- K2 is a famous mountain in the Karakoram mountain range, second only to Mount Everest in the world in terms of height above sea level.
- The K2 mountain is also very prominent; soaring 13,179 feet (4017 m) above its surrounding terrain – ranking it the 22nd most prominent mountain in the world (more prominent than Everest).
- K2 was originally named as such by a British surveyor named T. G. Mongomerie back in 1852. The 'K' was in reference to the Karakoram mountain range, and the '2' referring to the fact that it was the second peak recorded in the region.
- K2 mountain remains the most publicised name to this day, though the mountain is known under a variety of different monikers. For instance, the Chinese call it *Qogir* (meaning, 'Great Mountain'), the Tibetans, *Chogori* (meaning, 'Large Mountain') whilst others refer to it as Mount Godwin-Austen after Henry Godwin-Austen, an early explorer of the mountain range.



Map of K2

- In 1986, an expedition led by George Wallenstein incorrectly labelled K2 as the tallest mountain in the world; taller than Everest. One year later, a corrective measurement was made, though by that point a number of news outlets and publishers had cited K2 as the world's tallest.
- Though Everest is in fact 800 feet taller, there can be no argument that K2 is on another level in terms of danger, with a fatality rate of approximately 25% compared to Everest's minute in comparison 5%. Furthermore, no person has ever attempted to ascend K2 in winter, meaning the fatality rate during this season would likely far surpass the current 25% experienced.
- The Italian climber, Ardito Desio, led the first successful ascent of K2 mountain in July 1954. However, it was a controversial climb, with only two members of the team actually reaching the summit. Since that date, Wanda Rutkiewicz from Poland became the first woman to successfully climb the K2 peak in June 1986, whilst the Spanish climber, Carlos Soria Fontan became the oldest successful mountaineer to date, reaching the peak at age 65, in 2004.
- In contrast to the increasing commerciality of Mount Everest, K2 remains a challenge that represents the historical spirit of climbing. However, the level of skill required and the tremendous danger present puts the mountain out of reach for all but the most technically advanced, determined mountaineers.

Source: Beautiful World



Ardito Desio

Famous Landmarks Quiz 43

Q: What is K2 and where is it located?



Famous Landmarks Quiz 42



Varunika Dharshan,
Colombo 6



Storytelling at British Council



British Council Kandy held an interactive storytelling session by Georgina Middleton with an activity where children engaged themselves with much enthusiasm. These storytelling sessions have been carried out on a monthly basis and are open to children between 5 – 10 years.

Visit: <https://www.britishcouncil.lk/library/events> for more details.

Cartoon Time!

Hey Kids!
We plan to put in more cartoons in the Funday Times and what's more they will be your own cartoons.



So, here's a chance for you to try your hand at producing your very own original cartoons.

Draw a little cartoon with a caption. It could even be a small cartoon story in a strip (not more than three boxes).

The best cartoons you send will be published in the Funday Times. So good luck to all you cartoon fans!

Please remember that the cartoons you send in should be your original work and not copied or traced from anything. They should be certified as your own work by a parent or teacher.



10 – 12 years

A superpower I would like to have

A superpower I would like to have is the ability to time travel. It could be a fun experience for me. I could meet my ancestors, relatives and my grandparents or cousins that have passed. I would love to meet them and talk to them about certain things that I should know, that have happened in the past.

If I time travelled to the time of the dinosaurs, I could study their movements and abilities and I could write a book and be famous.

I could time travel to the future and see what my marks for my upcoming tests are (hopefully I'll pass) and my achievements in life. I can see if my dreams and wishes do come true. I will meet my future kids and friends.

If people make a big mistake in their decisions to make our world a worse place, I could use my superpower to go back in time and tell them to stop this big mistake they are trying to do and make the world better.

I think it would be so much fun to go skipping through time.

Chenaya Somaratne (10 years)
Musaeus College

Book Competition WINNERS!

13 – 15 years

Social Media: Pros and Cons

Social media is a digital technology that facilitates the sharing of information all over the world. It plays an essential part in our lives. A day without social media is quite unimaginable. Some social media applications are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and WhatsApp.

Social media eases our lives in numerous ways. As it is based on the internet, communication of information is not only possible locally but also overseas. Due to fast transmission, messages can be sent during emergencies.

Search engines such as Google, give us an opportunity to learn new stuff and widen our knowledge. E-business facilities have made marketing easy, and with online ordering, anyone can order anything which also saves travelling expenses and exhaustion.

Platforms such as 'Zoom' support students' learning process

to greater extents, especially during the pandemic crisis. Social Media serves immensely to join loved ones who are geographically separated through video calling facilities.

Though social media is helpful in countless areas, it poses some cons too. The comfort and ease to use social media has made people become addicted to it, resulting in laziness and obesity. As mostly it is used for sharing information, many newspapers and press have been forced to close down. Due to digital threats such as hacking and identity theft, many have faced losses. Mean comments online have resulted in depression and a sense of insecurity, even resulting in suicide.

Therefore, it is vital to be sensible and consider the pros and cons of social media and act wisely.

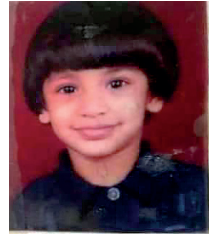
Abilashini Yogendran (14 years)
St. Bridget's Convent

From a Young Reporter

Smriti Mandhana

Smriti Shriniwas Mandhana is an Indian cricketer who represents the Indian women's national cricket team.

She also plays for Royal Challengers Bangalore in the Women's Premier League. In domestic cricket, she represents the Maharashtra cricket team.



