

the  
**SUNDAY  
TIMES**

SUNDAY  
NOVEMBER 10, 2024



# FUN DAY

## TIMES



**Halloween Storytelling**

**WINNERS**   
**POETRY & ESSAYS**  
**PAGES 2 & 5**



**STORY**  
**PAGE 3**

**(ONLINE)**



**FUN CRAFT**  
**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 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:

**November 27, 2024**

Telephone: 2479337/2479333

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



# BRITISH COUNCIL

**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.

**11 – 15 years**



### A Voice from the Future

There had once been a world,  
When the sun threw radiant smiles,  
And the rain smelt of earth when it unfurled,  
And happiness spread through miles and miles.

Now, looking up at the bright sky,  
I see a blazing fire ball,  
And in the South the glaciers die,  
The polar bear is just a doll.

Fires gobble up forests in whole,  
Acid rain drops prosper the deadly end,  
Hurling us towards an impassable hole,  
All's too drastic now to mend.

**Nadithi Kulasekera**  
**Ladies' College, Colombo 7**

Please write the date at the top of your entry.

Please note that copied poems will be disqualified.



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

### In our online issue this week:

- **Page 5** – Book Winners Essays
- **Page 6** – Fun Craft / Cartoons
- **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.

**Age: 10 – 12 years**

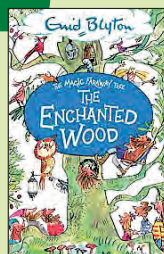
**Word Count: 150 – 200**

**Topic:** A television programme you enjoy

**Win:** The Enchanted Wood by Enid Blyton

When Joe, Beth and Frannie move to the country, they find an Enchanted Wood. There, they discover the Magic Faraway Tree and make friends with Moonface, Saucepan Man and Silky the fairy.

Together, they climb to the top of the tree where weird and wonderful adventures occur in the Land of Birthdays, The Land of Toys and the Land of Ice and Snow.



**Age: 13 – 15 years**

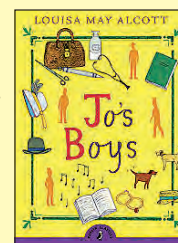
**Word Count: 200 – 250**

**Topic:** A machine I would like to invent

**Win:** Jo's Boys by Louisa May Alcott

Ten years after the school at Plumfield was founded, Jo's Boys – including wanderer Dan, sailor Emil and musician Nat – are grown up and discovering more about the world.

But life after childhood can be confusing and frightening and it is Jo and the warm-hearted March family who can comfort and guide the boys when they need it the most...



## Win super books from



**Age:** 9 years and below

**Word Count:** 150

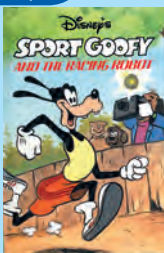
**Topic:** My favourite hobby

**Win:** Sport Goofy and the Racing Robot by Disney

Sport Goofy is a great athlete with a golden heart. No one can beat him in racing.

But, Big Bad Pete, the wicked crook, has a surprise in store for him. On the day of the next race, Sport Goofy has a new challenger.

Who will win the race?



Write at the top of your Essay

■ Book Competition ■ Essay Topic



## Book Competition



**9 years and below**

My favourite animal  
**Suganthan Labisashan**  
Harvard Int. School,  
Matale

**10 – 12 years**

A Halloween party  
**Pradhishan Ketheeswaran**  
Gateway College, Colombo

**13 – 15 years**

World Food Day  
**Vihansa Wijenayake**  
St. Paul's Girls' School,  
Milagiriya

## Love and Patience

By Manoshi De Silva

“Will you stop pulling my school books!” Tiren shouted at his baby brother. “Why?” asked his little brother. “Because you scribble and ruin my books!” said Tiren, pushing him out of the room.

“Why?” asked the little boy again. He knew only a very few words still and ‘why’ was his favourite word.

