

the  
**SUNDAY  
TIMES**

SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 8, 2023



# FUN DAY TIMES



**Celebrating Children's Day**

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara

**WINNERS** 

**POETRY & ESSAYS**  
PAGE 2



**EVENTS**   
PAGE 3

**KEKULU  
ART COMPETITION**  
PAGE 4

**(ONLINE)  
WINNERS' ESSAYS**  
PAGE 5

**KIDS NEWS**  
PAGES 7 - 8

Follow us on  
[www.fundaytimes.lk](http://www.fundaytimes.lk)





**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:**

**October 25, 2023**

**Telephone: 2479337/2479333**

**Email: [fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)**



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

## 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.

**6 – 10 years**

### The Morning

The morning is my best part of the day,  
The sun is shining through the mountains,  
Colourful flowers are blooming,  
I feel like,  
They are smiling with me...  
The birds are flying,  
To find their food.,  
People are busy with their work,  
I go to school early morning,  
To read books and play with my friends,  
I enjoy morning very much.

**Oneli Kiribandara**  
**Yasodhara Devi Girls' College,**  
**Gampaha**

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

**Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.**



**11 – 15 years**

### A rainy day

As I was sitting on the couch,  
The sky far away began to grouch,  
Loud sounds of thunder rolling,  
Announced the news of rain falling.  
Mother rushed out and got,  
The clothes on line we had forgot,  
And I got up and went to the door,  
With a world of feeling within my core.  
A whole new world face me front,  
Which rather seemed to confront,  
A misty scene all around me,  
Blinding every building and tree.  
As I stood watching in glee,  
The sky gradually ceased to gleam,  
The rain stopped and cleared the sky,  
Leaving me rejoicing in mind.

**Nivethikaa Yogendran**  
**St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo 7**

**Win super books from**



**Age: 9 years and below**

**Word Count: 150**

**Topic: My favourite teacher**

**Win: Ali Baba and Other Stories**

"Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves," is one of the best-known stories in The Thousand and One Nights. A collection of 27 stories including Ali Baba are found in this book for young children.



**Age: 10 – 12 years**

**Word Count: 150 – 200**

**Topic: If I were a teacher**

**Win: Diary of a Wimpy Kid – The Last Straw by Jeff Kinney**

Greg's dad wants Greg to change his wimpy ways, toughen up and enlist in other 'manly' endeavours. And when he threatens to send Greg to military academy, Greg realizes he has to shape up...or get shipped out.



**Write at the top of your Essay**

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

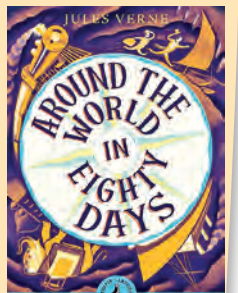
**Age: 13 – 15 years**

**Word Count: 200 – 250**

**Topic: What you know about World Habitat Day**

**Win: Around the World in Eighty Days by Jules Verne**

Phileas Fogg bets his friends he can circumnavigate the globe in just eighty days. So he sets out from London with his faithful servant, Passpartout, on an incredible journey. Going by train, steamship, sailing boat, sledge and even elephant, they face many surprises along the way. Will Phileas make it home before the final hour and win the wager?



## Book Competition



**9 years below**

*My favourite subject*

**Senuri Gunawardana,**  
Methodist College, Colombo 7

**10 – 12 years**

*A country I would like to visit*

**Tenitha Wijetilleke**  
Vidura College, Thalawathugoda

**13 – 15 years**

*The importance of First Aid*

**Aysha Manaal**  
Ilma International School



## Storytelling sessions at British Council



At Kandy

Storytelling sessions were held at British Council Kandy and Jaffna in partnership with National Trust Sri Lanka.

The storytelling session titled 'The past in a picture book: An introduction to the Mannar Pearl Fisheries with Shenuka Corea' was for the children of 8 - 14 years age group.

In this reading of Shenuka's graphic novel 'Manthiram' she described what life was like in the colonial pearl fisheries and introduced the audience to



At Jaffna

some of its characters.

Children immersed in the captivating world of pearl fisheries, as Shenuka

Corea curated her famous graphic novel 'Manthiram'. It was such a fantastic adventure for children.



The Sea Lion Show held at the Dehiwela Zoological Gardens

Pix. by Akila Jayawardena

**In our online issue this week:**

- Page 5 – Essay Winners
- Page 6 – Young Reporters
- Page 7 – Animals
- Page 8 – News in Pictures

Please log on to the Funday Times website on [www.fundaytimes.lk](http://www.fundaytimes.lk) or check out the Sunday Times epaper on [www.sundaytimes.lk](http://www.sundaytimes.lk) for additional pages of this week's Funday Times.





