



Oldbury Wells Journal

March 2024



Welcome & Happy Easter

Welcome to our end of Term Journal which captures some of the wonderful achievements of all our students over the last 5 weeks. At the end of term we held our usual celebration assemblies to acknowledge student and group achievements made by all. I particularly enjoyed Mr Farish's assembly with Year 8 this week and the Mexican wave celebrations, alongside the normal drum roll build up for many of our prize winners; well done to everyone.

I have been particularly pleased this term to hear about how so many students are getting involved and taking responsibilities across the wider aspects of school life. We know how committed our students are in lessons, and to hear of how many are going above and beyond within areas such as school parliament/council and student leadership opportunities is extremely positive to hear. I have also been proud of our Year 9 students who have put themselves forward to support lunch time activities for our younger students and who will be supporting primary activities at Castlefield's Primary School following the Easter break. I look forward to hearing how opportunities develop.

In our journal, we get an insight into academic achievements, sporting success, musical talents and much more. In our end of term assembly, I will be encouraging students to set goals for the summer term. There are opportunities available for everyone and it would be great if by the end of the year every individual can positively talk about a club, activity or extra-curricular opportunity they have supported and gained something from. Our students are real 'joiners in' and we are proud of all they do.

As we approach the end of term, we say goodbye to Ms Delany (TA) and Mrs Wellings (Exam Officer). I would like to thank them both for all they have given during their time at OWS and wish them the very best and good luck in their new roles.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back into school following the Easter break; a reminder that the new term starts on <u>Monday</u>, 8th <u>April</u>. We have an exciting summer ahead and will as always be working hard as a school community to ensure that everyone makes the very best progress both academically and within areas of personal development.

Can I use this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Easter, and hope everyone enjoys time together with friends and family over the holiday period.

Mr Tristham Headteacher



English

Poetry By Heart Competition

All the participants impressed the judges and were a true credit to themselves and the school

On 5th October 'Poetry By Heart' launched their national competition at the Globe Theatre to coincide with Poetry Day. We were lucky enough to attend the launch day with thirteen Year 10s. This then formally started their national poetry competition.

There are a range of benefits to competing in the 'Poetry By Heart' competition, including: increasing confidence, practising speaking skills, developing memory skills, knowing and exploring great poems, engaging on a deeper level with English and just having fun. I was therefore keen to get our students involved.

For the poetry competition, students could choose to work as individuals or in groups and they had to learn two poems by heart from a specific list provided by 'Poetry By Heart'. Once the poems were learned, they then needed to work on how to present the poem and rehearse this. The categories, for the students to enter, were dependent on the key stage they were in. As this process was a competition, the students/groups were judged by a panel of English and Drama teachers and the performances were recorded. The competition took place on 12th March 2024.

The winners from the 'Classic' (individual performance) and 'Freestyle' (group performance) categories have their recordings sent to be judged, by 'Poetry By Heart', on a regional scale and then the winner of this performs at the Globe Theatre and judged on a national scale.

Oldbury Wells' winners are:

KS4 'Classic' – Maisie Rollings with 'Dulce et Decorum Est' by Wilfred Owen and 'London' by William Blake

KS4 'Freestyle' – Aggie Thompson, Ella Quinton and Ellowyne Broadhouse with 'War Photographer' by Carol Anne Duffy and 'Bayonet Charge' by Ted Hughes.

KS3 'Freestyle' – Grace Faulkner, Annabelle Stringer and Eden Tudge with 'Mushrooms' by Sylvia Plath and 'A Short Story of Falling' by Alice Oswald.

Congratulations!
They will now be competing on a regional scale. So, 'good luck' to them all!

All the participants impressed the judges and were a true credit to themselves and the school. Mrs Lawson, Mr Cook and I were very proud of them; the competition was a joy to observe and judge.

Miss Roberts













English

Poetry By Heart

'Poetry By Heart': what was there to gain? As a participant, and someone who thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience, I can tell you...

