

# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



## Fearnfile

Issue 614

16 June 2023

### Literature and sport – great themes for Fearnhill Students

This edition of Fearnfile has a focus on both literary and sporting activities and our growing success in both areas.

One piece of great news has been the publication of Fearnhill students' work in a new poetry anthology, where their work was judged against a national field and made it through. You can read about it inside on page 5!

Our Year 8 students also went out this week to St Francis School to hear an author talking about their work (page 3). Again, this is all about Fearnhill students finding their voice; a key part of our school's mission!

Communicating in another language is another key life skill; inside students share their progress in French in Year 8 (page 10).

In the area of sport we also have good news to share. There have been successes both in performance and leadership; we were just one run away from victory against many other schools in the final of the Calypso Cricket tournament in Year 7 (page 9), whilst Year 10 sports leaders worked with more than 850 primary school children recently at a major tournament at The Knights Templar School. Well done to them all. GCSE PE students also had a visit to the University of Bedfordshire this week to learn how a degree in sport might work for them; it is never too soon to be planning next steps (page8). Feedback from hosts of both events was that our students were an absolute credit to the school and themselves.

Our extracurricular clubs go from strength to strength; you can see the amazing Lego vehicles and ramp that has been built on page7.



Our community commitment has also been shown on page 4 with our victory at a recent Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Army Cadets Challenge Day - well done to Fearnhill students Em and Ryan - and the good news that we have a donation of extra bins from local company Croudace Homes (page 3); our work on recycling and waste management means we are doing what we can for sustainability.

One last word from me: thank you for your support during the current spell of hot weather, with our adjusted uniform and reminder to keep water bottles topped up. We are keeping our students focused on their learning and moving forward as always!

Liz Ellis, Headteacher

Week beginning Monday 19/06 - week 1 Week beginning Monday 26/06 - week 2

### Student Awards

### w/e 26 May

Student of the Week Ayden 7U 12 points

Defne 8P

Oliver 7U

Form of the Week 8G 158 points

House of the Week Gorst 375 points

Teacher of the Week Mrs Cross MFL 172 points

w/e 9 June

Student of the Week Oliver 7U 13 points

Form of the Week 8G 115 points

House of the Week Gorst 341 points

Teacher of the Week Mrs Lattimer Maths 115 points

Have you got what it takes to be Student of the Week? Try your best in all lessons and extra-curricular activities and you could find yourself nominated and crowned!

### Vacancies



### Library

Young Fearnhill library enthusiasts were invited to join an author talk at St Francis school, Letchworth.

The author in question was Katya Balen who read an extract from her book *October*, *October* and students were asked to consider what 'off-grid' means - the character October in the book lives off-grid until her 11th birthday when her Dad has an accident and her life changes dramatically as she is moved to the city.

Katya uses a lot of sensory language in the book as October interacts with the environments that she lives in.

Students were given a sherbet lemon and were encouraged to think about describing it using their senses as they held and then ate it. Students then wrote a paragraph describing the sweet from October's point of view remembering that she had always lived self-sufficiently so they needed to describe it using thing she would know, she would perhaps never have tasted a lemon before.

Some observations from our students:

"Sherbet lemons taste crunchy and hard like uncooked carrots and the flavouring is sour - the opposite of mango."

"It tastes sour and sweet like a green apple, hard like a rock. I hear it sliding across my teeth. It smells sweet. It gets sticky between my fingers like a dead caterpillar. It is sweet like tree sap."

"A sherbet lemon tastes quite sour. It has a rough feeling. It sounds like something hard banging on a wall and smells sweet like a strawberry."





### **School News**

Many thanks to Nicola Davidson, Facilities Manager for Croudace Homes, who dropped by to donate a selection of waste paper bins for our classrooms. They were gratefully received (right) by our caretaker Paul Rainbow.

Croudace Homes is a Letchworth-based residential housing developer founded in 1946.

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## **Design Technology**

Year 9 students have completed their Wooden flying bird project and took their finished pieces outside to test them. Well done Year 9!



## **External Events**

Army cadet students from Fearnhill recently took part in a number of first aid competitions, placing well in each one which allowed them to go to the Regional finals representing the whole of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Army Cadets.