# Kekulu Kinder ART COMPETITION - 2023

## Application Form

Child's Full Name : .....

Date of Birth : .....

Permanent Address and Telephone Number : .....

Email Address : .....

Kindergarten Name and Address : .....

Kindergarten Principal's Name : .....

Phone Number : .....

Kindergarten Email : .....

District : .....

Kindergarten Principal's Signature : .....

1. Eligible only for children of 2 ½ to 5 years of age.
  2. Competition topic is 'Our Family'.
  3. Drawing can be submitted only on an A4 sheet using pastels only.
  4. Should be certified by the Kindergarten Principal, that the drawing is done by the child.
  5. It is mandatory to paste the application to the back of drawing.
  6. Certificates are given only for drawings where application form is filled correctly.
  7. The product wrappings and the drawing to be enclosed in an envelope without stapling together and sent to the following address before 30th November 2023.
  8. Address: Hettigoda Industries (Pvt) Ltd., No. 33/3, Sri Dharmarama Road, Ratmalana.
  9. It is important to have filled the application form correctly. If not, the drawing will be rejected.
  10. Any clarifications on the competition, please call Yuresh on 077 244 0442 or Isuru on 077 261 3255.
- It is mandatory to include a product wrapping from any of the following product categories, to partake in the competition.



Kekulu Baby Soap



Kekulu Toothpastes



Kekulu Baby Cologne



Kekulu Toothbrush



Kekulu Baby Soap 5 in 1



THE OFFICIAL RADIO PARTNER



OFFICIAL PRINT PARTNER



OFFICIAL BANKING PARTNER

\* Important Notice – To all Kindergarten Principals, please ensure that all drawings are submitted with the correct product wrappings to the above address before 30th November, 2023.

## Children's Day 2023

Children's Day was celebrated at Asian International Montessori School, Battaramulla on October 3, 2023 at the school premises.

### Orange All Day

It was a beautiful morning making happy memories with children. Our little friends were treated with Bouncy Castles, Face Painting, Water Play, Sand Play, Candy Floss, etc.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara





# Book Competition **WINNERS**

## 9 years and below

### My favourite subject

I learn many subjects at school with my teachers and friends. From all those subjects my favourite subject is 'Information Technology.' which is basically known as IT. IT is mostly used for office work.

I started to learn IT in Grade Three in our school Computer Lab. Now I am in Grade Four and I have learned a lot from those two years. I learned about opening a folder, about painting, changing the font, changing sizes of letters and I also learned how to make a power point presentation. Moreover, I know how to create word documents and tables.

I like IT because I can learn many things every day and also because it is very interesting. It's very useful in our studies. I use my mother's laptop to browse the information I need. I also use it to practice what I learned. I learn and enjoy IT very much.

**Senuri Gunawardana**  
Methodist College, Colombo 3

## 10 – 12 years

### A country I would like to visit

Singapore is the country I would like to visit. It is a small island in Southeast Asia. It lies at the tip of Malaysia, surrounded by 63 islets. Singapore is a city state maintained very cleanly. The capital is also Singapore.

It's a developed and industrialised country having the largest port in Southeast Asia and one of the busiest in the world. Changi is the international airport. The mascot of Singapore is Merlion.

President of Singapore is Halimah Yacob and Lee Hsien Loong is the Prime Minister. Founding Prime Minister is Lee Kuan Yew.

It's main population are Chinese and Malays. National Language is Malay. It has good transport services, health facilities, schools and universities.

Singapore is suitable for tourism and living. It is a city surrounded by green. It's often called 'Garden City', comfortable with fresh air to live. There are many parks with wild life and theme park like Santhosa Island which we can reach by cable cars also. Underwater World, Dolphin Lagoon, Wax Museum, Tiger Sky Tower and Universal Studios are attractive. Roller coaster rides give everyone an experience that lasts a lifetime. I wish to visit Singapore when I grow up.

**Tenitha Wijetilleke**  
Vidura College, Thalawathugoda

## 13 – 15 years

### The importance of First Aid

First Aid is the immediate medical assistance given to a person with an illness or injury. Every life is precious and a person's life cannot be overstated so the best way to save a person is by providing first aid. The main aims of providing first aid is to preserve life, to prevent condition from worsening and to promote recovery.