Early Life

Mandhana was born on July 18, 1996 in Mumbai, India to Smita and Shrinivas Mandhana in a Marwari family. She is the second child and has one brother.

When she was two years old, the family moved to Madhavnagar, Sangli in Maharashtra, where she completed her schooling. Both her father and brother, Shravan, played cricket at district-level, for Sangli.

She was inspired to take up cricket after watching her brother play at the Maharashtra state Under 16 tournaments. At the age of nine, she was selected to the Maharashtra Under 15 team. At eleven, she was picked for the Maharashtra Under 19 team. She made her debut to the Indian national side on April 10, 2013 playing against Bangladesh in a T20.



International Career

Mandhana made her Test debut in August 2014 against England at Wormsley Park. She helped her team win the match by scoring 22 and 51 in her first and second innings, respectively. In the latter innings, she shared an opening wicket partnership of 76 runs with Thirush Kamini, chasing 182.

She started her 2017 World Cup journey with a bang – ‘The Player of the Match’ for 90 against England in the first of the group matches. She scored her second ODI hundred (106 not out) against West Indies.

Smriti Mandhana scored the fastest fifty for India in Women's T20Is off just 24 balls against New Zealand in February 2019.

In July 2022, she was named Vice Captain of India's team for the cricket tournament at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, England.

Aaysha Ramshad (13 years)
St. Thomas' Girls' School, Matale

Awards

- In June 2018, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) awarded her ‘The Best Women's International Cricketer’ at the BCCI awards.
- In December 2018, the International Cricket Council (ICC) awarded her the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Award for the ‘Best Female Cricketer of the Year’.
- On December 30, 2021, she became a nominee of the ICC Women's T20 ‘Player of the Year’.
- In January 2022, the ICC awarded her the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Award for the ICC ‘Women's Cricketer of the Year’.



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



fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Young Reporters Coupon

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

.....

Telephone:

School:

Parent's approval: Date:

.....

Barbie film hits \$1 billion at global box office

August 8

The 'Barbie' movie has made over 1 billion dollars around the globe just 17 days after it hit the big screen, or, as studio Warner Brothers put it, it's reached a 'Barbillion'.

It means that director Greta Gerwig has broken a record, as she becomes the first ever woman to reach the milestone as a solo director.

Warner Brothers said in a statement on Sunday that the hit film of the summer made \$1.03 bn (£808 m) in ticket sales, and the figure was confirmed by a media analytics company called Comscore.

Margot Robbie, who not only stars as Barbie but also produced the



"No-one but Greta Gerwig could have brought this cross-generational icon and her world to life in such a funny, emotional and entertaining story... literally turning the entire world pink."

And the Barbillion is not just good news for the people making the film - UK cinema chain Vue recently said Barbie's release contributed to it seeing its busiest weekend in four years.

Mattel, the toy company that created the iconic Barbie doll, is now hoping to create a cinematic universe with some of their other popular toys, such as Barney, Hot Wheels and Polly Pocket.

record-breaking movie, said she was hopeful they'd reach this goal in the early stages of production.

"I think I told them that it'd make a billion dollars, which maybe I was overselling, but we had a movie to make, okay?!" she told magazine Collider.

Given only 53 films have ever made over a billion dollars, and only five other films have achieved it since

the global COVID-19 pandemic, Warner Brothers are thrilled with the achievement.

Jeff Goldstein, president of domestic distribution in the US, said:



She's a Barbie girl, in a Barbie world!



Greta Gerwig is now a record-breaking director

Other billion dollar box office hits

- The Super Mario Brothers Movie
- Spider-Man: No Way Home
- Top Gun: Maverick
- Jurassic World Dominion

CBBC Newsround

Only eight teams left in FIFA Soccer Women's World Cup

August 8

For the last two weeks, 32 women's soccer (football) teams have been playing in stadiums across Australia and New Zealand as part of the FIFA Women's World Cup. Along the way, there have been some amazing matches, along with several surprises. Now there are only eight teams left.

This is the ninth Women's World Cup. The contest began in 1991 and is held every four years. For the first time ever, the contest is being hosted by more than one country. The matches are being held in five cities in Australia and four in New Zealand.

It's also the first time that the World Cup has been held in the southern half of the world. The first match was held in New Zealand, with the home team beating Norway 1-0. The final match will be held at Stadium Australia in Melbourne on August 20.



NFK

August 8

News in Pictures



Barisal, Bangladesh
Beautiful floating Guava Market at Swarupkathi in Pirojpur. There are hundreds of boats filled with guava and all the trades occur on boats.



Ankara, Turkey
A man feeds kittens living in a tree at Türkmenbasi Nature Park.



Moscow, Russia
Five tonnes of the summer fruits were used to decorate the fountain to celebrate the beginning of the watermelon season in Russia.



Bangkok, Thailand
Customers drink coffee as they play with cats at Caturday Cafe on International Cat Day.

August 7

Santa María Coapan, Mexico
The town's 29th Tortilla Race, in which entrants wear traditional dresses and run 6 km carrying 15 kg of tortillas.



Epidavros, Greece
Snorkellers explore the ancient Sunken City. The landmark is a small settlement thought to have been a trading post in ancient times that lays submerged, about 50 metres from the coast.



Prayagraj, India
People carrying their belongings wade through flood water on the banks of the Ganges River.



El Jadida, Morocco
Horsemen fire their rifles during a performance to celebrate the annual Moussem Festival.

Malang, Indonesia
A blindfolded child takes part in a water splashing contest to commemorate Indonesia's 78th Independence Day.



Source : The Guardian