All of the participants attended Hertford Army cadet headquarters to receive medals from the Commandant which are very rare to achieve. Well done to Ryan (Yr 9), Em (Yr 8) and ex student Holly on their achievement.



### English

To celebrate the recent and historic coronation of King Charles III, Year 7 took part in a national poetry writing competition. Called A Kingdom Of Words - Writing fit for a King, it is run by the Young Writer's organisation.

We are overjoyed that, out of the tens of thousands of entries, 17 Fearnhill students had their poetry selected to be published in an anthology. A copy will be sent to us at Fearnhill, one copy will be sent to The British Library archives, and a third will be sent to King Charles III himself!

We are all very proud that our King will read the work of Fearnhill students, and that our students are recognised to be gifted young poets who are some of the best in the country.

### Congratulations to:

Alexis, Henry, Jake, Kai, Mason, Ross, Rudy, Aariya, Archie, Brayden, Charlie, Daniel, Holly, Lucy, Ollie, Orla and Samuel. *Mr Fox, English* 



## Year 10 Exams

Students in Year 10 are now over halfway through their GCSE courses. Mock exams will take place this month and further mocks will take place in Year 11. The Year 10 mock exams will start on **Thursday 22nd June and finish on Monday 10th July,** as publicised on the school website.

Examinations will usually take place in the hall and students will follow the exact pre-examination procedures as they will during their GCSEs. For morning exams, students will go to registration at 8:30am, then meet in the canteen at 8:40am. In the afternoon, students take an early lunch at 12:45pm and then go to the gym for 1:15pm. If students do not have an exam, they are to go to their normal lessons. Students will be allowed to go straight home after they have finished exams in the afternoon. Alternatively, students can go back to their timetabled lessons where they will be supervised by staff until the end of the day.

In most cases, students who perform well in Year 10 mock exams go on to perform well in their final GCSE exams. Therefore, it is really important that students recognise the value of preparing carefully for these exams to help them achieve well in their GCSEs. If your daughter or son require any further support in preparing for the exams, please do not hesitate to contact me. *Mrs Martin* 

## **Extracurricular Activities**

## FEARNHILL Extracurricular Activities Summer Term 2023

1000	SCHOOL Extracurricular Activities Summer Term 2023						
Day	Club	Year	When	Where			
M o n d a y	Cricket	7-9	After school	PE			
	Dungeons & Dragons	7-13	After school	Lib			
	Fearnhill Boys Choir (FBC)	7-11	Lunch	MU1			
	History	7-11	Lunch	H2			
	Homework	7-11	Lunch & after school	Inclusion			
	Sport Studies Elevate Theory Session	11	Lunch	PE			
T u	Craft	7-11	After school	Lib			
е	Dance	7-9	Lunch	PE			
s d	Gardening	7-9	After school	Library			
a y	Homework	7-11	After school	Inclusion			
	GCSE PE Elevate Theory Session	11	Lunch	PE			
	Science	7-9	Lunch	S3			
w	Art/Photography	7-9	After school	T5			
e d	Athletics	7-13	After school	PE			
n e	Drama	7-13	After school	Drama			
s d a y	Homework	7-11	Lunch & after school	Inclusion			
	Reading	7-11	After school	Lib			
	Sustainable Society	7-13	Lunch	H1			
	Ukulele Jam	7-13	Lunch	MU2			
Т	Badminton/Table Tennis	7-13	Lunch	PE			
h u	Debating Society	7-13	Lunch	English			
r s	Fearnhill Voices	7-13	Lunch	MU1			
d	Football	9	After school	PE			
a y	Homework	7-11	After school	Inclusion			
	Jigsaw Puzzle/Lego	7-11	Lunch	Inclusion			
	Rounders	7-11	After school	PE			
F	Basketball	7	After school	PE			
r	Chess	7-13	Lunch	M4			
d	Christian Union	All	Lunch	H4			
a y	GCSE PE Elevate Practical Session	11	Lunch	PE			
	Homework	7-11	Lunch & after school	Inclusion			
	Psychology Masterclass	10-13	Lunch	Н5			
	Relax it's Friday (Colouring & audio)	7-11	After school	Library			
	Running	7-13	After school	PE			

## Lego Club

Year 7 student Ayden was so inspired by the amazing rides and structures at Alton Towers that he decided to build his own super-ramp in Lego Club!

