



Batley Multi Academy Trust

The **Batley Buzz**

The Trust at the heart of the Batley community

April 2025

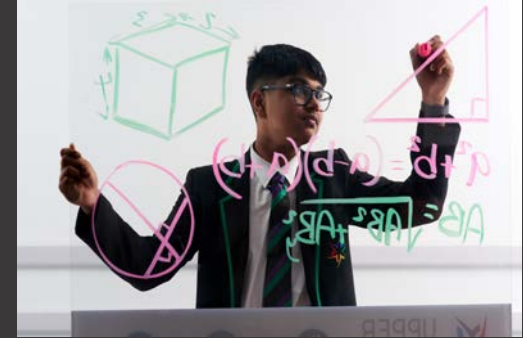
Edition 8

Our children deserve the best.
No child left behind - ever.
Every school a great school.
Creating remarkable people.



Our Trust Vision

Every young person,
regardless of their background or
starting point, receives a first-class
education, coupled with
high-quality care, guidance and
support.



Our Infant and Primary News

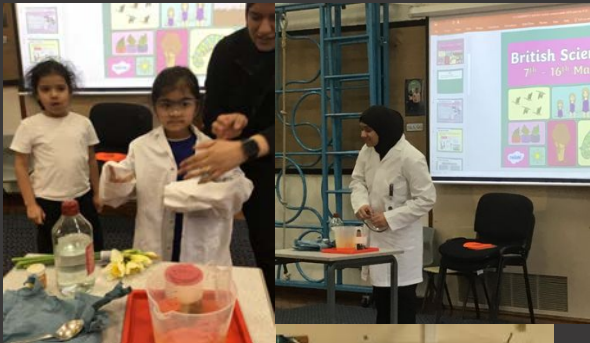


Founded 1612



Science Week 2025

For science week learners enjoyed a fun-filled day, learning to investigate and take part in experiments based around the topic of adapting and changing. They took part in some fantastic experiments, including making slime and mixing fizzy colours! The week ended with a whole school assembly with a visit from Mrs Hussain, a scientist, who works at Dr. Reddy's in Mirfield. The children listened carefully as she explained to them about her role at work. The children had the opportunity to ask some questions to find out more about her exciting job. The assembly finished off with a whole school experiment, where the children made some predictions about what they thought would happen. After watching the experiment they could then check whether their prediction was accurate: seeing real science in action!



Early Years have been busy....

Reception children have worked really hard to help dig over the garden to prepare for the upcoming vegetable patch. They used the tools safely and worked really well together. Teamwork makes the dream work!

Nursery children have loved listening to Goldilocks and the Three Bears. They have acted out the story and many enjoyed tasting porridge; it was just right!



Christening for teddy

Year 1 enjoyed their trip to Staincliffe Church and re-enacted a Christening with Father Hewitt. The children listened carefully and understood the different aspects of how babies are welcomed in the Christian faith. Father Hewitt christened a teddy bear by sprinkling holy water from the font on its head.

The children loved being part of this ceremony and fully immersed themselves into their learning. It was a fantastic learning experience for all of us.



Hatching chicks...

Our Early Years team have been lucky to have experienced the hatching chicks programme.

Learners (and staff) watched the chicks hatch then learned about them and looked after them. Some learners even had the chance to hold them, and as you can see, they loved it!



Partnership with parents/carers

Parents and carers were invited to work with us for our open morning, where we focused on mini beasts and arts and crafts. Everyone had a lot of fun! Building strong links with our parents/carers is a crucial part of our work. This is what Stronger Together (our parent/carer forum) is all about.



From 1 April 2025, Purlwell is proud to join Batley Multi Academy Trust.

World Down Syndrome Day

On 21 March 2025, to raise awareness of World Down Syndrome Day and to show our support for all children who are affected by this, we all came to school wearing odd socks - it was a colourful day for all!



World Book Day

We all took part in the World Book Day focusing on promoting reading for pleasure.

We came to school in non-uniform or dressed as our favourite book character. Here is just a small selection of the wonderful outfits on display!



Eid fun for all!

Not everyone enjoys the hustle and bustle of a party, so some of our learners enjoyed a special Eid experience with their parents/carers. They built a mosque, shared Eid food, used binoculars to spot the moon and so much more!



Dreams and aspirations

Year 5 and Year 6 participated in Creative Scene's Celebration of Hope exhibition and parade. A wire olive tree, decorated with the gold and silver embossed leaves that they had made, was displayed at Bagshaw Museum during the Easter break. Each leaf carries personal messages of hope, wishes, and prayers for our world. The olive tree symbolises resilience and a commitment to hope for a better future. The learners also created amazing lanterns for the nighttime parade!



