



Week Commencing Monday 20th October 2025

Headteacher's Update

Dear Parents and Carers

As we near the end of Term One, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the term. It has been a busy and rewarding start to the academic year, and your encouragement, communication, and partnership have played a vital role in helping our students settle, learn, and thrive.

Next week brings a shorter week before the holidays begin, and we hope everyone is able to enjoy a slightly gentler pace as we approach the break. It's been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and commitment shown by our students both in and out of the classroom, and this would not be possible without the ongoing support from home.

We also send our very best wishes to our Year 13 students and staff as they set off on their Berlin trip next week. It promises to be an exciting and memorable experience, and we look forward to hearing all about it when they return.

Our Student Council will be selling poppies to staff and students starting from Monday. Since they started collecting for the Poppy Appeal, students are proud to have raised more than £9000 for this worthy cause. Please ensure your child has cash if they wish to buy a poppy.

Thank you once again for your continued trust and partnership. Wishing all our families a smooth end to the term, a relaxing final week, and a restful, enjoyable holiday ahead.

Thank you, Mr Farrer

In this week's bulletin:

- Revised Y11 Mock Exam Timetable
- Online Safety – What you need to know about memes
- Student fundraisers – Poppy Appeal and Food Bank donations
- Community News
 - Repair Café dates
 - Panto season comes to school
 - Mighty Girls Self-defence workshop

And lots more.....

Key dates for your diary - Week B

Monday 20 th October	•
Tuesday 21 st October	• Y13 Berlin Trip • Y10 Work Experience Briefing • Y6 Open Morning Year 7 Admissions St Laurence School
Wednesday 22 nd October	• TERM 1 ENDS – School Closes at 3:00pm • Uniform sale starts at 4:30pm

Key dates for your diary - Week B

Monday 3 rd November	• TERM 2 STARTS AT 8:35am
Tuesday 4 th November	• 6th Form College Talks • Y10 Photography Walk • Under 14 Girls County Cup Football 2:00pm – 5:30pm (Away)
Wednesday 5 th November	• 6 th Form Discussions
Thursday 6 th November	• Y7, 10 & 12 Reports issued • 6th Form Open Evening
Friday 7 th November	• Cross Country Event 8:30am – 1:30pm (Away) • Flu Vaccinations – where prior consent has been given



St Laurence School

Care • Inspire • Succeed



Open Evening

6th Form

Thursday 6th November 2025 | 5:00pm – 7:30pm





Presentations led by the Headteacher and Director of 6th Form will be at 5:00pm and 6:00pm in Trinity Hall, followed by a tour of the school.



In the Wiltshire Music Centre

www.st-laurence.com • Ashley Road, Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire. BA15 1DZ

From: Miss Davies – Teacher of Drama

Students in Year 7, 8 and 9, who would like to be involved in the KS3 production taking place in March 2026, are encouraged to attend Drama Club every Tuesday in F7, from Tuesday 4th November.

There will be no formal auditions for this production, however, casting decisions will be based on attendance, behaviour and participation during Drama Club sessions.

Thank you, Miss Davies.

From: Mr Bailey – Head of History/LOTC

Year 9 First World War Reenactor Visit – Thursday 11th December

The History Department are pleased to be offering all students in Year 9 the opportunity to engage with a First World War History reenactor from 'Frontline Living History'. The hour-long session will cover topics including: recruitment, trench life and the changing weapons and tactics used by soldiers.

What will be covered?

Recruitment:

Using primary & secondary sources, including soldiers' own accounts, students explore the complex issue of recruitment during the Great War. What motivated men to volunteer? How did the British Government and media use propaganda to encourage volunteering? What happened when the numbers enlisting were simply not enough to fill the gaps in the ranks?

Trench Life:

Through contemporary images, maps and accounts, students discover what life was like in that iconic structure, the Great War trench. Why and how were trenches built? What was life like in a trench? How long were men in the trenches? Saps, dugouts, OPs, firebays and knife-rests - what does it all mean? What problems did trenches pose for attackers and how were they overcome?

Changing Weapons & Tactics:

The First World War is often seen as tactically static: lines of overlaid, undertrained infantry walking steadily across No Man's Land into the fire of machine guns and artillery. However, this is an over-simplification: tactics of defence and attack were constantly evolving. Students can discover for themselves the effects of the use of gas, tanks, aircraft, machine guns, mines, artillery and more.

The cost of this experience is just **£5.70** per student, which represents excellent value for the experience they will receive. Students in receipt of Free School Meals are exempt from payment.

Thank you to those parents that have paid already. We would appreciate payment as soon as possible to ensure the Event can go ahead.

What's on the Menu?



