

9 FEBRUARY 2024: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES



Dear Parents and Carers,

I had every intention of delivering a short message this week but I fear that I have failed as there is so much information to impart.

In the first instance and as always, I will start with the children and I take this opportunity to thank Archie, Thomas, Lissie and Jensen for their performances at the 'Celebration of the Importance of Music' concert on Saturday evening. The event marked the official launch of the Truro School Music Project and the quality of music-making on display was hugely impressive.

Amongst a high quality and packed programme that featured performances from current pupils through to former pupils and an ensemble from the Cornwall Music Service Trust (CMST), the Prep pupils more than held their own as they contributed to a truly memorable evening and a spectacular launch to this exciting project.

Further congratulations go to Year 5 who successfully completed the coast-to-coast cycle ride from Portreath to Devoran this week. Such an adventure is no mean feat and the staff report that the children were engaging, determined and in excellent spirits throughout.

Continuing the topic of congratulations, I take this opportunity to praise Jenny, Atti and Rosie who performed admirably in Thursday afternoon's Rotary Club Youth Speaks competition. Given that almost one-third of adults have an identified fear of public speaking, it gives me nothing but pleasure to report that the children at Truro School Prep have numerous opportunities to speak in front of their peers and to develop their speech-making skills. The system works well and the Prep team gave a first-class exhibition of expressing their thoughts, speaking clearly and remaining calm under pressure.

Remaining on the theme of children, with Safer Internet Day taking place on Tuesday, 6th February and with half term on our doorstep, Mr Dove has kindly produced some advice for parents on 'screen time'. You will find Chris' words in the [Family Focus](#) section of this Bulletin.

Not satisfied with this, we have also engaged in Mental Health Awareness Week and, alongside revisiting our work from last term, we have focused upon topics including the importance of talking and sharing our problems, showing gratitude and mindfulness activities.

Moving to the staff, I take this opportunity to thank the Truro School Prep team for their enthusiasm, professionalism and dedication over the past six weeks. Dark mornings and evenings, and the usual raft of January illnesses have made things a little challenging but the staff have remained steadfast in their drive to do everything they can for the children in our care. I hope that they, like the children (and hopefully you) can enjoy something of a rest over the next 10 days.

With specific reference to the Reception Class, I am sure that you wish to join me in thanking Jasmine Sampson for everything she has done for the children and the School. Jasmine is ceaselessly positive and it is no wonder that she is such a popular member of the Truro School community. Whilst Jasmine's fixed-term contract has come to a close, we have persuaded her to

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join our bank of cover teachers and we hope to see her again soon.

As Jasmine departs, we welcome Lianne Searle back from maternity leave. Lianne has visited us during the past few months as part of her KIT days and I am sure that you will join me in warmly welcoming her back in a full-time capacity.

Turning to the community, and on the back of last week's message about the 'Growbaby' charity, I was delighted to receive an email from Mrs Lynda Sanders from City Life Church who oversees the project here in Truro.

Lynda writes: *"We are really grateful for your kind words and your support. We have been overwhelmed by the response and the need within our community. Growbaby was also featured on Radio Cornwall this week and I hope that we will all continue to support this excellent charity."*

Continuing on the theme of community, but focusing more specifically upon Truro School Prep, we are hoping to introduce a lecture programme whereby parents and friends of the school will come in to talk to the children about their own careers, areas of expertise or interest. From my experience in previous schools, talks on careers have been delivered by architects, auctioneers and chefs as well as doctors, property developers and IT consultants (with pretty much everything in between).

Away from careers, topics have included mountain climbing, rowing, music, drama and the love of the written word. In terms of format, I envisage a 30-minute talk followed by the opportunity for children to ask a myriad of questions (at least some of them on topic!) and we would try to host one lecture each term. If you feel that you would be able to support us in this venture, please drop me an email at prephead@truroschoo.com. My thanks in advance go to all who are able to contribute.

Finally, I extend thanks to you and your children for your continued support and kindness. I hope that you all enjoy a wonderful half-term break.

