



FUN DAY TIMES



Festive Storytelling at British Council

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



COMPETITIONS
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New
**IORA DAY
ART COMPETITION**
PAGE 3

(ONLINE)



EVENTS
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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 this week's competitions:

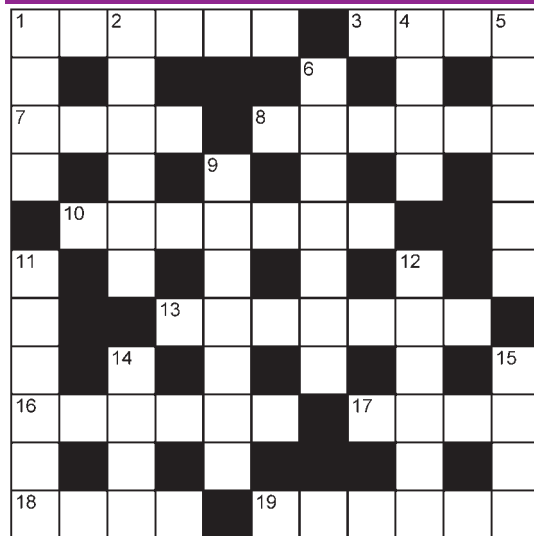
January 24, 2024

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



Junior Crossword – No. 987



Across

- 1 A spider makes this
- 3 Manufactured
- 7 Obtains
- 8 Travelled on foot
- 10 Spectacles
- 13 A train stop
- 16 A small river
- 17 Husband's partner
- 18 A person from Denmark
- 19 A tricycle has three of these

Down

- 1 A home for a pet bird
- 2 A glass container
- 4 Enquires
- 5 Coming to a finish
- 6 Mother and father
- 9 A holder for cigarette ash
- 11 Lifted up higher
- 12 Well-mannered
- 14 A broad smile
- 15 Honey makers

Please enter your full name, date of birth, home address, mobile number and school.

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



Naeli Jayamaha,
Nugegoda

Solution - No 985



Happy Birthday



Sethupa Seneviratna
10 years
on January 10, 2024



Zainab Seedin
15 years
on December 24, 2023

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.

In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Events
- **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.

Young Sri Lankan artist wins NASA competition

Daham Loshitha Premaratne, a Grade 2 student of Mahanama Primary School in Tirappane won 1st Place in the 4 – 6 years age category of an international art competition organized by The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in the USA.

NASA received more than 3,000 entries from around the world for the 2024 Commercial Crew Program (CCP) Children's Artwork Calendar contest.

The contest invited children to submit original artwork related to space, and the first-place artwork for each age group are featured in the colourful 2024 calendar. The painting used for July 2024 was created by Daham under the theme 'Living & Working in Space'.

2024 NASA CCP
Children's Artwork Calendar Contest



Premarathna, D.L., Sri Lanka
1st Place (Ages 4 – 6)
Category: *Living and Working in Space*

IORA Day 2024

The ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education have combined to commemorate IORA Day in March this year with a major programme for school children which will include an art competition that will showcase the importance of the Indian Ocean.

Sri Lanka took over the Chairmanship of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in October 2023 for the period 2023/2025. There are 23 member states and eleven dialogue partners in IORA.

The theme for IORA Day will be a 'Sustainable Indian Ocean for Future Generations' and will focus on educating and engaging future generations on the importance of ocean conservation and sustainable practices to preserve the oceans for the future.

Among the activities planned is a national level art competition for school children in association with the Ministry of Education and Wijeya Newspapers Ltd.

Entries will be accepted from school children in three categories: Primary (Grades 1 - 5), Junior (Grades 6 - 9) and Senior (Grades 10 - 13).

Details will appear in the children's publications of Wijeya Newspapers Ltd., and their online versions.

Several other ocean-related activities will be conducted with the participation of children island-wide, drawing awareness to the importance of ocean sustainability. These activities are also coordinated by the Sri Lanka Navy and other ocean-related agencies. Opportunities are to be provided for children to be taken out to sea on a short excursion.

Ahead of IORA Day, several awareness programmes are planned.

The main event of IORA Day 2024 will be held at an ocean-front site in Colombo on March 10 with stalls displaying various ocean-related activities.



IORA DAY ART COMPETITION 2024

'SUSTAINABLE INDIAN OCEAN FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS'



Currently, Sri Lanka holds the Chairmanship of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and, plans are underway to hold the next IORA Day 2024 commemoration on 10th March, 2024.

As part of the activities, an Island-wide Art Competition among school children under different topics on the theme "Sustainable Indian Ocean for Future Generations" will be held as indicated below, in association with the Ministry of Education and Wijeya Newspapers Ltd.

CALLING ALL BUDDING ARTISTS ISLANDWIDE!

Express your creativity and concern for the Indian Ocean through art!

We are inviting artists from all schools to participate in our art competition centered around preserving our beautiful Indian Ocean.