Tiren sighed and sat on the sofa. “Why?” continued his little brother struggling to get on to the sofa. “Go away!” shouted Tiren and the small boy got scared and went away crying.

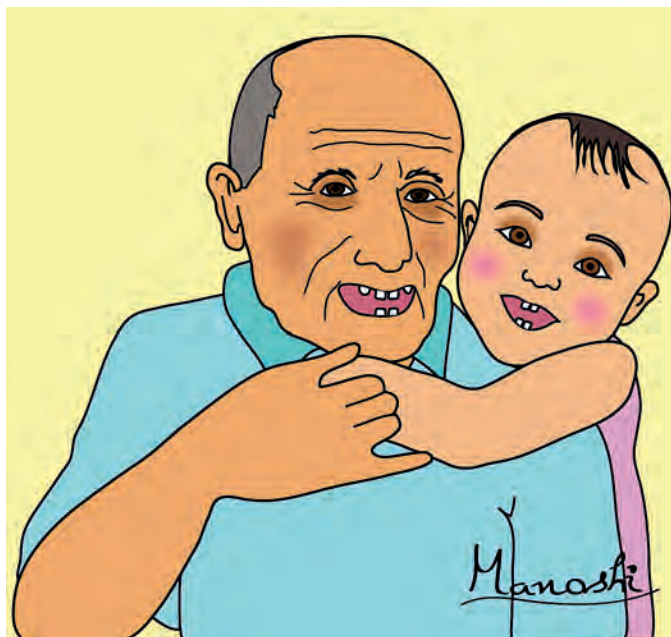
Tiren’s grandfather also lived with them. He was his father’s father. He slowly moved his wheelchair and came near the sofa. “Putha, why is Malla crying?” he asked Tiren.

“I chased him because he scribbles on my school books, Seeya,” replied Tiren. “Who scribbles on your books?” asked Tiren’s grandfather whose hearing was not too good. “Malla scribbles on my books!” said Tiren almost shouting, to make his voice louder. “What did Malla do?” asked his grandfather getting closer. Tiren lost his cool and went back to his room muttering.

Tiren kept his head on his desk and grumbled. “Why are the two of them so annoying? They make me so angry!” he said to himself. Tiren’s father who was outside watering the plants, saw the boy keeping his head on the desk, through the room window. He came near the window and peeped inside. “Putha, are you okay?” he asked Tiren.

The boy sighed. “I am just annoyed *Thaththa!*” he said in a tired voice. “What happened?” “Oh it’s just Malla and Seeya!” said Tiren, “they always do and say things to annoy me. I lose my patience thanks to them.” Tiren’s father smiled. “Let’s see why they annoy you,” he said removing the hose from the garden tap.

“Okay, now tell me what happened!” Tiren’s father sat on his bed. Tiren sat next to him. “Malla doesn’t listen when I tell him not to pull my things. He scribbles on my school books and always asks the same questions again and again. I am tired of answering his silly questions!” “And what about Seeya?” asked his father.



“Seeya is no better,” sighed Tiren. “He always asks questions and unless I don’t shout and answer he doesn’t hear what I say. Even after I answer, his questions, he keeps asking the same things again and again. They are both the same!”

Tiren’s father smiled. “You are correct there!” he said. “What do you mean?” asked Tiren.

“You, yourself said it,” smiled Tiren’s father, “when people grow old, they become very much like small children. Malla can’t understand because he is still learning new words, how to do things and what is right and wrong”.

“But Seeya knows all that!” said Tiren. “Yes, but as people grow old, their memory gets weak. So they forget these things and start acting like small children,” explained Tiren’s father.

“Have you noticed that they are both not very strong and need help to do even small things like walking, eating and other simple things?” asked Tiren’s father. “What you need to understand is that Malla won’t be behaving that way for a very long time, as he will be learning new words and understanding things better. He’ll soon be like you and start going to school.”