Over the past few months, myself and others worked to memorise two poems each. I personally worked in a group of three and learnt 'War Photographer' by Carol Anne Duffy and 'Bayonet Charge' by Ted Hughes. The whole experience of learning the poems and then performing them was particularly good for me, since not only do I now know two whole poems for my GCSE but I was also able to spend time with my friends and dedicate myself to something that compelled me. It made me feel productive outside of my regular school activities, whilst I was also being given an opportunity to fully indulge myself in the poems.

Furthermore, not only did I enjoy the experience, I learnt and grew. Doing 'Poetry By Heart' enabled me to practise and feel confident with my performing skills, such as projecting my voice and enunciating my words (which will be very useful for speeches and interviews). I also feel that my confidence has developed, and it challenged me to improve my memory skills.

Overall, I've appreciated the opportunity to engage personally in the poetry I am learning for school, and I really loved being part of the 'Poetry By Heart' competition for the multitude of learning opportunities, along with the interactive work with poetry. I would recommend any student to take the opportunity to be a part of this in the future.

Aggie Thompson

Year 10

Extreme Reading Challenge!

You might already know about this challenge, from your English lessons or registrations...

Read!

Any time...any place...anywhere!

- We are asking that you take a picture of yourself reading in an unusual place.
- Send your photos via email or Satchel to your English teachers.
- · Deadline: April 24th
- Prize: 10 house points and an Easter Egg.







HERE ARE SOME ENTRIES FROM THE LAST Extreme Reading Challenge!
Winning photos will be displayed – one competition for KS3, one for KS4, one for KS5 and one for Staff!



English

Hikaru workshop a hit with Year 7

A story writing workshop with John Prockter

During this term all of Year 7 have had the opportunity to experience a story writing workshop with John Prockter (Bridgnorth Youth and Schools Project). John has been coming into Oldbury Wells for many years and was were delighted to invite him in to share his new novel Hikaru – Name above all Names. Students had an opportunity to hear some of the story, develop plot ideas, create character artwork and produce alternative storyboards.

It was amazing to see all students so engaged with the story, asking and answering questions, being drawn into the endless possibilities of Hikaru and share their ideas with their peers.

Students were all given a complimentary teaser version of the story to take home for free to continue with their personal reading journeys.



Science

"Marie Curious Event at Oxford University

Year 9 girls took part in the "Marie Curious" event run by the Physics department of Oxford University

On Tuesday this week a group of Year 9 girls took part in the "Marie Curious" event run by the Physics department of Oxford University. The event aims to build confidence in girls with an interest in Science and fuel a passion for continuing to pursue STEM subjects at a higher level.

During the day the girls took part in three 45min hands-on workshops where they completed tasks to find the optimum mixture of chemicals to create a timed reaction, learned about plasmas and their uses and saw how simulations are used to model black hole jets.

The day ended with a science show about particle accelerators. Everyone had a great time and were inspired with what they had seen. Well done to all for getting involved.



Art and Design

Chefs of the Term

Our 'Chefs of the Term' are:

- Harley Cottis Y11
- Molly-May Thompson Y10
- Archie Oliver Y9
- Charlie Graveling Y9
- Amber Carline Y8
- Maddie Wise Y8
- Ava Martin Y7
- Ellie Willaims Y7

Pop Art Competition

Winner Announced

We recently had a competition for Year 8 as part of the Art Dept project to create a 3D customised object in the Pop Art style at home. The well-deserved winner was Alexandria with her fantastic Pop Art bike helmet

Mothers Day

Students in 7EJW spent time in form to create their own Mother's Day Cards. Pictured here are Eva, Darcy and Jesse from 7EJW.













Art and Design

Artist of the Month

Year 8: Emily Wootton

For a super response to the Pop Art project with an amazing Star Wars and Yoda study inspired by magazine layouts.

Year 9: Marlee Relph

For an excellent effort with the development of her Photoshop magazine using all her own artwork and designed with Adobe Photoshop.

Year 10: Imogen Painter

For consistent hard work with the development of creative ideas and the use of experimental media to develop her GCSE coursework project on Animals.

Year 11: Harrison Penn

For his great commitment to Art studies with the creation of a 3D sculpture inspired by his theme of 'The Kings of Sport' and some strong drawing work in his exam preparation portfolio.

















Student Parliament



Trust Schools Parliament meet up for the first time.

