

the
**SUNDAY
TIMES**

SUNDAY
MAY 4, 2025



FUNDA DAY

TIMES



**ANNIVERSARY
COMPETITION**

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KIDS NEWS**
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'Everland' where dreams never end...

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 Number 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:

May 21, 2025

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

Email: fundaytimes1@gmail.com



25th Anniversary

Funday Times turns 25 years in August this year. To celebrate this milestone we are planning a grand competition in four segments, Essay, Art, Poetry and Photography, for our young readers. We thank you all for being with us through the years and hope you continue through the coming years as well.



Essay Competition

Age Group: 9 years and below

Topic: Reading as a hobby
Word Count: 150 – 200

Age Group: 10 – 12 years

Topic: Benefits of reading
Word Count: 200 – 250

Age Group: 13 – 15 years

Topic: What you find interesting in newspapers
Word Count: 250 – 300

Poetry Competition

Age Groups: 6 – 10 years and 11 – 15 years

Entries for Poetry Competition could be sent on **any topic of your choice**. The topic should be clearly stated on your entry.

Word Count: 100 – 150

Art Competition

Age Groups: 4 – 9 years, 10 – 12 years and 13 – 15 years

Topic: An interesting event
You could use any art medium such as paint, crayons etc.



Photography Competition

Age Groups: 6 – 10 years and 11 – 15 years

Topic: Nature and the Environment

Closing Date: July 1, 2025

Entries for all competitions should include your Full Name, Date of Birth, Home Address, Telephone Number and School.

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

Winners will be awarded attractive prizes!



or



fundaytimes1@gmail.com

A Splash of Magic at Ladies' College - Welcome to 'Everland'!

Ladies' College (LC) made waves as it celebrated 125 proud years, with 'Everland' – a magical water ballet held on April 3 and 4, 2025.

Inspired by the timeless story of Peter Pan's Neverland, Everland re-imagined Ladies' College as a place where dreams never end and friendships last forever!

Each building of Ladies' College was transformed into a special location in this beautiful performance, directed and choreographed by two talented alumni, Tanalia and Talia Rekawa. With stunning artistic swimming, dazzling dance moves and endless school spirit, Everland brought the magic of LC to life in the water.

The students spent months preparing for this unforgettable show, and every splash, twirl and smile showed just how much LC means to them. Everland was not just a performance; it was a heartfelt tribute to the enduring spirit of Ladies' College. For generations past and present, LC remains their 'Everland' – a place where they can fly, dream and shine forever!



Maths in Action 91
By R. N. A. de Silva

Divisibility by 13 and 17

In many cultures 13 is considered as an unlucky number. Some hotels and apartments skip 13 entirely or use it for offices or to house infrastructure rather than guest rooms or apartments.



Let us consider a rule that can be used to determine whether a given number is divisible by 13. Here, 'divisible' means that the answer should be a whole number, without any remainders.

To check whether a given number is divisible by 13, we multiply the last digit by 4 and add it to the remaining number. This process is repeated until you obtain a result that you can easily determine whether it is divisible by 13.



If so, then the given number is also divisible by 13.

As an example, consider the number 312.

$31 + 4(2) = 39$ and 39 is divisible by 13. Therefore, 312 is divisible by 13.

Consider 2013.

$201 + 4(3) = 213$ and then $21 + 4(3) = 33$. This is not divisible by 13. As such, 2013 is not divisible by 13.

This can be shown algebraically as follows, for a two-digit number $10x + y$.

$$10x + y = 13x - 3x + 13y - 12y = 13(x + y) - 3(x + 4y)$$

For the number to be divisible by 13, $x + 4y$ has to be divisible by 13.

Similarly, we can figure out a rule to check the divisibility by 17.



Multiply the last digit by 5 and then subtract it from the left-over number. The result obtained by repeating this process should be divisible by 17 if the given number is divisible by 17.

Consider 6052.

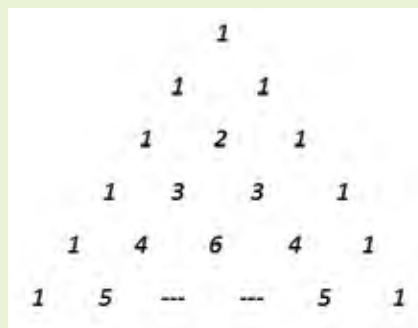
$605 - 5(2) = 595$. Now $59 - 5(5) = 34$. This is divisible by 17. Therefore 6052 is divisible by 17.