Although Ayden started the project, he soon recruited Thomas B to join him. And they have thoroughly enjoyed the

challenge of creating the ramp and its car. There are approx 150 bricks in the construction and it has been designed to come apart in sections for storage between Lego Club sessions.

Most of the other Lego Club attendees build vehicles built to withstand crashes, each week becoming more tank-like and armoured.

Jigsaw Puzzle Club and Lego Club runs every Thursday lunchtime in Inclusion.



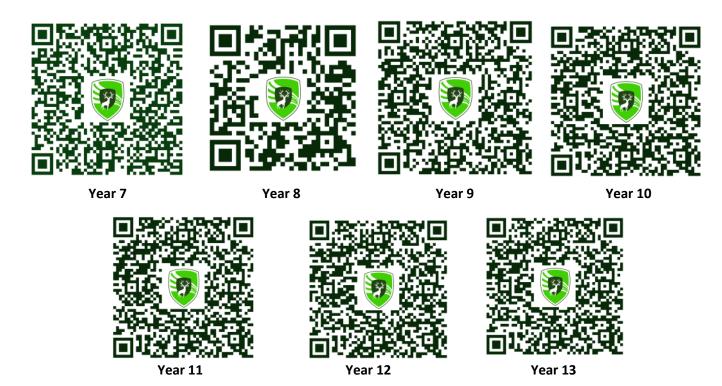


## **Knowledge Organisers**

At Fearnhill, we believe in the power of knowledge. Teachers in every subject have put together a Knowledge Organiser which has all the key knowledge students need to learn to understand that topic.

In school, they are used in lessons to support learning as a reference and as a way of checking answers. Knowledge Organisers (KO's) are also an excellent homework tool for self-quizzing and revising.

KO's have been updated on our website for this half term and can be accessed by clicking on the QR codes below:



### Sport

Year 10 sports students visited the University of Bedfordshire to experience what studying sport at a higher lever might involve.

They received a talk on covering what going to university involves, not just studying but living independently, financial support available etc.

Students then enjoyed two practical sessions. In one they were introduced to the latest health monitoring equipment, wearing heart monitors while they worked so they could track their activity. In the second practical session they were taught by a member of the university staff as if they were PE teachers.

Miss Straughn reported that the organisers were very complementary and said the students were an asset to Fearnhill.

"Terrific experience! Me and my fellow colleagues learnt so much about pedagogy (which is a different way of learning). We were fed so much knowledge not only about Physical Education but we consumed plenty of knowledge about University, too, and how it operates. We were thrilled by the kindness of the hospitality of the sports ambassadors & teacher. 10/10 wonderful opportunity." Jayden

"The university trip was really good. I learnt a lot about universities and sport within university and the people were very friendly." Anaise

"It was good because I leant about how free uni is and how different it is to school when it comes to learning in the classroom." Callum

"I found the trip to Bedfordshire University really fun. Not only was it fun but it also helped me mould what path of education I'd like to achieve." Kyrah

The Year 10 sports leaders also spent day at the annual Primary Sports Day, hosted by Knights Templar.

Over 850 primary school students competed, with the Fearnhill students spending the whole day on the Astro-Turf leading dodgeball games.

Next event is a primary rounders festival in July at Fearnhill.







### **Sport**

A team of Fearnhill boys acquitted themselves well in the North Hearts Calypso Cricket tournament hosted by Letchworth Cricket Club.

Winning 3 and losing 1 match, the boys lost the final by just 1 run against Highfield.

Congratulations to them all but a special mention to Rohan for his bowling, Harry for his batting and Dylan for captaincy and scoring 22 off 7 balls to take us to the final.

Team: Rohan, Ryan, Harry, Dylan, Alfie, Taylor & Dilith.

Appropriately, given the scorching heat the boys played in, Calypso Cricket was first developed as a fun adaptation of cricket to play on the beaches of the Caribbean!