On 12th March, 17 students from our Trust schools met up for the first time to decide how they were going to make an impact as part of the TrustEd Student Parliament they had been elected to be part of.

Church Stretton School hosted the event providing excellent facilities and refreshments. The students took part in a team building exercise organised by Lyndsey the sports coordinator; students against students and staff against students, all triumphant in different activities.

We then got down to the serious business of presentations on the chosen charities by the individual schools. Each school was required to identify a National and local charity. Every student gave a passionate delivery making the voting process difficult but after deliberation each student privately voted for the charities they felt justified the Trusts' support. Mrs Bell collected the votes and after a drum roll by our resident drummer Tom from Church Stretton, it was announced that the National Charity would be 'Papyrus' the charity working to prevent young suicide and the local charity 'Birmingham Children's Hospital'.

We ended the day by working together to consider methods of raising money, where Evie Pawson from Belvidere had the excellent idea of creating a Student Parliament Go Fund Me page with the intention of reaching as many students and families as possible. All the Trust schools will have casual clothes days and cake bakes to raise further funds.

Each school will have assemblies to hear all about the chosen charities and how the students working together will make a big difference after Easter.

So, everyone, look out and get ready for an amazing difference our Trust students will make now they are in charge!



Student Parliament



Team Building

Everyone got to know each other by getting involved with team building activities.







Charities considered by all schools:

School	National Charity	Local Charity
Alveley	UK Autism 2	First Responders
Belvidere	Cancer Research UK 2	Severn Hospice 2
Castlefields	Diabetes UK	Cuan Wildlife Rescue UK 3
Church Stretton	Cancer Research UK 2	Hope House 1
Mary Webb	Papyrus UK 8	The Shrewsbury Ark
Meole Brace	Ronald Macdonald House	Hope House 1
Oldbury Wells	Scleroderma & Raynaud's UK 5	MS Therapy Centre 4
St Leonards	Cancer Research UK 2	Birmingham Children's Hospital 8
Stokesay	Save The Children UK 1	Cuan Wildlife Rescue UK 3

What Next:

- 1. The Trusted Student Parliament has set up a Go Fund Me page and would like you to get on social media and send the link to as many people as possible to raise the well needed funds for both charities. <u>School Council Go Fund Me page</u>
- 2. Each school will be having a casual clothes day within the first 2 weeks after Easter hopefully you will wear something either Blue or Red to represent one of the two charities.
- 3. Cake sales will be organised by each school.
- 4. When the money has been collected it will be divided equally between the two chosen charities, then our Student Parliament representatives will present it to Papyrus and Birmingham children's Hospital.

Make a difference and show everyone what the students at the TrustEd Schools can do!



History

Year 7 explore Warwick Castle

A great day was had by all

This year students have been investigating how dangerous the Middle Ages were and just how successful our Tudor monarchs were.

To enrich this work further, students visited the Medieval stronghold that is Warwick Castle.

A variety of excellent experiences were enjoyed from watching how the Kingmaker prepared for his final battle, identifying the castle's defensive features, climbing the Norman motte and enjoying the collection of the Earls of Warwick in the state rooms.

A great day was had by all and well done to the Year 7 students involved.









Creative Revision with Year 10

The American West

Year 10 have shown real commitment to their GCSE studies this year so far and are currently studying the American West. To support their revision, students have made Tipis to explain how the indigenous peoples of America were able to survive in the harsh and unforgiving landscape of the Great Plains. Keep up your excellent effort!



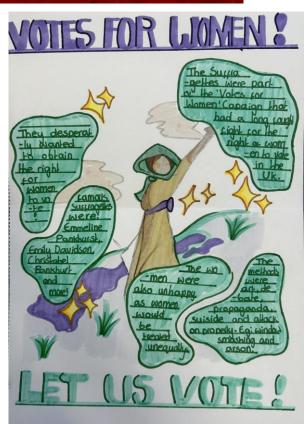
International Women's Month

The Suffragettes and their struggle

During International Women's month Year 8 students have been able to study the experiences of the Suffragettes and their struggle to obtain the vote.

This beautiful advertisement for the suffragette cause was produced by Emily Wootton in 8MBR as part of her home learning.