With every good wish,

Mr Rob Morse
Headmaster

HALF TERM BEGINS

Sunday 11 February

U12/U16 Judo Championships

Liskeard Hillford Primary School 9am-1pm

19 February - 23 February 2024

Details may change – please check next week’s bulletin for updates

Tuesday 20 February

Football Training for Choristers

4pm-5pm

Wednesday 21 February

U10 & U11 Netball at Mount Kelly

(A) 12.30pm-5pm (2.30pm start)

Year 5 & 6 Boys’ Football v Polwhele

(A) 1.45pm-4pm (2.30pm start)

Thursday 22 February

Year 3 Ancient Egypt Workshop

Royal Cornwall Museum 9.40am-12.20pm

5SL & 6DG Swimming

SBA 1.30pm-3pm

Friday 23 February

Year 6 Girls’ Football Qualifier (Cornwall Sports Partnership)

Penryn School 3G pitch (A) 9.10am-1pm (event 10am-12pm)

Saturday 24 February

Polwhele Cross Country event

(A) (Years 4-6) 10am-12pm

26 February - 1 March 2024

Details may change – please check next week’s bulletin for updates

Monday 26 February

U11 Football v Mount Hawke

(H) 4pm

Tuesday 27 February

Peninsula Independent Schools Judo League

Kingsley School, Bideford (A) 9am-5.30pm

Year 3 & Year 4 Football v Polwhele

(H) 2.30pm

Year 3 & Year 4 Netball v Polwhele and Truro High

(H) 2.30pm

Football Training for Choristers

4pm-5pm

Wednesday 28 February

Year 5 and 6 Netball v Truro High & Polwhele Schools

Truro High School (A) 2pm-4.15pm (2.45pm start)

U11 League Team & Year 5 A & C Teams Football

Devoran School (A) 2.15pm-3.40pm

Thursday 29 February

Year 6 Swim Gala

SBA 1.30pm-3.30pm

CANCELLED (due to gala) 5SL & 6DG swimming

SBA

Friday 1 March

U11 Girls’ County Hockey Tournament

Penzance Astro Park (A) 9.30am-3.45pm (event 11am-3pm)

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A Musical Celebration

Music took centre stage on Saturday as the 'Celebrating the Importance of Music Event' got underway.

The event was held to mark the launch of the Truro School Music Project, a transformative initiative to develop a new, multi-million-pound music centre and refurbished, multi-purpose Assembly Hall. This project also paves the way for improved facilities to support pupil wellbeing.

Truro School Head, Mr Andy Johnson opened the event by saying, "This evening celebrates the importance of music and also launches the Truro School Music Project; not just for Truro School, but for the wider communities of Truro and Cornwall. It is a project that we can all be proud to be a part of."

You can read the story in full [here](#).

Mental Health Awareness at Prep

Pupils from all across Prep have been taking time this week to mark Children's Mental Health Week (5 – 11 February 2024).

Strategies to help pupils boost their mental health and wellbeing have been peppered throughout the school day for Prep pupils, with calming music played in the Dining Room and conversation starters around topics such as being a good listener and how to talk about big feelings being used each day.

The pupils are also welcome to add a message to the gratitude tree in the dining room; a simple way to help them refocus on what small things they are grateful for each day.

In reading periods, pupils from Years 3 and 4 have been doing various activities around mental health including making a kindness chain.

'What Matters for Me' was one of the topics being discussed in the Year 6 PSHEE lessons this week too; the pictures they create will be displayed in the Assembly Hall at the end of the week.



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A Good Book and a Cuppa at Prep

Staff at Prep were treated to a coffee break with a difference as they gathered in the Library for a book swap and refreshments.

Organised by Mrs Morse, who is the school's librarian, the break time book swap was designed to give staff a well-being break and to encourage them to use different spaces around the school.

It was certainly a buzzy break as staff exchanged book reviews and chose a book (or two) to take away with them.

Thank you to Mrs Morse for organising such a lovely break in the day.

Musical Stars Shine at Prep

Pupils from Prep were given a musical treat in Friday's assembly as Choristers Archie and Thomas sang the duet, Evening Prayer (Hansel and Gretel) by Engelbert Humperdinck.