“But I find it annoying when they ask the same things over and over,” said Tiren. “Putha, when you were small, you also asked the same questions again and again. That is how you also learned. Seeya was much stronger then. He used to carry you around and spend long hours looking after you. Even when you asked him the same thing so many

times, he used to laugh and answer you lovingly. He was very happy to be around you!” said Tiren’s father.

Tiren felt very sad. He remembered the photographs of him playing on his tricycle with his Seeya, when he was a baby. “Seeya never got annoyed with me. He loves me so much!” thought Tiren. “Now Seeya barely even recognizes me sometimes,” said Tiren. “Yes, that’s true. Our memory fades as we grow older. One day I will also get as feeble as he is and so would you!” said Tiren’s father.

“Malla will become stronger and Seeya will become weaker as time goes by. So you must understand that. We must have a lot of patience and treat them kindly. You must remember that you were also like Malla once and that you will also become like Seeya one day” nodded Tiren’s father.

Tiren saw Malla playing together with Seeya in their living room. They were laughing and saying the same things over and over to each other. “They even look a lot alike,” thought Tiren, smiling to himself. “They both have only a few teeth and very little hair. They are both not very strong and need support to do things. Also they are both also stuck at home most of the time, so they must be feeling bored and lonely. Maybe that’s why they like to talk and interact with us so much.”

“You are lucky to have them in your life Putha,” said Tiren’s father, “I never even got to see my grandfather and I also had no brothers.”

“I don’t feel annoyed anymore,” said Tiren, “I now understand that it’s not their fault and that’s just the way they behave at those ages.” “That’s how we all behave at those ages,” smiled Tiren’s father.

Tiren walked towards his baby brother and grandfather. He gave a hug and kiss to both of them. They both smiled happily and Tiren thought how lucky he was to have them in his life.

Giving them some attention was not that hard to do. All he needed was a little patience and all they needed was a little love, and Tiren promised himself to give that to them.

## Halloween Storytelling at British Council



Special Halloween Storytelling sessions were conducted at British Council Libraries in Colombo, Kandy and Jaffna.

In the spirit of Halloween, children aged 5 – 10 years joined for a special Halloween Storytelling session read by UK-qualified Teachers at the British Council.

## Halloween celebrations

Halloween Day celebrations organised by the Model Early Childhood Development & Daycare Centre – University of Kelaniya, on October 30, 2024.



## ACHIEVEMENT

Thenuri Keerthisena, a Grade 9 student of Maliyadeva Girls' College, Kurunegala, won First Place (8, 9, and 10 sections) in the National Stamp Exhibition Design Competition held to mark World Postal Day 2024, organized by the Postal Bureau.

She also secured Third Place in the Letter Writing Competition organized for school children by the Postal Training Institute affiliated with the Sri Lanka Postal Department.

Thenuri received her awards at The National Postal Festival 2024 held in line with the 150<sup>th</sup> World Postal Day, on October 9, 2024 at Temple Trees in Colombo.



**9 years below**
**My favourite animal**

My favourite animal is the Tiger. The tiger is a wild animal. It is a strong animal. It looks ferocious. It has a strong body. It has a long tail. Its padded feet have sharp claws. It has very sharp teeth and nails. It runs very fast. It belongs to the Cat family.

There are four teeth – two in the upper jaws and two in the lower, which are much larger and longer than the rest. Tigers are generally found in the jungle and it looks like a big cat.

It has a strong sense of smell. It can climb trees easily. They are one of the strongest animals in the jungle.

Tigers are carnivorous animals. They hunt different types of prey for food. Baby tigers are called cubs. We can find tigers in the zoo or in the circus. In the wild, tigers live a healthy life for about 26 years. Tigers can eat 25-27 kg of flesh in one hunt.

Now new breeds of tigers are also found such as White Tigers. They also look so giant and beautiful.