Now try with your own numbers to check whether they are divisible by 13 or 17.

Math Plot - 91

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.

Find the missing numbers in the following number triangle.



Math Plot 90 – Solution

The answer is 8 men & 14 horses.

The winner is **Senuli Rathnasekara** of **St. Bridget's Convent, Colombo.** Congratulations!

Happy Birthday



Thameem Dhillshan Ibrahim
12 years on May 8



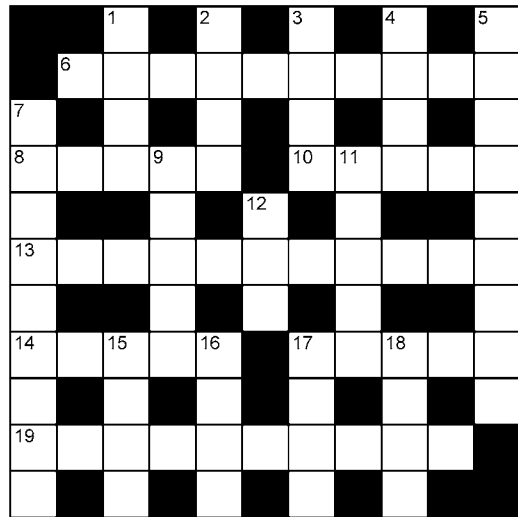
Saddad Ahamed Thanseeh
5 years on April 30

In our online issue this week:

- Page 5 – Mother's Day Craft
- 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.

LUMALA Crossword – No. 9



- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Across | Down |
| 6 Something a singer holds | 1 Walk with a hobble |
| 8 Opposite of full | 2 Mix black with white to make this colour |
| 10 A digging tool | 3 Gorillas |
| 13 Measure temperatures with this | 4 A long comfortable seat |
| 14 More pleasant | 5 A practice for a play |
| 17 A striped animal | 7 A four-sided shape |
| 19 Toilets | 9 The number in a trio |
| | 11 A part of something |
| | 12 A one-legged jump |
| | 15 A hole in a hill |
| | 16 These followed the Pied Piper |
| | 17 Nil |
| | 18 An alcoholic drink |

Entries should be certified as your own work by a teacher or parent.

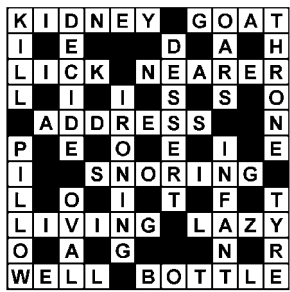
LUMALA BICYCLE COMPETITION

You now have a chance to win a brand new **LUMALA bicycle** for your own. One lucky winner will receive a brand new Lumala bicycle each month. All you have to do is fill in the Lumala Crossword No. 9, according to the clues given. Write the answers neatly on a postcard or paper, and send it to **Funday Times**. Cut the strip '**LUMALA Crossword No. 9**' seen at the top of the page and paste it on your entry.

Closing Date: May 28, 2025

Age Group: 8 – 15 years

Solution No. 8



WINNER
Sithuli Dissanayake, Kandy



@LUMALABIKES | 119, OLD GALLE RD, HENAMULLA, PANADURA TEL: 077 755 2222 | LUMALA
Or fundaytimes1@gmail.com

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4 – 6 AGE GROUP

Family Word Search

X M B I D A D K
 V S O Z N F Q M
 G D Y E J H R O
 I F A M I L Y M
 R B P L C W U G
 L A T O B A B Y

DAD **MOM** **BABY**
BOY **GIRL** **FAMILY**

fundaytimes1@gmail.com

4 – 6 years **WINNERS**

- ▶ Devanya Udani, Piliyandala
- ▶ Sayyaf Riswan, Beruwala
- ▶ Ranaya Abeywickrama, Galle
- ▶ Amhar Nafees, Gampola
- ▶ Mohamed Jaaz, Dehiwala

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

Fingerprint Flower Pot

These fingerprint flower pots make the perfect keepsake gift idea for spring! Plant seeds or flowers in them to give for Mother's Day or for a birthday.

