

the  
**SUNDAY  
TIMES**

SUNDAY  
JUNE 16, 2024



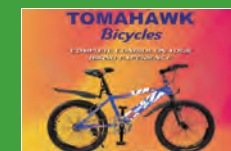
# FUN DAY

## TIMES



**A Fun Run**

Pic. by M. A. Pushpa Kumara



**COMPETITIONS**

PAGES 2 & 4



**STORY**

PAGE 3

**(ONLINE)**



**ANIMAL DADS**

PAGE 6

**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:**  
**July 3, 2024**

**Telephone: 2479337/2479333**  
**Email: [fundaytimes1@gmail.com](mailto:fundaytimes1@gmail.com)**



**In our online issue this week:**

- **Page 5** – Father's Day
- **Page 6** – Animal Dads
- **Page 7** – Kids News
- **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.

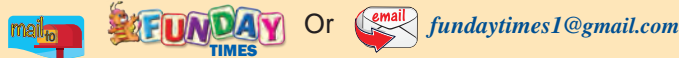


**Read-a-Book and win a voucher from Vijitha Yapa Bookshop**

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.**



**Read-a-Book for May**

**10 – 12 years**

**Senuri Gunawardana**

*Zoe's Rescue Zoo – The Rowdy Red Panda*  
by Amelia Cobb



**13 – 15 years**

**Nivethikaa Yogendran**

*Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe

**Read-a-Book Competition**

**Name :** .....

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

**Address :** .....

**School:** .....

**Tel:** .....

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

**Happy Birthday**



**Aaisha Hifaz Ashroff**  
12 years on June 15

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.

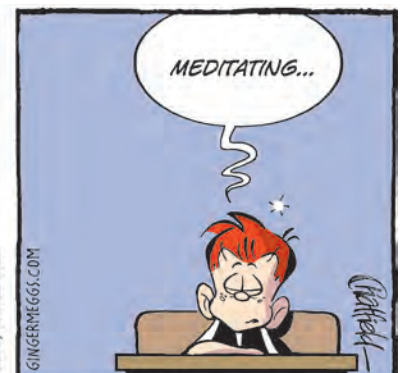
**Tomahawk Quiz**



Seja Abeywickrama, winner of Tomahawk Quiz 215 collected her bicycle from the Tomahawk Bicycle Mall in Bambalapitiya recently.



**Ginger Meggs**





## A Gift of Love on Father's Day

By Manoshi De Silva

Every year on 'Father's Day' Neraya and Omal give their father a small gift, thanking him for everything he does on behalf of them.

But this year was different. The children's father had gone abroad for a job a few months back. They could only talk and see each other through video calls. "Akki, how can we give *Thaththa* a gift this time?" Omal asked his sister. Neraya thought for a while and said, "We'll have to post him something." "Yes, let's post him his gift this year!" agreed Omal.

"But what do we give him?" Omal asked Neraya. "We have always given him hand-made gifts, because he likes those more than store-bought gifts," Neraya said, "Let's make him something this time too." "Yes, he always says hand-made gift are special," agreed Omal.

So the two children pulled out their craft box and looked around for things to make something nice. They found an old photo frame and some old albums from the storeroom. "Let's make a Father's Day photo frame!" said Neraya and Omal agreed. So they started on their creative project.

The old wooden photo frame was quite heavy. The children carried it and painted it beautifully. Then they decorated it with hearts and other designs cut out of shimmery paper. They pasted family photos on a board and fixed the frame on it. It took over a day for the children to finish it. But it looked very nice in the end and the children were very happy. "*Thaththa* is going to love this!" said Omal and both of them stared at it admiringly.

"Now, how do we send this to him?" asked Omal. Neraya thought for awhile. "We don't know how much it will cost. Let's check with the post office first." The post office was very close to the children's house. They both carried the gift carefully and went to the post office. The kind gent at the counter smiled with the two children. "What have we got here?" he asked looking at the frame. "We want to send this to our *Thaththa*, who is in Canada," said Omal.

"We want to know how much postage we have to pay." The gent took the frame and weighed it. Then he frowned and looked at the kids and told them the amount which was quite expensive. "This frame is quite heavy, that's why it's so expensive," he explained. The children thanked him and went back home with the frame.

"Let's check our tills first," said Neraya opening her piggy-bank that was heavy with coins. The children sat down and counted all the coins. Although there were lots of coins in both of their tills, when calculated, the amount was not that much. "It barely covers half the cost," Neraya sighed. "What do we do?"

"Let's ask *Amma* for the postage fee," said Omal. "But what's the point?" asked Neraya. "The money that *Amma* has is the hard-earned money that *Thaththa* sends from Canada." Omal agreed. "Yes, it's true," he said. "It's like sending a gift to *Thaththa* with his own money." The children sat quietly thinking of ways to send the gift. It was a shame that there was no way to send such a beautifully made gift.