The rendition was a repeat of the boys' performance from Saturday evening's event, 'Celebrating the Importance of Music', held at the Senior School to launch the new Truro School Music Project.

Friday's assembly was an opportunity for Mr Morse to thank Archie and Thomas, and Jensen and Alyssia, who also performed piano solos at the music showcase.

We are extremely proud of these children, their talent and bravery in performing at such an auspicious event is both inspiring and much appreciated by all.



Appreciating our Apprentice

As National Apprenticeship Week takes place this week, we want to salute our apprentices who work so hard in the Truro School community.

Keiley has been working at Prep since September 2023. She is currently undertaking her Apprentice Level 3 Specialist Customer Service Course, which she will complete in early 2025.

When asked about what she has learnt so far during her placement, her answer was "A monumental amount of skills! From time management to multitasking, I've also learned so much about staffing and the different departments and processes involved in running a school. My favourite part is definitely the social aspect with all of the amazing staff and children."

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Spiders Debated at Youth Speaks

Truro School Prep pupils were delighted to be the hosts of the first round of this year's Youth Speaks Competition 2024, designed to encourage the development of creativity and presentation skills essential to the art of public speaking.

Speakers from schools from around the Truro area joined Truro School Prep's team of Jenny (Chair), Atti (Speaker) and Rosie (Vote of Thanks) as this year's competition for the Rotary Club of Truro Boscawen (Truro Area) got off to a flying start.

Having won last year's round, Truro School Prep had the honour of hosting the competition this year. And on the menu for discussion for the Truro pupils? 'Why is Everyone Scared of Spiders?'

Pupils from Devoran School and Perran-ar-worthal School also spoke eloquently on 'How is the cost-of-living crisis affecting children' and 'Artificial Intelligence'.

Well done to all of the speakers who spoke so eloquently and passionately and thanks to the Rotary Club of Truro Boscawen and their adjudicators. Congratulations to Perran-ar-worthal who progress to the next round.



Year 2 Visit Wheal Martyn

China clay mining has shaped the landscape, lives of people, and economy of mid-Cornwall for over 250 years. And last week our Year 2's found out what it was all about.

As part of their topic on 'materials,' Year 2 visited Wheal Martyn China Clay Mine. The children learned how the clay was mined and the fascinating fact that China clay is in so many everyday things including toothpaste and bath bombs.

They also participated in a workshop to investigate which material would be most suitable for making socks for miners to wear. Working in all conditions, it was important that the material would keep their feet dry and warm, and last for a long time.

A great day was had by all.



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From Beach Waste to Eco Art

Pre-Prep children have been scouring Cornwall's beaches in preparation for their Eco Art Day.

Inspired by the artist Rob Arnold, whose mission is to prevent harm to wildlife and "raise awareness of pollution, encourage people to reduce plastic use and dispose of it responsibly", the Pre-Prep children and their families have been finding plastic waste on the beach and collecting it to bring into school.

They are now working hard to create a collaborative artwork that makes use of the plastic waste and celebrates the beauty of our oceans and our planet.

Well done to everyone who has worked so hard to keep our beaches clean and to create something long-lasting and beautiful in school.



Year 3 Pizza-ing Together Fractions

Pizza was on the Maths menu for National Pizza Day today at Prep...!

As a practical way to understand fractions, Year 3 pupils first created some paper pizzas. They then worked in groups to solve fraction problems, using the pizzas to find $\frac{1}{2}$ s, $\frac{1}{3}$ s, $\frac{1}{4}$ s and $\frac{1}{8}$ ths of different numbers.

Having worked so hard, they then put their practical maths skills to good use on a real pizza; making sure everyone got an equal piece of the pie.



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Courage and Confidence Built in Cross Country

We were thrilled to welcome Year 3s and 4s from Polwhele and Truro High School to take part in a friendly cross-country event to prepare for their upcoming races.

The children ran warmups and enjoyed running around the school grounds, as well as having a go at marshalling all while cheering on their peers.