Craft supplies you will need

- Assorted colour acrylic paints
- White and yellow acrylic paint
- Paintbrushes
- Terra cotta pot with base dish
- Green permanent marker or paint marker
- Fine grit sandpaper (if using plastic flower pot)
- A paint palette
- Newspaper or tablecloth to cover work surface



Alternatives:

- If you have old plastic pots, use fine grit sandpaper and gently scuff up the outside so the paint can stick better.
- Paper cups work great too!

Optional:

- Soil and seeds
- Plastic wrap
- Rubber bands

Method:

1. Make sure the flower pots are clean. Wash and dry as needed.
2. Use the white acrylic paint to paint the outside of the pot and the dish. Dry with hair dryer on low setting. Repeat those steps until you have an even, dry white surface. It takes about four coats of paint to get good coverage.
3. Mix a light yellow by adding yellow acrylic to the white in small amounts and mix with brush. Paint the rim of the terra cotta pot and the dish, or the bottom part of the plastic pot (or rim). You will need two coats of yellow for each part that you painted. Let dry.
4. Stop and wash your hands, paint palettes and brushes.
5. In the paint palette, mix up the colours you want to use for the fingerprint flowers.
6. Using one colour at a time, press a finger into the paint and then 'stamp' a flower design on the pot. Wipe the paint off that finger, choose a different colour & 'stamp' additional designs on the pot.



Craft Tips

- As an alternative to using newspaper to cover the work surface, you can use an old window shade. It is easy to clean and roll back up to use next time!
- Use a hair dryer on the low setting to help dry the paint quickly.
- If the acrylic paint is too thick, mix in a couple of drops of water to thin it out.
- Scoop some paint onto a damp sponge and kids can dip their fingers in the sponge instead, if you are concerned about spillage.

You can layer multiple colours on top for petals, and use your thumb and a different colour for the centre of the flower. Dry with hair dryer.

7. Again, at this point, you should stop and wash your hands.
8. Finally, using the green marker, add stems and leaves to the flowers.

Source: Crafts by Amanda



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:

.....

Green Sea Turtle

Green sea turtles are the world's largest species of hard-shelled sea turtle.

These turtles are found nesting along the coastline of more than 80 countries, with the largest nesting populations found in Costa Rica and Australia.

Green sea turtles spend most of their lives underwater, where they can rest for up to five hours at a time before coming up for air. When active, they typically alternate between being underwater for a few minutes and coming up to the surface to breathe air for a few seconds. Green sea turtles are also known to sunbathe on land.

Unlike most other sea turtles, adult green sea turtles eat a primarily plant-based diet consisting of seaweed and sea grass. Scientists believe these green foods give the sea turtle's fat its green colour. The shell of the green sea turtle is usually shades of a brown or olive colour.

Similar to other sea turtles, green sea turtles migrate long distances between their feeding grounds and their nesting sites, with recorded distances longer than 1,615 miles (2,600 kilometres). They have strong paddlelike flippers that help propel them through the water.



Female green sea turtles leave the water in order to lay eggs on the beach and will choose the same nesting spot as where they were born. A female will dig out a nest with her flippers and lay a clutch of about 115 eggs. Then she'll cover the eggs with sand and return to the sea. After about two months, the babies will use a special "egg tooth" to break their shells and hatch from their eggs.

The first few years of a green sea turtle's life are spent floating at sea, where they feed on plankton. As they grow older, the turtles move to shallow waters along the coast, such as bays and lagoons, where they find sea grass to eat.



COMMON NAME: Green Sea Turtle

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Chelonia mydas*

TYPE: Reptile

DIET: Herbivore

GROUP NAME: Bale

SIZE: Up to 5 feet

WEIGHT: Up to 700 pounds



Adult green sea turtles face many threats, primarily from humans, including injuries from boat propellers, being caught in fishing nets, pollution and poaching. Newly hatched sea turtles are also at risk of being hunted by animals such as birds, crabs and raccoons as they move from their nests out to the sea.



Source: National Geographic Kids

New satellite to 'look through' forests and icebergs

April 29, 2025

A satellite with a special job has blasted into space and, if all goes well, is about to start its important mission.