Click the link to our Catering page for information on all the different ways our students can enjoy healthy and nutritious meals at school:

[Catering | St Laurence School \(st-laurence.com\)](http://st-laurence.com)

We will be celebrating Diwali on Monday 20th October with some traditional dishes



Second Hand Uniform Sale

This is not the usual uniform sale, there will also be the opportunity to buy school shoes and outerwear, books and student designed Christmas cards (only 10 weeks to go!)



1 Date: ****Wednesday 22nd October****

Time: from 4:30pm

Location: Trinity Hall (please use the Ashley Road entrance)

Pre-sale donations welcome – please leave your clean, resaleable uniform at Reception during school hours.

A flood of books!

Thank you so much to Mr B's Emporium in Bath for the incredibly generous donation of books.

These will be in the ILC from next week, ready for eager readers!



What are the key dates I need to be aware of for Term 2 and Term 3?

	Term 2	Term 3
All years	Monday 3rd November – Term 2 commences for all students Friday 19th December – Term 2 ends at 1:30pm for all students	Monday 5th January – Term 3 commences for all students Friday 13th February – Term 3 ends at 3:00pm for all students
Year 7	Thursday 6th November – Year 7 report issued (learning profile only) Tuesday 11th November – Online parents information evening 5:30-6:15pm. More information to follow. Thursday 13th November – In person tutor review for all Year 7 parents/carers. More information to follow	Thursday 29th January – Year 7 interim report issued
Year 8	Thursday 13th November – Year 8 interim report issued	
Year 9	Thursday 20th November – Year 9 report issued (learning profile only)	Thursday 22nd January – Year 9 options evening. More information to follow Thursday 29th January – Year 9 interim report issued Thursday 5th February – Year 9 online Subject consultation evening 2:00pm-7:30pm. More information to follow
Year 10	Thursday 6th November – Year 10 report issued (learning profile only) Thursday 13th November – in person tutor review for all Year 10 parents/carers. More information to follow	Thursday 12th February – Year 10 interim report issued
Year 11	W/c Monday 3rd November – moving up week Thursday 6th November – 6th form open evening 5:00pm start. More information to follow W/c 10th November – Year 11 written mocks begin for 2 weeks W/c 24th November – Year 11 practical mocks begin	Monday 5th January – mocks results day and report issued Thursday 15th January – Year 11 online Subject evening 4:00pm-7:30pm. More information to follow
Year 12	Thursday 6th November – Year 12 report issued (learning profile only) Thursday 13th November – in person tutor review for all Year 12 parents/carers. More information to follow	Thursday 5th February – Year 12 interim report issued

Year 13	Thursday 20th November – Year 13 online Subject evening 4:00pm-7:30pm. More information to follow Thursday 4th December – Y13 non-university mock interviews 10:00am-1:00pm	W/c Monday 5th January – Year 13 written mocks begin, and Year 13 study leave all week Monday 12^h January – Year 13 practical mocks begin Thursday 12th February – Year 13 full report issued
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Sports News

Upcoming Fixtures

Tuesday 21st October

U14 Basketball vs Clarendon (H). Finish approx. 5:00pm
 Year 9 Netball vs St Augustine's (A). Return approx. 5:15pm
 Year 11 Netball vs St Augustine's (A). Return approx. 5:15pm
 Year 9 Rugby vs Corsham (A). Return approx. 5:30pm

Recent Results - Congratulations to all students involved

Tuesday 14th October

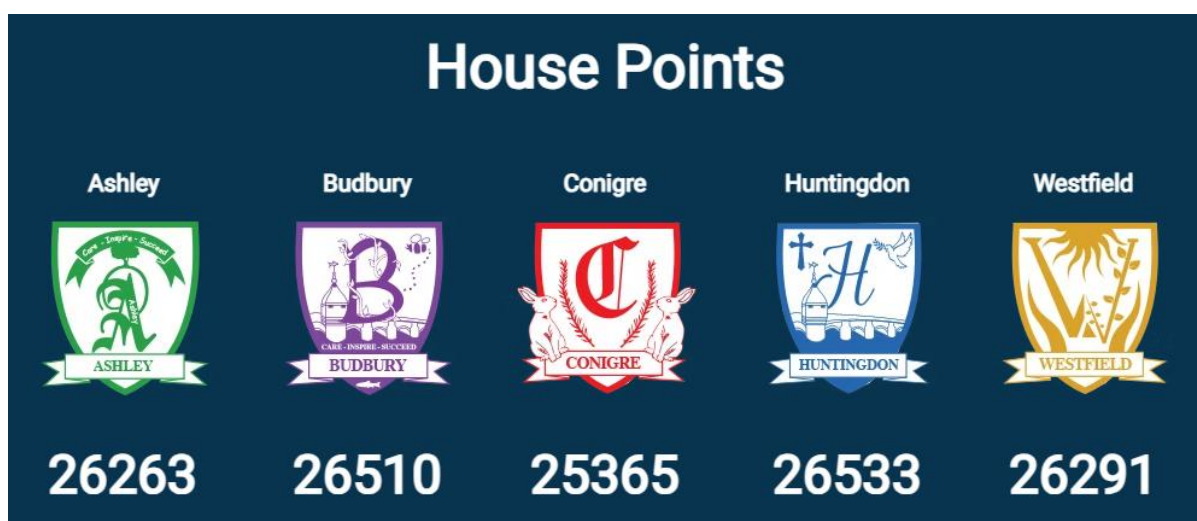
St Laurence 0 – 8 Corsham (Year 8 Rugby)
 St Laurence 2 – 8 Marlborough College (U16 Netball National Cup 1st Round)
 St Laurence 1 – 16 Dauntsey's School (U16 Netball National Cup 1st Round)