Despite the very windy conditions all of the children put in such effort and all finished with a smile.



Cross Country Qualifiers

Congratulations to all of our Prep pupils who raced in the recent Sports Partnership cross-country event at Richard Lander School.

This was a wonderful occasion, with over 350 runners taking part from eight local primary schools, including Threemilestone, Mount Hawke, Mithian, Truro Learning Academy, St Agnes, Blackwater and Cusgarne Schools.

We are delighted to report that fourteen of our talented runners have qualified for the next round of this competition, the Peninsula cross-country finals, which takes place in March.

Well done to:

Year 4: Sienna and Ollie S

Year 5: Lissie, Ellie L, Reggie, Scott and Henry

Year 6: Rosie, Hetty, Lexi, Archie, Isaac, Jacob and Rowan

An especial well done to Ollie, Reggie and Rosie, who each won their respective age group races and to Truro School Prep's Year 5 boys and Year 6 girls, who were the top teams in their age groups overall.



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Girls' Football Festival

Truro School Prep's Year 5 and 6 footballers recently organised a girls' football festival, dedicated to celebrating the sport. The event was a wonderful afternoon, bringing together local primary schools.

Throughout the festival, the pupils had the opportunity to put their football skills to the test, showcasing their passion for the sport in every move they made. It was lovely to witness the growth of their confidence and their support for their teammates, both on and off the pitch.



PRE-PREP ACHIEVEMENTS

It has been another busy week in the Pre-Prep!

We have learnt about the importance of keeping the beaches clean for our future and, with all the plastic collected from the local area, created a large display for the art wall in our hall.

During Forest School, the children have searched for the types of worms we find on our site and discussed how they are different from each other.

In Reception, the children have continued to write their own stories about lost animals and have turned these into a book.

In Year 1, the children have used their knowledge of animal habitats and adaptations to design their own bird. In this project, they had to think about their beaks, their feet and whether they were nocturnal.

In Year 2, the children have written their own wonderful versions of 'Little Red Riding Hood'.

Class Dojo Winners



RKW: Clara

1LK: Lila

2CB: Sophie

Gold Commendations

William 5LJ for Humanities 'Rainforest Survival Guide'

Comment: A super little survival booklet – full of interesting instructions and beautifully presented.

Aria 5SL for the Bigger Picture 'Surviving the Winter'

Comment: A beautifully presented fire 3D model – constructed from wood, and some hand sewn clothes for keeping warm during winter.

Eleanor 5SL for the Bigger Picture 'Surviving the Winter'

Comment: A beautifully presented 3D winter scene – featuring igloos, a forest and snow.

Hugo 5SL for the Bigger Picture 'Antarctic Night'

Comment: A lovely poem about the Antarctic Night – and some engaging shelters.

Rory 5SL for the Bigger Picture 'Hibernation'

Comment: A beautifully presented acrostic poem about bears.

Oscar 5SL for English 'Surviving the Winter'

Comment: Beautifully presented research on the topics of 'before central heating' and 'before supermarkets'.

House Point Form Champions

Wilf 3ME

Daisy & Edward 3SM

Emir & Hennie 4LL

Tom & Audrey 4SC

William 5CD

Rupert 5LJ

Emmeline 5SL

Jensen 6AG

Sophie 6DG

Lexi 6JL

Head's Commendations

Ellie 5SL for English: for a well written story for the Rotary writing competition about the friendship between an orphaned puppy and its new owner. Your vocabulary is rich, there is a strong storytelling feel and the characters are well described.

Penny 5SL for English: for a highly original story for the Rotary writing competition, which tells the tale of a devil called Ruby and an angel called Jack. It fits the competition theme of rebuilding very cleverly.

Annie 5CD for English: for a highly entertaining story about Caligula, the Roman Emperor, and the rebuilding of Rome for the Rotary writing competition. Your characterisation is hilarious and the dialogue tells the story perfectly.