Look out for more on International Women's month and Miss Perk's Easter Dinner Party for inspirational women.



House Update

Introducing the House Trophy

Senior Student Leaders show off our new House Trophy

Our current group of Senior School Leaders show off their choice for the end of year Interhouse trophy. Points are awarded throughout the year for interhouse activities as well as individual academic successes.

This trophy was chosen by our Senior School Leaders who meet throughout the year to plan and discuss events. With Finley and Elias leaving Year 11 at the end of this year, we have started the process for our current Year 9 students to apply to join Tazkia, Eleanor, Morgan and Harry as they move forward into next year.







'Spotlight on..... Instrumental Examination Success'

Many congratulations to Morgan Rodgers

One of our Year 10 GCSE Music students who has recently passed his Grade 5 Rock Guitar Examination with a Distinction. A super achievement Morgan, well done.

We have many students who receive instrumental tuition in school from our visiting music service and private tutors every week. Everyone is making such great progress and we applaud your continued commitment - well done.

Flute/Saxophone/Clarinet

- Grace Parsons
- Jay Webb
- Abigail Rhymes

Violin

Mia Heeley

Cello

- Anya Sarpal
- Nancy Fowler

Piano

- Olivia Rose Jones
- Izzy Davies
- Beth Robinson
- Tess Dainty
- Holly Rossookh
- Ben Jordan
- Bradley Masefield
- Georgina Harman
- Dougie Gray
- Camren Farrington-Hyrons
- Nancy Fowler

Trumpet

- George Darby
- Josh Leith

Vocal

- Lizzie Dower
- Tess Dainty
- Kerry Griffiths
- Niamh Oliver-Walton
- Ambar Sarpal
- Delta Farrington-Hyrons
- Louisa Hayward

Guitar

- Dylan Williams
- Leo Mountford
- Drew Bourne
- Morgan Rodgers
- Asher Lockton
- Alfie Pope
- Will Sievwright
- · Caleb veal
- Hugo Fower-Rolls
- Freddie Fothergill
- Marlee Relph
- · Seth Green

Drumkit

- Amelia Maddison
- Josh Wyke
- Harley Love
- Jacob Nixon
- Jack D'Arcy



IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO START LEARNING TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT AT ANY POINT OR IF YOU USED TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT AND WOULD LIKE TO START AGAIN OR TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT, PLEASE HAVE A CHAT WITH MISS DANGERFIELD AND WE CAN ORGANISE THIS FOR YOU.

'ENCORE'

'Encore', our school vocal group, continue to meet every Thursday lunchtime and are busy preparing their performances for the Summer Showcase which will be staged on 8th and 9th July. The opportunity to join Encore is extended to anyone with an enjoyment of singing from across all year groups. There is no audition and no pressure to sing solo. Just come and enjoy singing pop and musical theatre as a group.

Singing, especially as part of a choir or vocal group, has been proven to be amazing for good mental health and making you feel great.

It is never too late to join Encore and is only one lunchtime commitment each week.



MFL Spotlight







Bonjour, Guten Tag, ¡Hola! Bridgnorth parents \



Some of you, like me, may have taken part in a school exchange back in the early 90s when pupils from our German twin town Schrobenhausen visited Bridgnorth,

As one of those youngsters who got to spend a week in Schrobenhausen with my penpal's family, I can truly advocate for the excitement of learning a foreign language.

The opportunity to spend a week totally immersed in a foreign culture and language was truly eye-opening and inspiring. In fact, it was that exact experience that fuelled my ambition to live and travel abroad and see what the world had to offer.

Modern foreign languages are in our curriculum at Oldbury Wells, because as well as striving for academic success, we strive to broaden the horizons of our young people by giving them diverse learning opportunities.

Bridgnorth Twinning Association is continuing to support the town's language learning legacy and are making efforts to reestablish school exchange links. Most recently Castlefields Primary was involved in a Christmas card exchange.

Yes, learning a language is hard, but the rewards are aplenty. So if you do hear your child say 'French/Spanish is difficult', remind them that yes it is; but that knowing a little bit of a foreign language can open doors that will make their future even brighter.