Firstly, first aid saves many lives. Over 150,000 people die yearly because of people's lack of first aid knowledge. We could save many lives if we knew the proper administration of first aid. In Sri Lanka alone, 1192 accidents have occurred this year until now. Basic skills like CPR is well needed during these occasions.

Secondly, to promote recovery and prevent condition from getting worse. We are not capable of doing a doctor's job but we have the ability to keep the victim in a stable position. For example, helping the patient to wash the wound, to remove

unnecessary items on the body or making sure a broken limb should not be moved. Another good example is when a victim suffers a heart attack. He/she has to be rushed to the hospital and arrangements made for treatment.

Thirdly, reducing medical expenses. In the present world, hospital expenses are very high and most people try to avoid going to a doctor. First aid knowledge helps to cure the victim and reduce the hospital expenses.

According to research, 71% of adults do not have the first aid knowledge. Staff and students in schools should have a sound knowledge of first aid. World First Aid Day is celebrated on September 9 to raise awareness of the importance of First Aid. We as students should also try to get a good knowledge of First Aid.

**Aysha Manaal**  
Ilma Interantional School



## 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.**

### Read-a-Book Competition

**Name :** .....

**Date of birth :** .....

**Address :** .....

**School:** .....

**Tel:** .....

**Finished book on :** .....



Or

[fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)

From our Young Reporters

### How great love is... Love wins in the end

Wellampitiya Vidyawardena Vidyalaya participated in the Zonally held Drama Competition of the primary category 1, resulting in them getting third place in the Divisional Level results.

On September 3, 2023, the primary students of Vidyawardena Vidyalaya got the opportunity to represent their school by acting out a drama, a very heart - touching one which won the likes of the audience. Special thanks to D.M.U.P.Dissanayaka madam, J.Lakeesha Ranganie teacher & H.D.Dissanayaka teacher and the entire organization for making this event a success. Also thanks to young student Abdurrahman Irshad for presenting details about the event.



The drama was titled “HOW GREAT LOVE IS”. The characters acted out by the young students in the drama were, Love (Manha), Happiness (Zanha, Dhinithi) Sadness (Safa), Knowledge (Yunus), Richness (Kazib), Vanity (Umeimah), Time (Abdurrahman) and Fear (Sarah).

The story was also narrated by Ali. This was a moral drama about how

great love is.

With that the young actors of Vidyawardena Vidyalaya (Wellampitiya) who acted in the drama concluded it, giving the audience a great message on how important time and knowledge are.

**Ruzaina Junkeer (15 years)**  
**Buddhist Ladies College.**  
**Colombo 07**

### Importance of English Language

English language is the world’s most important language. There are many languages spoken in the world where English is the foremost of them all. At present, English has become the key instrument of globalization. English is used all over the world for business concerns, science, diplomacy, tourism and mainly education.

What is paramount today is to know how to use the English language rather than just knowing it. The competence of English has become so important that gainful employment as well as prestigious universities are available only to those who have good English language skills. English is the only language that the German, the Chinese, the Japanese and the Russians are keen to learn although their mother

languages are as developed as English.

There are over 750,000 words in English developed over time. Today in Sri Lanka, the role of English language is enormous. Almost every school in our country is conducting English medium classes and learning this language helps us for our higher education. Even though the official languages of Sri Lanka are Tamil and Sinhala, the majority uses English the most.

As English is spoken throughout the world, it breaks the barrier between the countries and helps them to communicate with each other. We, as students should learn English as it helps us for our higher studies and later we will be able to access world-class education systems. “Knowledge of

languages is the doorway to wisdom”

#### Interesting facts about English

- English originates from northwest Germany and Netherlands.
- The most used adjective in English language is ‘good’.
- English is the official language of 67 countries and 750 million people uses English as a foreign language.
- The longest word in English language which contains 45 letters is ‘pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis’(refers to a lung disease.)
- The most common letter in English is ‘e’

**Aysha Manaal (13 years)**  
**Ilma International School**



### 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](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)



### Young Reporters Coupon

Name: .....

Date of Birth: .....

Address: .....

.....

Telephone: .....

School: .....

Parent’s approval: ..... Date: .....

.....



## ***Baby beaver born in London for first time in 400 years***

October 3, 2023

Chances are if you have seen a baby beaver before it wasn't in London, as they haven't stepped paw there in hundreds of years... until recently that is.

One is thought to have been born in the capital for the first time in 400 years.

The mammals became near-extinct in Britain because people used to hunt them for their fur, glands and meat.