Merit Awards

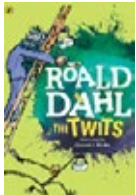


Bronze Merit Awards

4LL: [Oliver G](#)

5LJ: [Miles](#)

Reading Awards



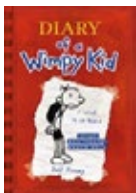
Dahl Club (60 books)

4LL: [Ashleigh](#)



Walliams Club (70 books)

4LL: [Ashleigh, Harvey](#)



Kinney Club (80 books)

5LJ: [Isaac](#)

Touch Typing



Touch typing awards for consistent effort

6DG: [Charlie C, Shiloh, Finlay](#)

Maths

3 x 5

4 x 6

2 x 8

7 x 2

Times Table Challenge Certificates

3ME: Ella C, Boe, Teddy, Bobby, Albie, Kaleem

3SM: Edward, Seren, Theo

4LL: Maya, Oliver G, Atti, Rafe, Freya, Rohan

4SC: Barney, Arthur H, Samuel, Will

5CD: Jesse, William S, William V

5LJ: Petra

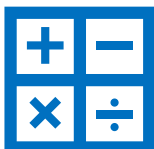
5SL: Aria, Eleanor, Oliver, Albie

6AG: Thomas, Lewie

6DG: Sienna

6JL: Isabella, Lowenna, Barnaby, Ben T

Rock Stars



Times Table Rock Star of the Week

Max Year 3

Top Rock Performers

Year 3: Malhar

Year 4: Anantveer

Year 5: Miles

Year 6: Isabella

Nessy



Gold Nessy awards for effort and achievement

3SM: Daisy

4LL: Louis

5LJ: Miles

6DG: Finlay

Music



Alyssia 5LJ has passed Grade 1 Violin Practical with distinction.

William 5LJ has passed Grade 1 Horn Practical with distinction.

Fencing



Atti 6DG achieved 6th place in the U12 Boys Sabre Section in the South West Age Group Championships 2024.

Horseriding



Delilah 6AG and her pony, Magnus, won rosettes on Sunday 4th February at Colraine Equestrian Centre.

3rd place: BSJA Showjumping 80cm

5th place: BSJA Showjumping 70cm

NEWS & INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Online Safety: The Battle for Screen Time

Tuesday marked the annual UK Safer Internet Day, and whilst it is imperative that we enable our children to make astute, informed choices in their digital world, it is time spent online that can be the predominant daily challenge. Screen time 'creep' is a common phenomenon ("just another 10 minutes..."), and the Battle for Screen Time can be a daily occurrence in many households.

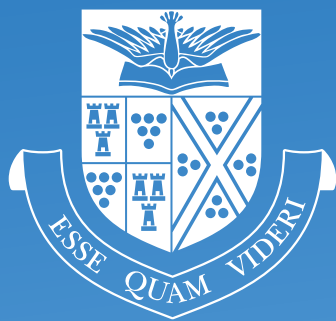
The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) recommends a daily limit of two hours but the reality, according to recent research, is that children aged 5-16 spend around 6 hours daily looking at a screen. Although setting time limits on devices can be an effective approach, this can also be a focal point for push-back; it is important therefore, that children and young people can begin to regulate themselves and their time spent online.

Internet Safety organisations generally agree that the setting of screen time limits is a subjective decision for each family/child. The RCPCH (Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health) suggests approaching this by first reflecting on the effect (or not) that screen time has on key markers such as physical activity, social interaction and sleep. Click [here](#) for more information.

Internet Matters recognises the importance of embedding healthy habits in the under 5s, in order that they can begin to recognise, from an early age, the need for regular screen breaks. Click [here](#) to read more about managing screen time for children in the early years. It also offers [guidance and advice](#) in establishing boundaries, tackling too much screen time as well as a useful [flow chart](#) in creating a balanced digital diet.

Finally, Specsavers (as you'd expect!) provides insight into the impact of prolonged use of devices on eye-health and offers tips and recommendations to mitigate any ill-effects, including a sensible 20:20:20 rule. Click [here](#) to read more.

As with every aspect of internet safety, engagement with a child is key, and the more we can encourage and educate them in making responsible, informed choices, the better prepared they are as they navigate through their digital lives.