PARTICIPATION

Participation rules are categorized as follows:



Primary (Grades 1 - 5)
Theme: Our Ocean - Our Life
(Certificates/Prizes for Participation)



Junior (Grades 6 - 9)
Theme: Protecting Our Ocean
(Certificates/Prizes for Winners)



Senior (Grades 10 - 13)
Theme: Sustainable Indian Ocean for Future Generations
(Certificates/Prizes for Winners)



Prizes to be won and selected Artwork will be showcased in the IORA Day Art Exhibition



Showcase Your Talent and share your message with a wide audience



Be an advocate for Sustainability and Inspire Positive Change



CONDITIONS

- Open for all school children in Sri Lanka
- Must be done on size A3 Paper
- All submissions should be certified by the School Principal
- Each entry should be accompanied by an entry form as below.

SUBMISSION

Submit your entry by registered post to reach before **16th February, 2024** with the completed entry form to:

Director (Aesthetic Education)
Ministry of Education,
Isurupaya,
Pelawatte, Battaramulla.

Please indicate following on top left corner of the envelope:

IORA Day Art Competition 2024,
Category :.....
Province :.....



Selected artwork may be used for future programs both locally and internationally.
Organized by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Wijeya Newspapers Ltd.

IORA DAY ART COMPETITION 2024

Entry Form

Full Name:

Category: Primary (Grades 1-5) Junior (Grades 6-9) Senior (Grades 10 - 13)

School:

Province:

Home Address:

Name of the Parent/Guardian:

Contact Number of the Parent/Guardian:

Certification by the School Principal:

I certify that the above student is studying in Grade of this school.

.....
Signature of the School Principal

Tomahawk

Quiz No. 215

Questions for Tomahawk Quiz No. 215 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issues and e-papers of December 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2023.

All you have to do is to find the answers to the questions given here. Write the answers neatly on a postcard, cut the strip 'Tomahawk Quiz No. 215' 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**

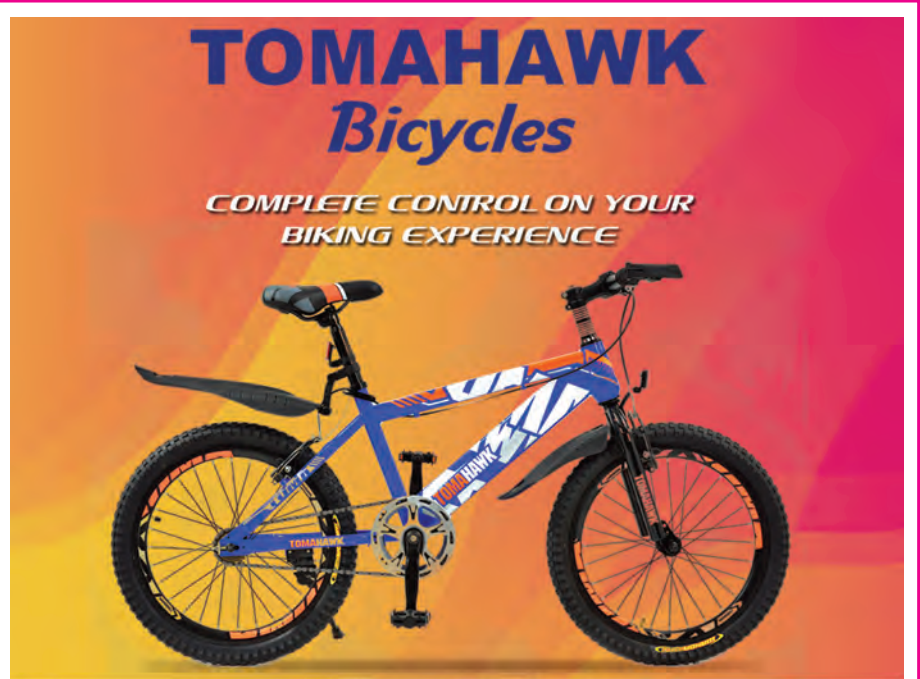
All Funday Times readers between 8 – 15 years are eligible to participate.

(Those who have already won a bicycle are not eligible to participate.)

Closing Date: January 31, 2024

Tomahawk Quiz No. 214

► Ruzaina Junkeer, Colombo 2 **WINNER** 🏆



@TOMAHAWKBICYCLEOFFICIAL | 245 B, GALLE ROAD, COLOMBO 04 BAMBALAPITIYA - 011 250 7307 | @TOMAHAWKBICYCLES

QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 215

1. Where do reindeer live and by what other name are they also known?
2. Why does Norway send a Christmas tree to the UK every year?
3. When did British explorer Robert F. Scott reach the South Pole?
4. What is a Christmas holiday tradition celebrated in Japan?
5. What is IORA and what is the theme for the IORA Day commemoration in March 2024?