# PE SPORTS CLUBS/PRACTICES Summer Term 2023

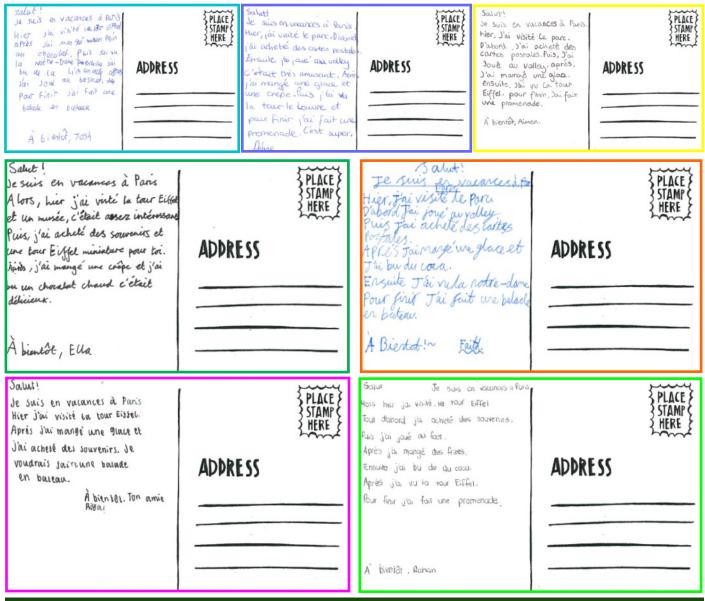
	Athletics	Cricket	Rounders	Dance	Badminton/ Table Tennis	Other
Mon		Yr 7 MTR Yr 8&9 OSD				Yr 11 Sport Elevate in I3 1:25-1:55pm LBN
Tues				KS3 Dance 1:25-1:55pm JMN		Yr 11 GCSE Elevate in B2 1:25-1:55pm SSN
Weds	All Yrs SSN/OSD/MTR					
Thurs			Yr 7&8 LBN Yr 9-11		All Yrs 1:25-1:55pm OSD	Yr 9 Football Aws
Fri	Running All Yrs 3:00-3:30pm MTR					GCSE PE Practical in Sports Hall 1:25-1:55pm OSD

SSN = Ms Straughn LBN = Ms Balchin OSD = Mr Shepherd MTR = Mr Turner JMN = Mrs Martin AWS = Mr Williams

All Clubs/Practices will take place after school, unless stated otherwise, from 3:00-4:00pm

### **MFL**

Year 8 French students have been discussing holidays in their lessons - culminating in writing postcards from an imagined holiday in Paris. Judging by these examples, they all had a great time!



## Library

The Library is open before school from 8am and after school until 4pm.

You can also visit the library during break and lunch times to read a book, do some homework on the computer or play a card or board game (sorry, no computer games!)

Crochet Club is running out of wool so if you have any you no longer need it would be much appreciated.

Mrs Thurlby, Library & Literacy Assistant

## What can I read in a library lesson?



- Any book in the library or from home
- Any of the papers/magazines in the library
  - Young Editors Google Classroom
- Read on the computers, do some research, find out what is in the news or play word based games. https://wordlewebsite.com/wordle-unlimited

freerice.com



Ele Fountain writes about hard-hitting subjects, from refugees to climate change with the aim of empowering voung readers whilst also giving hope and adventure too.



# Ele Fountain

### Boy 87

Shif is just an ordinary schoolboy who loves chess and playing with his best friend. But, one day, he is forced to leave home to avoid conscription into the army. He embarks on an epic journey, in which he encounters dangers and cruelties - and great acts of human kindness - as he bravely makes his way to a future he can only imagine.

Told in the powerful first person, this startling debut novel will encourage understanding and empathy in young readers, and allow the news headlines of the day to resonate with the humanity involved in creating them.

### Fake

In a digital world it's hard to know what's real. Imagine a world where your only friends are virtual, and big tech companies control access to food, healthcare and leisure. This is Jess's world. But when she turns fourteen, Jess can go to school with other children for the first time. Most of them hate the 'real' world, but Jess begins to question whether the digital world is 'perfect' after all. Back home, her sister Chloe's life-soving medication is getting ever more expensive. Determined to help, Jess risks everything by using skills forbidden in the cyber-world, only to stumble on something explosive. Something that will turn her whole world upside down. It's up to Jess to figure out exactly what is real, and what is fake -Chloe's survival depends on it.