"Uncle Abey said that he's going to Canada soon. Maybe we can ask him to deliver it for us," said Omal who suddenly remembered their neighbour. "But that's in five months and Father's Day is in one week. We might as well find money and post it," said Neraya. Their mother who was nearby heard their conversation. "Even if you post it now, it won't reach him that soon," *Amma* said. The children were very disappointed.

"We worked so hard to make this gift and now we can't even give it to *Thaththa* on Father's Day," said Omal. "Well, you can always give it to him when he comes home on vacation," smiled their mother.

But the children were still not happy, as they had made it to be given to their father on Father's Day. "I guess we won't be able to give a gift and make *Thaththa* happy this year on Father's Day," said Neraya and Omal was very sad too.



On the morning of Father's Day, the children took a video call and wished their father. But he noticed their sad faces. "What's wrong?" he wanted to know. The children told him about the gift they had made and how sad they were that they couldn't give it to him. "Well, show it to me," said their father and Neraya and Omal held it in front of the phone camera for him to see. Their father thanked them and admired it a lot.

The next day when the children called their father, he thanked them again for the gift. "Everyone at office is admiring the gift that you two made for me," he said. "But how can your office friends see it when we didn't even send it to you?" asked Neraya and Omal too was confused. "Well, look at this!" said their father holding the phone towards his office cubicle and the children saw a big colour print of the photo frame pinned to the wall. "Everyone says that it's a very beautiful gift!" he smiled.

The children were so happy. "We were really sad yesterday because we didn't have enough time or money to post it to you," said Neraya. "But now we are very happy!" smiled Omal. "You don't need money to make someone feel happy," said their father, "it's the thought that counts!"

The children smiled happily. "I can see that a lot of hard work and love has gone into making this beautiful gift. And these kind of gifts are always the best gifts!" said the children's father.



# Tomahawk **Quiz** No. 220

Questions for the Tomahawk Quiz No. 220 are based on articles appearing in the Funday Times print issues and e-papers of May 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2024.

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. 220' 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: June 30, 2024**



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

## QUESTIONS – QUIZ NO. 220

1. When is World Press Freedom Day observed? What is the theme for this year?
2. What is the longest undersea tunnel in the world and where is it located?
3. How far back can the origin of tea be traced?
4. What were the recently set record-breaking climbs up Mount Everest?
5. Who was Henri Dunant?

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**7 - 9 AGE GROUP**

Help the little boy reach his father.

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

- 7 - 9 years WINNERS**
- ▶ Lashen Fernando, Colombo 14
  - ▶ Yonali Manukulasuriya, Panadura
  - ▶ Yashan Ibrahim, Mattegoda
  - ▶ Mahindha Kumar Pranav, Kotagala

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





**Daddy, I Love You**

Daddy, I love you  
For all that you do.  
I'll kiss you and hug you  
'Cause you love me too.  
You feed me and need me  
To teach you to play,  
So smile 'cause I love you  
On this Father's Day.

- Nicholas Gordon

**Happy Father's Day to My Hero**

Dad, you are my hero,  
Because of all you do.  
And on this Father's Day,  
I want to say  
I'm proud of you!  
I love you so much, Dad,  
And I want to be sure you know,  
That every day in every way,  
I'll love you more as I grow.

- Kelly Roper

**Celebrating Fathers**

Fathers are fun – and serious too!  
And you learn more from them than you do at school.  
Think of all the good times you've had.  
How would it be without your dad?  
Everything would be harder with no mentor for growth.  
Reflect on the man who loves you the most.  
Soon will come the day for you to fill his shoes.  
Do you think your dad would accept an excuse?  
Always try your best, that's what he would say.  
Yes, think of your dad on this Father's Day!

- Don Mathis

**Little Fingerprints**

I've left some little fingerprints  
On just about every wall.  
On furniture, doors and windows,  
I've really marked them all.  
Here are some that won't rub off  
To remember when I was small  
Because I'll love you forever  
Even when I'll be big and tall.