**Suganthan Labisashan (7 years)**  
Harvard Int. School, Matale

**Book Competition WINNERS**
**10 – 12 years**
**A Halloween Party**

Halloween is a festival celebrated on October 31<sup>st</sup> every year. This year, I celebrated my Halloween party with my friends. We all dressed up in whimsical costumes. I dressed up as a vampire, sporting fangs and a cape that flickered as I moved. My best friend wore a witch costume, and another one dressed like a spooky zombie with bulging eyes. We enjoyed planning our outfits in a creative way.

We decorated our house with Jack-o'-lanterns, spider webs, creepy candles, ghoulish ghosts and petrifying pumpkins as still as ominous monuments. I was thrilled about the next adventure.

We played a lot of games too, including bobbing for apples, a Halloween scavenger hunt, haunted trivia and many more fun activities. Everyone cheered, especially when we got to search for a skeleton toy in the yard.

After that we ate chocolate-covered pretzels, candy corn and spider web dips which were delicious. Later we went out to the streets and asked 'Trick or Treat?' to our neighbours, door by door. At midnight we discussed sinister stories and we watched terrifying tales.

Halloween is my favourite day of the year because it is all about fun and a little bit of fright!

**Pradhishan Ketheeswaran**  
(11 years)  
Gateway College, Colombo

**13 – 15 years**
**World Food Day**

Food is the basic right of all who are born into this world. World Food Day is celebrated in October, all around the world. The United Nations chose October 16 because the Food and Agricultural Organization was founded on the same day in 1946. After getting official recognition from the United Nations, 150 countries started to observe World Food Day.

The ultimate purpose of this day is to combat world hunger and make food available for everyone.

Rice, noodles, pasta, pizza all come from different parts of the world and we enjoy them all.

Food brings people together. World Food Day can promote a healthy diet and what the body requires. Although the knowledge of good diets and whether the food is healthy or unhealthy has increased recently, we are still not there. It is an amazing chance to increase our knowledge and awareness in this field.

More than a quarter of the world's population is overweight and approximately 372 million are obese. The goal of World Food Day is also to increase awareness of issues affecting those without such benefits.

The World Food Programme states that more than 48 million people are facing emergency levels of hunger.

Having a balanced diet is very important for an individual. Nowadays people are becoming obese and inviting all sorts of unwanted diseases. The main reason for this is our lifestyle.

Let us not only help others but also help ourselves by having a balanced diet and keeping our bodies healthy.

**Vihansa Wijenayake (14 years)**  
St. Paul's Girls' School, Milagiriya


**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: .....

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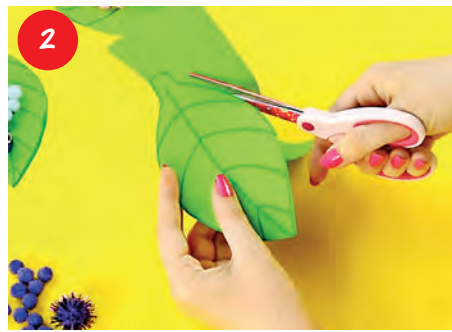
Telephone: .....

School: .....

Parent's approval: ..... Date: .....

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## Caterpillar PomPom Craft



This Caterpillar Pom Pom craft is a fun and wiggly project kids will love to make.

This craft can also be used as a part of a project to demonstrate the lifecycle of the butterfly!

Pompoms are a great crafting material (good for fine motor skills too).

### What you need:

- A whole lot of pompoms
- Goggly eyes
- Green construction paper
- White school glue
- Dark green marker
- Scissors

### Instructions

- ◆ Draw a leaf on the green construction paper.
  - ◆ Cut the leaf shape.
  - ◆ Apply white glue. Make an S shape.
  - ◆ Start placing small pompoms, following the glue line.
  - ◆ Add two goggle eyes on a larger pompom.
  - ◆ Glue the large pompom on the leaf.
- You have finished your caterpillar pompom.

Source: Easy Peasy and Fun



Send in your cartoons to be published in the Funday Times.