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4 - 6 years **WINNERS** 🏆

- Randira Dandanarayana, Malabe
- Rilwan Sirajudeen, Beruwala
- Faliha Juhar, Colombo 2
- Tinuka Sasmitha, Kalutara
- Mohamed Munsif, Colombo 2

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

4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Match the animals to their tracks.



mailto: Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com



'Magical Christmas Delight: A Festive Storytelling Adventure' was held at the British Council Colombo on December 23, 2023. 'How to Catch an Elf' was the enchanting tale focused on at this session. To add an extra dash of magic to the event, the children were treated to a surprise visit from none other than Santa Claus himself.

Pix by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



The British School in Colombo held its annual Christmas Carnival on December 9, 2023.

Pix by Eshan Fernando

Rugrats



From a Young Reporter

Human Rights

“To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity”
– Nelson Mandela

Human Rights Day is commemorated every year on December 10. The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 on this day.

Human rights are fundamental for every human being from the time of his birth until his death. Every human being is born with the right to speech, religion, education and live etc., which are some of the basic human rights.

Human rights have been violated throughout the years by several countries. Human rights are very important to make sure that all humans are treated equally. Human rights help to uphold the living standards in the world, plus we are also protected from oppressors. We get the opportunity to speak out and stand up for justice to defend ourselves from persecutors.

According to the declaration of human rights in 1948, all humans should be treated equally and they have the freedom to do what they want. Earlier, people were discriminated due to their race, such as when Negro people were not given their human rights by the government in numerous countries. Martin Luther King Jr. supported the Negroes and his speech was one of the greatest demonstrations of freedom.



We as humans should respect human rights and we should take steps to influence other people about the importance of human rights. As students, we can research about human rights and talk about it with our friends. We should never let other people oppress us disregarding our human rights and we should be aware of the importance of Human Rights Day.

Ways to support human rights

- Stand up against discrimination
- Donate/Volunteer to global organizations
- Research human rights issues
- Connect to human rights movements

Aysha Manaal (13 years)
Ilma Int. Girls' School

FUNDAY TIMES 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 Coupon

Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

.....

Telephone:

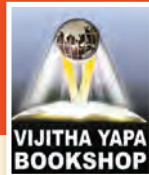
School:

Parent's approval: Date:

.....

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

FUNDAY TIMES Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com



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, fill in the coupon and attach it to your entry.

FUNDAY TIMES

Or

fundaytimes1@gmail.com

Read-a-Book Competition

Name :

Date of birth :

Address :

School:

Tel:

Finished book on :

New Year celebrations around the world



Fireworks explode over the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Sydney Opera House in Sydney, Australia.



Revellers gather around the lit National Monument of Indonesia in Jakarta.



People celebrate in China's south-western Chongqing municipality.



Fireworks illuminate the sky over Cappadocia in Turkey.



Fireworks over the Belgrade Waterfront project in Serbia



Fireworks over the Brandenburg Gate at midnight in Berlin, Germany



Fireworks in London, UK



A light show is projected on to the Arc de Triomphe in Paris, France.



Fireworks from the top of Mount Fløya in Tromsø, Norway, beyond the Arctic Circle.



Confetti at midnight at Times Square, in New York City, USA



Fireworks in front of the statue of Christ the Redeemer in Copacabana Beach, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



Fireworks explode over the city skyline in Nairobi, Kenya.

January 2

News in Pictures



Beijing, China
Actors dressed as imperial soldiers perform 'ice play', one of the traditional sports of the royal family during the Qing dynasty, on a frozen lake in Beihai Park.



Rafah, Gaza Strip
A woman prepares fresh dough for bread as she sits next to a man and children outside tents by the rubble of a destroyed building.



Tokyo, Japan
Firefighters tackle a blaze at Haneda airport after a Japan Airlines A350 plane caught fire. The aircraft, which was carrying 379 people, is thought to have collided with a coastguard plane that had six people onboard.

Suzu, Japan
At least 48 people have been killed and 107 injured, according to the authorities, after a magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck the area on January 1.



Maripasoula, French Guiana
France's Prime Minister, Élisabeth Borne, takes a pirogue to attend the presentation of the Petit Inini River checkpoint.



Safaga, Egypt
The wreck of the 100 m long, 18 m wide Salem Express ferry, which set sail from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia to Egypt and sank in the Red Sea in 1991. The ferry, carrying hundreds of pilgrims returning from the Hajj pilgrimage from Mecca, was approaching the port of Safaga when it crashed violently into the southeastern part of a chain of reefs known as Hyndman Reef.



Breivikeidet, Norway
The northern lights swirl above a Sami camp beyond the Arctic Circle.

January 1

Vienna, Austria
The Vienna Philharmonic orchestra performs under the baton of German conductor Christian Thielemann during the New Year's concert in the Golden Hall of the Musikverein.



Pathum Thani, Thailand
Buddhist monks walk in line to collect food during the mass morning alms-giving ceremony to mark the start of the New Year at Wat Phra Dhammakaya temple.

Source : The Guardian