The Biomass satellite, created by the European Space Agency (ESA) has a very powerful radar which will be able to see through forests, land ice and even deserts to give scientists a better understanding of climate change around the world.

The satellite launched on a Vega-C rocket on Tuesday from ESA's Kourou station in French Guiana in South America.

Bjorn Rommen, who is a mission scientist at ESA said it was a "spectacular launch".

"A lot of people from the science team have been waiting for this for years. And of course now waiting for



The ESA Biomass mission launch on Tuesday April 29.

more spectacular things to come after the launch".

What will the Biomass Satellite do?

The huge umbrella-shaped satellite will open out to around 12 metres in diameter.

It will orbit Earth and its powerful radar will be able to look down on large areas of forests, and amazingly look beyond the tops of the trees and into the forest below, even picking out tree trunks, branches and the forest floor.

The aim is for the satellite to "weigh" the Earth's forests, revealing how much planet-warming carbon is being stored within trees and therefore kept out of the atmosphere.

This has never been achieved before so the ESA are at the forefront of climate science, helping to more accurately study climate change and track rates of deforestation.

If everything goes well, the team hopes to produce the first maps within six months, and will then continue to gather data for the next five years.

Bjorn Rommen said the team will mostly be looking at tropical rainforests because they are "the biggest unknown and that is where there is a lot of change happening," but they have interests elsewhere too.

"Biomass will also be looking at land ice in the Antarctic and how it is moving. It will be able to look deeper into the ice than other satellites due to it running at a higher frequency and its ability to go further than others before it," he added.

They will also look at deserts, with a focus on looking at where rivers would have previously flowed but have since dried up to give clues about ancient civilisations that lived there before they were deserts.



Biomass satellite unfurls.

Seven-year-old finds Jurassic fossils in his garden

April 27, 2025

What's the most exciting thing you've ever dug up?

It'll probably take something special to beat seven-year-old Elliott, who struck lucky when he discovered a number of super old fossils in his garden.

They are thought to date back 140 million years, to the Jurassic period.

Elliott said finding the fossils was "really inspiring" and he hopes to find more in the future.

Elliott moved into his new home in Derbyshire with his family earlier this year.

During work in the front garden, he helped to dig up limestone rocks from the ground after they had become exposed.

On cracking them open, he and his parents discovered that they were hiding a real surprise - they were full of Jurassic creatures.

Elliott said: "I love fossils. It made me really happy we just found it.

"When I look at one of my fossils, it makes me really interested and I think, how many more dinosaurs can I find?" he added.

An expert told the BBC that the fossils were ammonites, which are ocean creatures from when dinosaurs



roamed the earth, and that they had probably been brought to Derbyshire from Dorset by humans.

Elliott says he'd love to come across more fossils in the future.

He explained: "Finding fossils is really inspiring and I want to do it more. They look so cool."

Source: CBBC Newsround

April 29

News in Pictures



Paris, France
The Ballon Generali de Paris hot air research balloon performs air quality checks in the sky to make the progress of global warming visible, over the Park Andre-Citroen in Paris.



Florida, USA
A United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket lifts off carrying Amazon's Project Kuiper internet network satellites from the Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Cape Canaveral, Florida.



Barcelona, Spain
A worker assists a customer with a torch at a supermarket during a power outage which hit large parts of Spain.



Ottawa, Canada
Canada's Prime Minister Mark Carney speaks at the Liberal Party election night headquarters in Ottawa.



Lake Como, Italy
Models present creations by French fashion house Chanel as part of their Cruise 2025/26 collection show at Lake Como, Italy.



Amritsar, India
A woman cries before leaving for Pakistan, next to the Attari-Wagah border crossing, after India revoked visas issued to Pakistani citizens. India has suspended visa services to Pakistan nationals 'with immediate effect' following an attack on tourists near Pahalgam in south Kashmir.



Khan Younis, Gaza
People gather to receive food cooked by a charity kitchen, in Khan Younis, southern Gaza Strip.



London, UK
A person reacts as they view spring growth and blossom in Richmond Park in London, Britain.



Ahmedabad, India
Anishabanu Ansari sits next to her belongings after her house was demolished during a demolition drive by the authorities at a slum in Chandola Lake, Ahmedabad.

Source: Reuters