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.



Cartoons by:  
**Esben Muller**  
(11 years)  
Germany



## Cartoon Time!

Send in your cartoon!



## Remembrance: What is it and why is it important?

Every year the UK comes together for Remembrance Sunday.

A period of silence is held at 11 a.m., to remember the people who have died in wars around the world.

Remembrance Day - is on Monday this year - and marks the actual day World War One ended, at 11 a.m., on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month, in 1918.

Remembrance Sunday is also marked each year, and usually falls on the second Sunday in November.

The royal family will lay wreaths at the Cenotaph and the UK will have a moment of silence at 11 o'clock on that day as part of the commemorations.

### How is Remembrance marked?

Millions of people in the UK and around the world pause for a moment on this day to join in commemorations to remember those who gave their life for their country.

There are ceremonies at war memorials, cenotaphs and churches throughout the country as well as abroad.

Members of the Royal Family, politicians, the armed forces and communities attend memorial services.

Last year marked a huge change in the way services were carried out here in the UK, as it was the first memorial event since Queen Elizabeth II died.



**Poppies are worn by millions as a symbol to remember all of the people who have given their lives for their country in war.**

As Head of the Armed Forces, the Sovereign traditionally lays the first wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday, and throughout her reign, the Queen has always done so.

But due to her health in later years, she required her son, Prince Charles to lay the wreath on her behalf.

King Charles III as the reigning monarch, will lead the ceremony from now on.

### Why do we hold a silence?

The first two-minute silence in Britain was held on November 11, 1919, when King George V asked the public to observe a silence at 11 a.m.

This was one year after the end of World War One, a war that had been raging in the fields of Northern Europe for four long years.

“Armistice Day” on November 11 was when fighting was suspended on the Western Front in 1918, so Germany and the Allies could reach a peace

agreement, and the guns fell silent at 11 a.m.

Up to 13 million people died in that conflict, which became known as the “war to end all wars”.

While this special day was first commemorated to remember the huge losses after World War I, today the anniversary is used to remember all the people who have died in all wars since.

This includes World War II the Falklands War - which in 2022 marked its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - and more

recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On the following Sunday - Remembrance Sunday - many services are held as part of the commemorations.

### What do the poppies represent?

You will often see poppies at this time of year on people’s clothes, in shops, schools and laid at memorials in towns and villages.

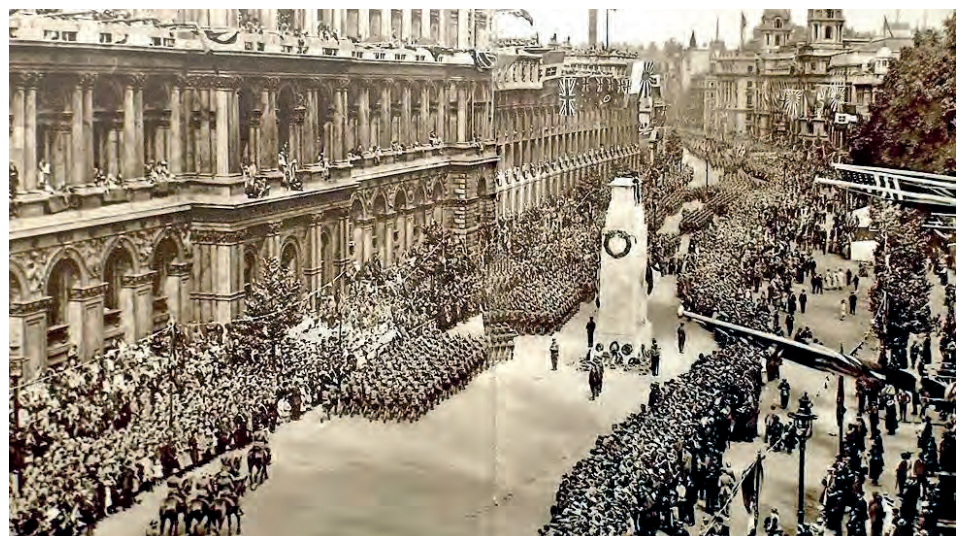
During World War One the farms, fields and land in France and Belgium that was fought on, was left devastated by battle. All signs of life had been virtually wiped out. But one of the first plants to reappear on the battlefields after fighting ended were red poppies.