- Twinki

**FUN CRAFT**

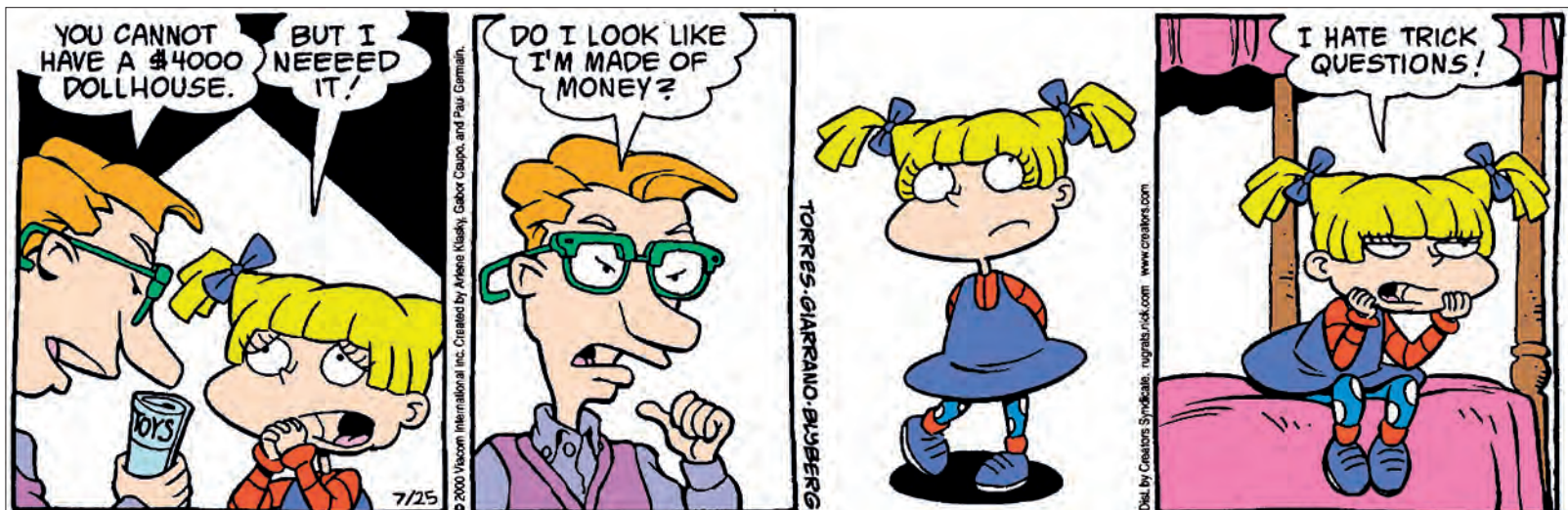
**"I Love You This Much" Card**

It's super easy...

1. Trace your hand, then cut out two copies. My coloured paper was double sided so I made sure that when the thumbs match up – the yellow side would be inside, and the blue side would be outside.
2. Cut out a strip of paper and fold it accordion style. Use letter rub-ons, stickers or write the words "I Love You" on the outside hands, and "This Much" on the strip of paper.
3. Glue the ends of your accordion strip on the insides of the hands and your card is done!



**Rugrats**





# Remarkable Animal Dads

*In honour of Father's Day, we're celebrating some outstanding animal dads who go to great lengths for their offspring, whether it's protecting them from threats, keeping them warm and fed, or socializing with them through play.*

Here's a look at some remarkable animal dads:

## Emperor Penguin



Perhaps the best-known wildlife fathers of all, male Emperor penguins begin their paternal duties long before their offspring are born.

After the mother penguin lays her egg, she returns to the sea to feed, on a two-month long journey, and the father's job — keeping the egg safe and warm — begins. He spends two long, arduous months in the harsh Antarctic winter, balancing the precious egg on his feet, protecting it with his brooding pouch. He has to fast for these two months, unable to eat anything until the mother penguin returns. Only then can he make his own journey to the sea to replenish himself.

## Mountain Gorilla



Male mountain gorillas, known as silverback gorillas because of the colouring of their coats when they mature, lead cohesive families.

They are very attentive and defend females and offspring from threats by fiercely beating their chests and charging enemies. They support infants during times of weaning and play an important role in their offspring's socialization.

A gorilla father spends a good deal of time with his young ones until they become teenagers, playing lovingly with his offspring.

## Seahorse

Seahorse fathers go above and beyond when it comes to parenting — breaking all the rules — they're the ones who get pregnant and give birth! One of the only species in the animal kingdom known for male pregnancy!



After the seahorse mother deposits her eggs into the father's pouch, the father fertilizes the eggs and incubates them for several days, until he gives birth to the tiny, fully-formed seahorses.

## Pygmy Marmoset



The whole family pitches in to care for baby pygmy marmosets, a tiny primate found in the jungles of South America. Pygmy marmosets live in small groups, usually consisting of the parents and several sets of

offspring. The smallest monkeys in the world, adult marmosets weigh an average of four ounces. Pygmy marmosets usually give birth to twins, each one weighing only around half of an ounce.

Father pygmy marmosets help to groom and feed their young. The fathers will also give their babies piggyback rides, carrying them around on their back. They also help in the birthing process, acting as monkey midwives to help bring their newborns into the world.

## Arctic Wolf

Wolf fathers are very protective of and attentive to their mates and their pups.

Wolves generally pair for life, and usually only the alpha male and female of



a pack mate. After the pups are born, the mother must stay nearby and can't leave the den for a long time. While the whole pack pitches in to help raise the pups, it comes down to the father to track down food for the whole family and make sure no threats to the den get close enough to cause harm to the mother and pups.