Bridgnorth Twinning Association



THIERS











Visit www.bridgnorthtwinning.com to find out more

Thanks for reading! Mrs Lawrence - Teacher of French



Peer Mentoring

Peer Mentoring Programme

This term we have set up a peer mentoring programme in school

Some of our wonderful Year 10 students volunteered to become a peer mentor to some of our Year 8 students. Following some sessions of training, the Year 10's were paired with a young person to work with them over the past few weeks. They have been offering guidance and advice on a range of issues, building up and establishing a friendship, whilst acting as a fantastic role model to the young student. The Year 8s involved have enjoyed their time on the programme and recognise the positive contribution these sessions have brought to them. When asked to give some feedback on how the programme had been going, one of the Year 8 students commented "My mentor is really helpful with some of the struggles I have had, whatever they may be. They have been really supportive and friendly".

Peer mentoring can have a really positive impact for the student being mentored. It can improve their self-esteem and confidence, give them a sense of belonging within school, improve attendance, improve behaviour incidents and can improve grades. There will also be many benefits that the scheme will bring to those students acting as mentors. It will develop their communication skills, give them valuable experience for future careers, and ultimately, they will be making a very positive contribution within the school community and to that young person's life.

After the East break, the Year 10 students want to continue making a difference in our young people's lives. They will be working together to create assemblies and carry out small group workshops centred around a range of issues and challenges that face all of our young people today. Thank you to our amazing Year 10 mentors. What a difference you are making to other people's lives!

What an amazing group of young people you are!



Girls Biggest Football Day

During late Autumn and early Spring Mr Jew and the SGCo team trained over 50 new girls as FA 'Go Lead Football Activators'. This is part of a national programme delivered by the FA and Youth Sport Trust called 'Game On'.

The programme is designed to encourage as many girls as possible to play football in and out of schools at primary and secondary level. Trained Activators have used their skills and knowledge to good effect delivering after-school clubs at local primary schools, refereeing the KS2 girls football tournament and delivering a girl's football festival at Idsall School as part of the 'Biggest Ever Girls Football Day' on 8th March.

This day was part of a nationwide drive to let as many girls as possible play football on one day! As well as the festival at Idsall, many OWS Activators supported girl's football sessions at local primary schools during the morning and then ran Year 7 masterclass sessions and house competitions during the afternoon!

In total over 620 girls took part in activities delivered by Go Lead Activators on 8th March!!



Y7 District Competition

Two teams of Year 7 netballers recently took part in the district U12's competition at William Brookes School. They competed against other schools in the area including William Brookes, Ludlow and Church Stretton. For a number of the girls it was the first time that they had played netball competitively and they did an excellent job. They all battled really hard in some very close games and they worked brilliantly as a team. Veronica Richards even received praise for excellent defending from a member of staff from an opposing team!



Oldbury march into final after epic comeback!

Congratulations to the u13s Boys who have made it through to the Presidents Trophy Final

Congratulations to the u13s Boys who have made it through to the Presidents Trophy Final after a thrilling 5-3 win away at Mary Webb school. Already on a high from triumphing over the likes of Shrewsbury Academy and HLC in previous rounds, Oldbury travelled the long distance to take on their opponents.

However, things didn't go as planned, as 3 quick goals from the hosts meant that the boys were up against it. A great strike from just before the break meant the arrears were reduced to 2 going into the interval. This was where the team showed all the qualities we look for, encouraging each other, problem solving and resilience to the end. They went back out confident of doing their best to leave with heads held high.

Controlling the game, creating more and more chances a breakthrough was imminent, and it came midway through the half with a strong strike from Joe Griffiths. As the game drew to a close it looked like Mary Webb were going to cling on but then Joe Griffiths bullied his way through to slot home the equaliser.

To extra time and there was a spring in the very tired legs... confidence had grown, and this showed as the game started. With 5 minutes to play before the dreaded penalties, Joe Griffiths



ran onto a through ball, past the 'keeper and into the empty net. 4-3 and celebrations followed. There was still time for another as Marv Webb rallied for an equaliser, they threw everyone forward, leaving a long clearance to land at the feet of Josh Wyke who outpaced all from his own half and cooly finished past the goalkeeper.