Wednesday 15th October

Year 7 Boys Rugby Tournament: P:3. W:1 D:1 L:1

Thursday 16th October

St Laurence 37 – 0 JOG (Year 9 Netball)
 St Laurence 11 – 16 JOG (Year 10 Netball)



Sent on behalf of the School Council

Poppy Appeal 2025

The Student Council will be selling poppies around school during tutor time from Monday 20th October to Friday 7th November, in aid of Remembrance Sunday, which will be commemorated on Sunday 9th November.



LEST WE FORGET

Last year, our appeal raised £150 and are proud to have raised more than £9000 for this worthy cause since we started collecting at St Laurence School.

All cash donations are extremely appreciated. These will go to such a good cause and help remember those who have fought in conflicts around the world.

Can Appeal 2025

We are also continuing the annual tradition of running the can appeal, where students take canned food into their tutor groups for donation to local food banks.

Cans with a long shelf-life such as beans, soup, tinned vegetables and fruits, along with other non-perishable foods, are the most helpful to donate, but anything is appreciated. The deadline for donations is Friday 7th November.

All donations to go to this good cause will be gratefully received.



Timetable of Y11 Mock Written Examinations in Sports Hall (10-21 November 2025)

Mon, 10 Nov week B		Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	French Reading - 1h30m German Listening – 1h30m (<i>Lecture Theatre</i>)	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Geography UK Paper 2 - 1h45m
Tue, 11 Nov		Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 1 (non-calculator) - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Biology - 1h15m Separate Science Biology - 1h45m
Wed, 12 Nov		Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Business - 1h45m Sociology – 1h45m	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	RE Ethics – 1h30m
Thu, 13 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	History Paper 1 - 2h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	English Language – 1h45m
Fri, 14 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	PE - 1h15m Food - 1h45m Design Technology - 2h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	German Reading - 1h30m French Listening – 1h30m (<i>Lecture Theatre</i>)
Mon, 17 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 2 (calculator) - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Chemistry - 1h15m Separate Science Chemistry – 1h45m
Tue, 18 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	English Literature - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Dance - 1h30m Drama - 1h45m Music - 1h15m (<i>Lecture Theatre</i>)
Wed, 19 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Maths Paper 3 (calculator) - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Combined Science Physics - 1h15m Separate Science Physics– 1h45m
Thu, 20 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	History Paper 2 - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	German Writing – 1h30m French Writing - 1h30m
Fri, 21 Nov	Session 1 Exam	Late Break	Lesson 3	Early Lunch	Session 2 Exam
Line up under main quad canopy by 8:35	Geography Global Paper 1 - 1h	11.05 – 11.30	Normal lesson	12.30 – 1.00 Line up under main quad canopy by 1.00	Catch-Up

Candidates who are entitled to a word processor, reader, scribe or separate/smaller room access arrangement will be collected from the main quad canopy by reception and taken to their exam room.

- If you do not have an exam timetabled for any of the sessions, then you must follow your normal Year 11 timetable.
- You will need to return to normal timetable after your morning exams, but in the afternoon, you will be free to go home when your exam is complete.
- If you need to remain on site to wait for transport, there will be space provided.
- All exams will be held in the Sports Hall unless otherwise indicated on your exam timetable.
- All information relating to exams, including seating plans, will be displayed on the exams notice board in the main school quad each day and published on the Student Portal.
- You may bring water into the exam hall in a clear, label-free bottle. Do not bring food.
- Please bring equipment in a clear pencil case or plastic bag and do not bring calculator cases into the exam hall.
- You must not bring into the exam room any notes, mobile phones, earphones/earbuds, watches, or any digital/Bluetooth, other devices
- Extra time will be accommodated for students with approved access arrangements, but please be aware that buses will not wait after school so alternative transport home may need to be arranged by students/parents/carers.

If you have a clash of subjects within an exam session, your individual timetable will show when you sit your clash exam.