**TRURO
SCHOOL
PREP**



Open Morning Saturday 9 March



**Independent School
Girls & Boys 3-11**

truroschool.com/prep-school



Scan the QR
code to find
out more.



MULTI SPORT

Activity Camp



12-16TH
FEB

£32

per child per day

FEBRUARY HALF TERM ACTIVITY
CAMP! GAMES, SPORTS, SWIMMING,
ACTIVITIES AND MORE.

BOOK ONLINE

WWW.SIRBENAINSLIESPORTSCENTRE.COM

Adult and Child Easter



Egg Decorating



WWW.TRUROSCHOOLCOOKERY.COM

Saturday 23rd March

10:00-13:00

£110



Pastries will be served upon arrival. Next, in a 'cook-along' format, you'll build and decorate your own Easter eggs following Stuart Pate, our guest patisserie chef who will share his techniques for a professional finish to your eggs.



Special Guest Teacher, Patisserie
Chef- Stuart Pate



3 DAYS

The Camp will include:

- Top-class coaching
- Fitness training
- Footwork
- Sparring



Truro Fencing Club Spring Training Camp

For Year 5 & 6 Pupils with Previous Fencing Experience.
Monday 12th February to Wednesday 14th February
<https://trurofencing.club/spring-camp-2024/>

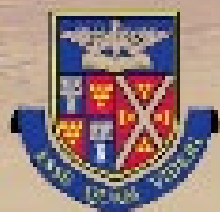


Friends of Truro School Family Beach Clean

Date: 21/04/2024 @12pm

Location: Watergate Bay

HELP PROTECT OUR
BEACHES AND MARINE
LIFE BY TAKING PART IN
OUR BEACH CLEAN WITH
BEACH GUARDIAN!
CALLING ALL
VOLUNTEERS TO JOIN
US IN PICKING UP LITTER
AND DEBRIS FROM
WATERGATE BAY.



TRURO
SCHOOL

FTS | Friends of
Truro School



UNIFORM
Sale

Coffee Morning

*Please join us for an informal meet-up on
the last Friday of every month; old and
new faces are always welcome.*

Friday 23 February: Prep Dining Hall

from 8.45 am



**TRURO
SCHOOL**

Half Term Holiday Camps



Softball

For school years 1 to 4
Tuesday 13th February
10am to 3pm
£15



Hardball

For school years 5 to 8
Wednesday 14th February
10am to 3pm
£20



U13 Indoor Comp

Thursday 15th February
10am to 3pm
Team of 6
£30



At Cornwall Cricket Centre

Truro College Campus
Truro
TR1 3XX



To book scan the QR Code or use the link in the text

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February half-term and spring 2024
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BlackbirdPie

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Join today at better.org.uk/lessons

**£12.50 OFF
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BETTER

Terms and conditions apply. Offer is £12.50 off upfront costs with Better Swim School at Better leisure centres in Cornwall. Promo code SPRING24 applies to new customers only, and is valid up to and including 30th April 2024. Promo code can be redeemed both online and in centre. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. We reserve the right to amend the terms and conditions at any time without prior notice. Full terms and conditions at better.org.uk/offers/terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 277932. Registered office: Millgate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. 3843388.

Calendar February & March 2024

Kernow Health:
vaccines

**What's on at
half-term**

Science spectaculars!

Festival of Tech
workshops & events

Learn to swim

Theatre shows &
pantomimes

**Classic books
review**

Writers' Block
workshops

**NHS advice on
Sepsis**

Vouchers & offers for:

*National Maritime
Museum Cornwall,
page 3*

*Cornwall Heritage
Trust, page 4*

*Raze the Roof,
page 6*

*'Better' swim
lessons, page 7*

*Jungle Jack's,
page 7*

The February / March issue of BlackbirdPie - Cornwall's What's On magazine for families - IS FREE via www.blackbirdpie.co.uk



Wraparound



Please use this QR code to register your child for Wraparound care or via the Forms link.

<https://forms.office.com/e/VZUiYbg1Ff>