We are so proud of this team for the character they showed and the outstanding sportsmanship throughout the game. Now onto the final to be played at Thomas Telford School.



School Uniform

Uniform Update

New Skirt to be introduced from September 2024

We are updating our school uniform for our new intake from September 2024.

The new skirt will be the expected uniform item for Year 7 students and students who join the school mid-year.

We would ask parents that when they update their child's uniform, that they do so with the new skirt. The new skirt will be available from our stockists and will cost £23-25.



Uniform item

NEW - Trutex GST

Gisburn tartan

skirt

Current Uniform Policy

A reminder of school uniform policy

The uniform policy is available on the website however, for further reference please see the additional guidance below to help you when purchasing unbranded items of uniform.

Uniform Policy

Skirts – standard mid-grey skirt. To be worn no shorter than two inches above the knee (see below)







Shoes – plain black **polishable** leather or simulated leather, please see examples.



No boots, canvas shoes or trainer style shoes are permitted. No branded sports <u>makes</u> including (but not limited to) Nike, Adidas, Reebok, Converse, Stan Smiths and Vans. Please see below examples of **prohibited shoes**:



Socks - plain black, white or grey, no trainer socks.

Tights – plain black no patterns.

Coat – A black or grey waterproof coat.

Hoodies and Sweatshirts are prohibited from school

Trousers – should be formal, mid grey, full length and either regular or tailored fit (see below)



Jeans, tracksuit bottoms, cropped trousers, chinos, leggings, or skinny fit trousers are **prohibited** (see below)



READDIT!

Holidays

READDIT! are thinking about holidays and all the things we can enjoy over the break. Can you solve the word-search, the quiz, and read a novel in an Extreme way?

1 Can you complete the word search?

It might inspire you to complete some of these activities during your break!

- cookery
- beachcombing
- hiking
- · reading
- gaming

being creativepainting

drawingshopping

• jamming

• singing

dancingswimming

running

hairdressing

sleeping

revising

writing

carpentry

mechanics

building

Relaxing

Holidays!

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

2 Can you solve the puzzles? The letters are jumbled, but all these words have something to do with reading books. (Answers at the end of Readdit!)

YROPET Usually written in stanzas; it might rhyme

VONTLIES Someone who writes fiction; an author

BORGYHAIP Someone else's life story...

ACKNMISSNDA A reading skill used to find details quickly

SHRBUSPILE Like Penguin, they print books

PCHEART Part of a novel

CRAVALYUOB Words, words, words!

FREE Parenting Summer Term groups and workshops

Holidays

Shropshire Parenting Team will be delivering free Understanding Your Child and Understanding Your Child SEND groups from April 2024 (poster attached).

These 10 week groups aim to:

- Promote understanding of children's behaviour within the context of developmental issues
- Promote the development of parent/child relationship
- Increase confidence and self-esteem in both parents and children
- Give parents a strategy for repair when things go wrong
- Promote reflective, sensitive and effective parenting

We are also offering a free SLEEP TIGHT workshop from April and June 2024 (poster attached). These 5 week workshops cover:

- Recognising the role of sleep hygiene to improve sleep
- Identifying causes of sleep issues and appropriate practical strategies to try
- Completing sleep diaries and identifying potential sleep issues





NOTICBOARD

READDIT

Answers are below

VOCABULARY PUBISHER BIOGRAPHY 2 QUIZ SKIM AND SCAN CHAPTER



Holidays!

1 Mordsearch

Equipment Reminder

- ✓ Black pens
- ✓ Green Pens
- ✓ Red Pens
- ✓ HB Pencil
- ✓ Ruler
- ✓ Rubber
- ✓ Scientific calculator
- ✓ Spanish or French Dictionary

- ✓ Highlighter pens
- ✓ Glue Stick
- ✓ Colouring Pencils
- ✓ Compass
- ✓ Protractor
- ✓ Earphones

students of to school

Term Dates

Summer Term 2024

Starts – Monday 8th April 2024

(Bank Holiday: Monday, 6th May 2024)

Half Term

Monday, 27th May - Friday, 1st June 2024 inclusive

Terms Ends - Friday, 19th July 2024

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