### Melt

United by greed and self-interest. But not their own. A boy lives in a remote, snow-bound village with his elderly grandmother. Their traditional way of life is threatened by the changing snow and ice: it melts faster every year. When the sea-ice collapses while he is out hunting, he only just escapes with his life and is new school. Her father promises his new job at an oil company will mean they never have to move again, but not long after he starts, his behaviour becomes odd and secretive. When their fates take a drastic turn the girl's world collides with the boy's and they find themselves together in a desperate search for survival, and for the truth.



### **Student Support**

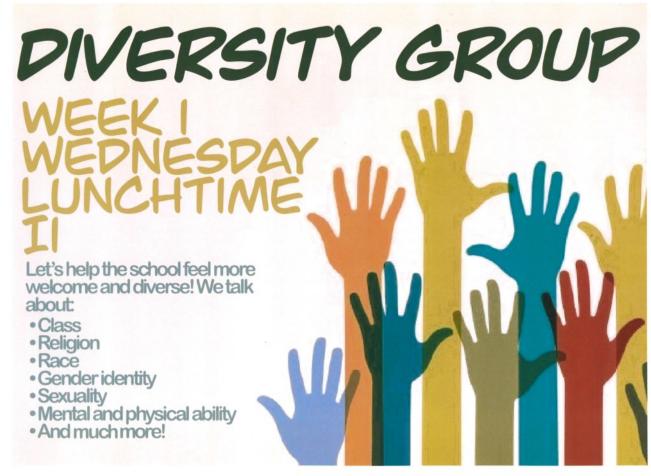
Students can find Mrs Tollervey & Ms Brown and their teams upstairs next to Homework Club.



We are proud to offer the National School Breakfast Programme - offering all students a free, healthy breakfast.

Breakfast Club is in the Canteen every morning from 8am or you can collect your free bagel from the SSC

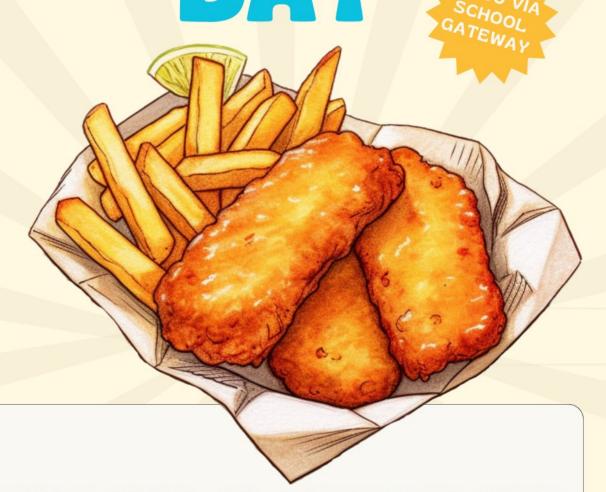








# FISH & CHIPS DAY E2.60 VIA



FISH & CHIPS OR SAUSAGE & CHIPS

WITH BEANS OR MUSHY PEAS
VEGETARIAN OPTION AVAILABLE

**DOUGHNUT OR CUPCAKE** 

FRIDAY 23 JUNE



## **External Opportunities**



**Hertfordshire Community** 

### ORAL HEALTH FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### WHAT IS TOOTH DECAY?



#### WHERE TO ACCESS A DENTIST

Scan the QR code or search "Find a dentist" for the NHS website.



Dental care is free for children and young people aged 0-19.

### **HOW TO BRUSH**



### REDUCE THE RISK OF TOOTH DECAY

Brush teeth twice a day with fluoride

toothpaste - no rinsing

- · You should see a dentist at least yearly
- · You should have fluoride varnish at each visit, this is free to all young people
- . Use fluoride toothpaste containing between 1,350 ppm and 1,500ppm of
- Clean in between your teeth every day using floss or interdental brushes

### TOP TIPS

- Brush teeth morning and bed-time for 2 minutes with fluoride toothpaste
- Only use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste
- Spit out after brushing and don't rinse if you rinse, the fluoride won't work as
- Fizzy drinks, fruit juices and sugary snacks should be limited to meal times