Source: WWF



# Juneteenth, Explained

June 10, 2024

**Juneteenth is observed annually on June 19. The federal holiday commemorates the end of slavery in the United States of America. On this day in 1865, the last enslaved people in America learned they were free.**

## The history of Juneteenth

On January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. It freed millions of enslaved people in ten Confederate States that were not under Union control.

However, the Union-loyal border states of Missouri, Kentucky, Delaware and Maryland were exempt from the order. They continued to practice slavery until the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment was passed on January 31, 1865.

The two laws together made slavery illegal across the nation. But 250,000 enslaved people in Galveston, Texas, did not know they were free until June 19, 1865.

That is when the Union Army arrived and informed them of the president's order. On June 19, 1866, the group marked the first anniversary of their freedom with cookouts, dances and prayers, starting a new tradition.

## Juneteenth celebrations

Over time, Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, was observed in varying degrees across the US. In 1980, Texas became the first state to officially recognize Juneteenth as a holiday.

However, its significance remained largely unknown outside the African American community until 2020.

In 2021, Virginia, New York and Pennsylvania made Juneteenth a holiday for state employees. Major corporations like Nike and Spotify also added it to their list of paid holidays.

The steadily growing recognition of Juneteenth was promising, but not enough for 97-year-old activist Opal Lee. The Fort Worth, Texas, resident had been trying to make Juneteenth a national holiday since 1989. In 2016, Lee began leading an annual 2.5 mile (4 km) march down Fort Worth's West Lancaster Avenue on June 19.



Juneteenth is marked annually on June 19.



Emancipation Day celebration, June 19, 1900, held in Austin.



A reproduction of the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation.

The distance represented the almost two and a half years it took for the slaves in Texas to realize they were free.

Lee's dream finally came true on June 17, 2021, when President Joe Biden signed legislation making Juneteenth a federal holiday. It was the first new national holiday in the USA since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was established in 1983.

Lee hopes the holiday will help unite Americans.

"Juneteenth is not a Black thing, and it's not a Texas thing," Lee says. "People all over, I don't care what nationality, we all bleed red blood."

- DOGO News

# Water frost spotted on top of volcanoes on Mars

June 11, 2024

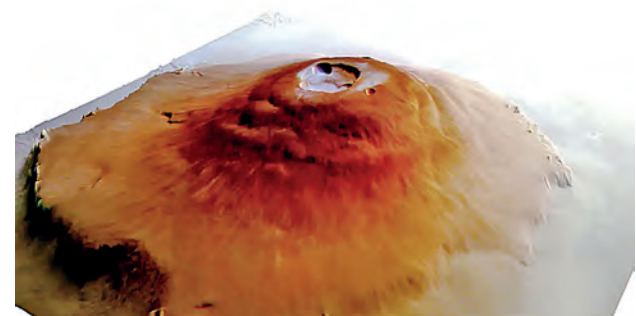
Water frost has been discovered on top of volcanoes found near Mars equator for the very first time.

It's a big deal, as scientists previously thought it was impossible for frost to exist on this part of the Red Planet.

The icy conditions were first spotted by the European Space

Agency's (ESA) ExoMars Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO). They were later confirmed by both another TGO instrument and the ESA's Mars Express.

The incredible find shows ice isn't restricted to the north and south polar caps of Mars and suggests more frost exists across the planet than first thought.



- BBC Newsround



June 11

# News in Pictures



**Van, Turkey**  
Bathers visit an artificial waterfall at the end of the channel used for water discharge at Zerneq Dam where the water level has reached 100% due to recent rains.



**Corumba, Brazil**  
Smoke from a fire rises into the air in the Pantanal, the world's largest wetland, in Mato Grosso do Sul state.

June 10

**Basel, Switzerland**  
'The World: A Moment in Time' by US artist Allan McCollum is displayed at the international show Art Basel.



**Juazeiro, Brazil**  
Revellers perform during the June Festival, a Catholic tradition that celebrates the nativity of St. John the Baptist, in Bahia.



**Parika, Guyana**  
Children play on the ropes of a ship docked on a beach in Parika.

June 9

**Gutach, Germany**  
Women wearing traditional Bollenhut pompom hats queue to fill out their ballot papers for the European parliament elections at a polling station.



**Tokyo, Japan**  
Participants carry a portable shrine or 'Mikoshi' through the streets during the Tsukiji Shishi Matsuri Festival.

**Foshan, China**  
People take part in a cruise on the river during the Dragon Boat Festival.



**Ciudad Valles, Mexico**  
A vet examines an injured possum at the Selva Tenek Wildlife Park where animals are being treated for heat stress during a heat-wave and drought.

Source : The Guardian