Y11 Mock GCSE Practical Exam Timetable

Art	11C 8 December, 11A 9 December (TBC)
Dance	26 November
Drama	25 November
Food	24 & 28 November
French	3 & 4 December
German	4 & 5 December
Graphics	11D 9 December, 11B 10 December
Music	27 November
PE	2 December
Photography	11A December (TBC)
Sport Studies	2 December

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control - digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world - discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable - developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



The National College

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 15.10.2025



ST LAURENCE SCHOOL

Job title	SITE SUPERVISOR / HANDY PERSON
Full school address	St Laurence School Ashley Road Bradford on Avon BA15 1DZ
School telephone number	01225 309500
School email address	admin@st-laurence.com
Number on roll	1400 (incl 260+ in Sixth Form)
Salary	£27,254 - £28,598 pa (hourly rate £14.13 - £14.82) Salary @£31,000 pa including shift and weekend allowance NJC Grade F SCP 9 – 11
Hours	Full time 37 hours per week, 52 weeks per year 24 days or 29 days annual leave depending on service (usually taken outside of term time) Shared weekly shift pattern: Week 1 5.30am – 1.30pm Week 2 1.30pm – 9.30pm
Contract Type	Permanent
Commencement date	As soon as possible after appointment
Advertisement closing date	Ongoing Advertisement – please apply as early as possible to avoid disappointment
Interview date	To be confirmed
Other important information	For further details please refer to the Job Description and Person Specification, phone Sally Hackett on (01225) 309506, email jobapp@st-laurence.com , or visit the school website (www.st-laurence.com)
We are looking to recruit a Site Supervisor to work as part of the Site Team to deliver a safe, clean, well maintained, environment for students, staff and visitors to the school. The successful candidate will demonstrate: • An ability to work unsupervised, be adaptable and flexible. • A strong work ethic and ability to carry out minor daily maintenance tasks. • Strong communication skills with the ability to build excellent working relationships. • A sense of humour and a can-do attitude. To apply please refer to the Letter to Candidates, complete an application form and send it with a covering letter to Mr Tim Farrer, Headteacher (via email to jobapp@st-laurence.com). St Laurence School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All applicants will be subject to a full Disclosure And Barring Service check before appointment is confirmed. Email: jobapp@st-laurence.com Phone: 01225 309500 Web: www.st-laurence.com	


Share & Repair


Bradford on Avon's Repair Cafe

Around the back at

The Masonic Hall ~ Wallington Hall
 Church Street, Bradford on Avon
 Please park responsibly and legally

Saturday 18th October
1000 - 1230

Saturday 15th November
1000 - 1230

December
On Holiday

Refreshments available

Donations are welcome and needed to cover costs. Repairs are limited to 2 items per person due to high demand. Simple sewing repairs only, not alterations.

General enquires: boa@shareandrepair.org.uk
 For specific questions about what can be repaired phone: 07963 878319
 Facebook Group: "BoA Share and Repair"



CARBON NEUTRAL
 BRADFORD ON AVON

CIO reg no. 1189015



PETER PAN

Trinity Hall, St Laurence School
 Wednesday 17 December
 5.30pm to 6.30pm

£9 early bird
 £12 full price




OUTSIDE THE BOX PRODUCTIONS





Dorothy House
 HOSPICE CARE

Coffee & Cake Fundraiser

for Dorothy House Hospice

Sunday 2nd November
10.30am – 12.00pm

Stowford Manor Farm, Wingfield
 Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 9LH



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-Shooting
-EPQs
-Competitions
-Field craft
And SO many more!!

Contact at:
OC.1995@rafac.mod.gov.uk

**Kennet Gardens
Bradford on avon
BA15 1LT**



MIGHTY GIRLS



**Self Defence
half day workshop**

WEDNESDAY 29TH OCT
BRADFORD ON AVON
2PM - 5PM. AGE: 11+
COST £25

Mighty Girls & Helen from Systema bring you:

- Practical self-defence techniques
- A focus on movement, breath work, relaxation, and posture
- Enhance self-awareness & resilience
- Help equip you to handle various situations effectively

www.mightygirls.co.uk or QR Code to book



The club is offered at a discounted rate for all & free to some thanks to the support from:

Working in partnership with
Wiltshire Council

MIGHTY GIRLS



**Mighty Girls Club
BOA**

THURSDAYS STARTS 6TH NOV
BRADFORD ON AVON
4.30-5.30PM. AGE 8-12

- ★ **Meet up**
- ★ **Make friends**
- ★ **Feel empowered**
- ★ **Have fun!**

Join us and be part of something inspiring ♥

To learn more and book your place visit our website or email info@mightygirls.co.uk

www.mightygirls.co.uk



Supported by: **Wiltshire Council**



Funded by
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