- Brush to the beat why not download the P the Brush DJ app and favourite song?
  - Set reminders and timers on your phone
  - electric toothbrush





### Want to know more about the **Public Health School Nursing** team in Hertfordshire?

### Check out our platforms:



https://www.hertsfamilycentres.org/info-and-advice/ parents-and-mums-to-be/school-nurses.aspx#

www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing



07480 635 050

Confidential text message service ran by the school nursing team for 11-19 year olds. Text in any health and wellbeing concerns



@hct\_schoolnursing @teenhealth.hct



@HCT\_SchoolNurse



QHct SchoolNursing



www.healthforkids.co.uk/hertfordshire



www.healthforteens.co.uk/hertfordshire



School nursing duty number 0300 123 7572 9am - 5pm Monday to Fe

excluding bank holidays)



### Learn to swim with LittleAqua...



LittleAqua offer a revolutionary way of teaching in an exciting, fun and safe environment.

- Private and semi-private lessons
- Parent and child lessons
- Disability and SEN lessons





## **External Opportunities**



# Todd the hole Festival

TODDS GREEN, SG12JE, HERTFORDSHIRE

# SUNDAY AT TODD THE HOLE FESTIVAL

# SUPERSONIC QUEEN - ABBA LUSH - THE JAM'D FURNACE AND THE FUNDAMENTALS - KAZABIAN

CHASING MUMFORD - ARCTIC MONKEYZ - SKA BRITANNIA - ELVIS LIVE STEVE YOUNG & THE REAL TIME PLAYERS - COMMUNITY CHOIRS - SANDY UKELELE PLUS LOADS MORE ACROSS 4 STAGES

# AIDEN O'NEILL IMAJICA THEATRE TINY T'S SHOWTIME CIRCUS KIDS TAI ENT SHOW

JUKEBOX DISCO STAGECOACH BOX OF FROGS THEATRE VINTAGE FAIRGROUND BUBBLE WORKSHOP ARTS & CRAFTS FACE PAINTING WANDERING CHARACTERS

Wellness in FAIRY TRAIL GIANT SANDPIT ...AND MORE!

### MASSAGE • DRUMMING • FAMILY YOGA TAROT & CARD READINGS • REIKI • ICE BATHS

CRYSTAL HEALING • MEDITATION • REFLEXOLOGY • ...AND MORE!

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE TO TRAIN STATION • FREE PARKING • STREET FOOD & BARS



To help people who might find cost or other challenges a barrier to visiting London Zoo, our Universal Credit tickets provide entry at a reduced price. We have made reduced price tickets to London Zoo available for those receiving Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, Employment and Support Allowance, Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance.

These tickets are **only** available to purchase online in advance, for up to six people per household (under 3's go free and do not need to book – but must be accompanied by an adult with a booked ticket).

These tickets **must be booked online in advance** of your visit, as only full price tickets are available to buy at the gate.



## Join us at Triangle Tribe!



We are looking for families with teens aged 12 to 16 to join us for Triangle Tribe this summer:

- Surviving the zombie apocalypse
- Is it Edible or Deadible...?
- Ancient fire skills
- Bushcraft/carving from wood
- Triangle Tribe cook-out

Two 5 week programmes - choose from 2nd-30th June or 7th Jul-4th Aug

Friday evenings www.trianglegarden.org



6.30-8.30pm 2<sup>nd</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>June, 7<sup>th</sup>July-4<sup>th</sup>Aug

Triangle Community Garden, Ransom's Rec. Hitchin SG5 1RB

Cost: £10/5 week block, £5/sibling, adults free Book online via

trianglegarden.org/events
The Triangle Garden is a thriving
community garden. created and
cultivated by people of all ages and
abilities. It aims to enable people to
Connect, Grow, Enjoyl

This initiative is a CultureWood collaboration with funding from Herts Community Foundation





## Thought of the Month

## THOUGHT OF THE MONTH June 2023



"Don't ever be afraid to show off your true colours"



### Calendar

### **Summer Term 2023**

Inset Day Monday 3rd July 2023 End of Term for students Friday 21st July 2023

Term dates for 2022/3 and 2023/4 are available on our website

### Contact Us

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Please ensure that we have your current address, mobile phone number and email address.

Any updates can be sent to the Main Office.

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