So since then, the poppy became a symbol of the suffering and sacrifice made by the brave soldiers that fought in such a terrifying place and that is why they are still used today, when we remember them.

Source : CBBC Newsround



**Wreaths are laid at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday. King Charles III has taken over this responsibility after the death of Queen Elizabeth II.**



**Crowds gathered at Whitehall near the Cenotaph monument, in London for a victory parade in 1919 to mark the peace treaty after World War One.**

November 5

# News in Pictures



**Cairo, Egypt**  
People visit an art installation by visual artist Shila Shivo titled "Pulse and Blood" during the fourth edition of "Forever is Now", an international art exhibition provided by Art D'Egypte that reimagines Egypt's ancient civilization through contemporary art in Giza Pyramids, on the outskirts of Cairo.

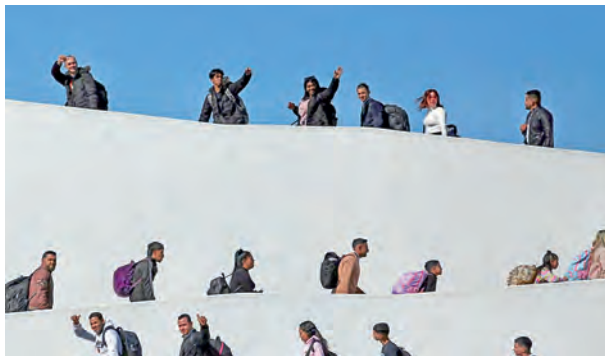


**Rome, Italy**  
The aerobatic demonstration team of the Italian Air Force the "Frecce Tricolori" (Tricolor Arrows) performs over the Roman Forum to mark National Unity and Armed Forces Day in Rome.



**Lahore, Pakistan**  
Schoolchildren in face masks. The government of the province of Punjab, in eastern Pakistan, ordered the closure of all primary schools in the capital, Lahore, because of high air pollution in recent days, which reached up to 45 times above the level recommended by the World Health Organization.

**Bangladesh**  
Hindu devotees sit together in front of oil lamps, and pray to Lokenath Brahmachari, a Hindu saint and philosopher, as they observe the Rakher Upobash Festival, at a temple in Narayanganj, Bangladesh.



**Tijuana, Mexico**  
Migrants who requested an appointment for asylum in the United States using the CBP One application, a mobile phone app promoted by the U.S. administration that provides a way to lawfully approach the port of entry, walk towards El Chaparral, at the border between Mexico and the U.S.



**Valencia, Spain**  
Members of the military and volunteers take part in clean-up efforts in Alfafar after devastating floods. The death toll from Spain's worst floods in a generation has climbed to 217, according to rescuers.

**Anseong, South Korea**  
Workers making *jang*, a fermented soya bean product that is a staple of Korean cooking. UNESCO has recommended *jang*-making in South Korea for inclusion in its list of intangible cultural heritage. *Jang* varieties include *ganjang* (a type of soy sauce) and *gochujang* (a spicy chilli paste).



**Tamil Nadu, India**  
A devotee prays inside the Sri Dharmasastha temple in Thulasendrapuram, the village where Kamala Harris' maternal grandfather was born, in the Southern state of Tamil Nadu, India.



**Cape Town, South Africa**  
Nomzamo Mbatha, the host of Earthshot Week, takes a selfie with Prince William and a group of young people at the Earthshot Prize climate leaders youth programme at Rooftop on Bree.



November 4

Sources: Reuters & The Guardian