Reintroduction programmes are underway across the country, and one started in London in 2022.

Capel Manor College plans to check the young beaver that was spotted in London to make sure it is healthy.

It will also be able confirm whether the rodent is male or female. Meg Wilson, who is the college's animal collections

manger, said they are thrilled to hear about the new arrival.

She hopes new data will "provide further evidence about the positive effects the beavers are having on the environment".

The reintroduction programme is part of a wider rewilding and natural flood management project taking place across the UK.

Beavers are known for their natural engineering skills, that can help other animals, plants and humans too.

They take wood and build dams which can hold up a lot of water - this can protect downriver land from flooding and reduces silt, improving the quality of water that does go through the dams.

Another benefit to the beavers' dams is the large wetlands that are created as a result, and this environment is very beneficial to the wildlife and plants that live there.



The baby beaver was caught on camera over the summer



Beavers are known for their roles as engineers



Beavers build dams which are made up of wood from trees

### **What is a dam?**

- A dam is something which slows down or blocks a river or stream.
- Dams can be used to help with farming by saving water, and can create electricity by forcing water through turbines at high speeds.
- Dams can also help prevent flooding by creating pools higher upstream.
- Beaver dams filter water to make it cleaner downstream.

## ***Rare Sumatran rhino born in Indonesia***

October 3, 2023

A rare and endangered Sumatran rhinoceros has been born in the south-east Asian country of Indonesia.

The yet-to-be named female calf was born at the weekend in a conservation area at Way Kambas National Park.

Sumatran rhinos are the smallest of the rhino species and are the only Asian rhino to have two horns.

They are one of the most threatened species in the world due to poaching and habitat loss.

### **What's happened?**

The baby rhino was born on Saturday. She is covered in black hair and weighs about 27 kilograms, that's about the same as three watermelons.

Indonesia's environment minister Siti Nurbaya said the newborn stood for about 45 minutes soon after she was born and began walking around the jungle the very next day.

"This is a happy news, not only for Indonesia but for the world," she added.



### **Did you know?**

Sumatran rhinos can grow up to 1.5 metres tall and weigh between 500kg to 960kg.



October 3

# News in Pictures



**Stockholm, Sweden**  
Journalists wait for the announcement of the winners of the 2023 Nobel prize in physics, at the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. The prize was jointly awarded to Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L’Huillier for ‘experimental methods that generate attosecond pulses of light for the study of electron dynamics in matter’, the academy announced.



**Munich, Germany**  
Bavarians in traditional costumes fire their muzzle loaders on the last day of the Oktoberfest beer festival.



**Gaza**  
Palestinian girls at a picnic during the olive harvest season.

**Le Portel, France**  
Crew members of the French rescue vessel Abeille Normandie look after a group of people on an inflatable dinghy sailing back to the beach after their unsuccessful attempt to cross the Channel from the coast of northern France.

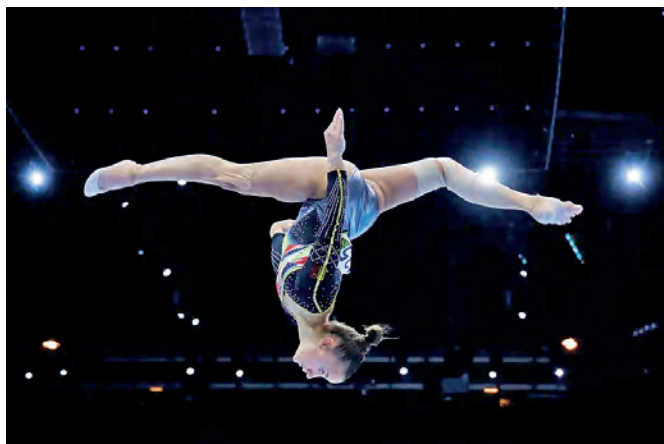


**Nagaon, India**  
A damselfly in a garden in the north-eastern state of Assam.



**Chennai, India**  
School students pay a floral tribute to Mahatma Gandhi to mark his 154<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.

October 2



**Antwerp, Belgium**  
Margaux Dandois competes on the balance beam during the women’s qualifying session at the 52<sup>nd</sup> FIG Artistic Gymnastics World Championships.

**Florianópolis, Brazil**  
A stranded sperm whale is seen on Morro das Pedras beach.



**Lampung, Indonesia**  
An endangered female Sumatran rhinoceros, recently born at the Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary of Kambas national park, seen next to her mother, Ratu.

Source : The Guardian