Park safely please

Our Junior Travel Ambassadors in Year 6 have helped raise funds for us to be able to purchase a banner to be displayed outside school to raise awareness about parking and car pollution. We hope everyone will follow the messages on this banner.



Show racism the red card

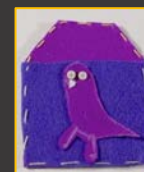
Year 5 had a fantastic trip to Huddersfield Town to learn about anti-racism. They represented our school brilliantly, showing kindness, respect, and a real eagerness to understand such an important topic. Their thoughtful questions, active listening, and positive attitudes made the experience truly meaningful. Tackling racism takes courage, and by engaging in discussions and activities, they have taken an important step in making the world a fairer place.





A day of Science, Maths and PE

Year 4 had a fantastic time at **Eureka!** in Halifax. They went on an adventure of discovery as they explored the magic of light, the mysteries of sound and the amazing effects all around. Fun, interactive and curriculum-linked, our Year 4 learners had the best day!



Our very own superhero, Mrs Ellis saved the life of an injured pigeon who was stranded in our playground. What a hero!



We have been busy making Easter cards for our local care home for our visit at the end of last term. They have kindly invited us to take part in an Easter Egg treasure hunt and will offer refreshments and games for our learners. Our theme for this half term is **Community** and the intergenerational work between school and the care home features highly on our priority of community cohesion.

Superheroes' craft work

Year 2 have been designing and making pouches for their superheroes to carry their equipment. They have learnt how to cut out a template, pin it to fabric to cut the material, sew fabric together and stitch on a button. They then designed of a logo for their superhero and attached it to their pouch.



Environment

Next half term we are focusing on **The Environment** as a theme that runs through school and provides a 'Golden Thread' in our curriculum subjects. Our learners take pride in the school environment, support sustainability and help look after the local area through litter picking and supporting biodiversity through gardening and planting.



Believe Achieve Succeed



Batley Multi Academy Trust



Book Fair

As part of our World Book Day celebration, we were excited to welcome the travelling Book Fair to the Primary Phase.

Learners were keen to purchase books using their World Book Day vouchers and browse the many titles on offer. This turned out to be incredibly popular, with queues down the corridor every night. The best part of the Book Fair is that a portion of the money raised from the sale of the books is sent back to school for us to buy new books for our classes.



Chick watch update

Year 4 played host to some very special guests over the last few weeks. We started with observing eggs and eventually welcomed some beautiful, fluffy chicks a couple of weeks later.

Colonel and Severus (the black chicks) and Ron, Badger and Aries (the golden chicks) became firm favourites for our learners. We were also lucky that we had a live feed to be able to watch their development from home. Thank you to Mrs Porter and Mr Bevington for arranging this and our amazing IT team for enabling a fantastic experience that we could all enjoy from home! We will miss them greatly.

A very special thank you to our Year 4 learners for looking after them so well!



Making waves and rolling smoothly!

Our Year 5 learners have been making a splash in their swimming lessons, growing in confidence with every stroke! From perfecting their doggy paddle to mastering front crawl, they've been working hard in the pool.

But the fun didn't stop there - on dry land, they took part in a fantastic scooter workshop, learning how to ride safely, respect others on the path and avoid any wipeouts! With their new skills, they're ready to glide into action with confidence and care.



During the spring term, year four learners have been lucky enough to receive weekly rugby coaching from Paul (Batley Bulldogs).

Each half term our School Council organises an event.

They also held a collection for Batley Food Bank and we were able to deliver around 200 food items to help those in need within our local community.



Each class was also given £100 to spend on books for their classroom libraries. You can see from the pictures what an incredible selection they chose. We finished off Book Week with our annual House Book Quiz. Congratulations to Yellow House who won for the 2nd year running.



Our Secondary News



BATLEY GIRLS'
HIGH SCHOOL



Founded 1612



UPPER
BATLEY
HIGH SCHOOL

Believe Achieve Succeed



Batley Multi Academy Trust



Art careers at The Hepworth

Last month a small group of Year 10 learners visited The Hepworth for a careers day. Learners had the opportunity to create their own K Pop band and see all the different career paths that are involved in the music industry.

They also took part in a workshop in the galleries to create their own sculptures with an artist. All of this took place whilst being inspired by some of the amazing art around them.

The afternoon provided opportunities to speak to a range of people involved in creative careers across West Yorkshire. This gave our learners an excellent insight into all the different careers on offer in the theatre and galleries as well as graphic design roles, and, being an artist.



Stronger Together group organises fantastic celebration

Our wonderful Stronger Together parent/carer group organised an Eid Fair for the whole school.

Every year group had dedicated time to attend the event and enjoy the stalls including personalised jewellery, wooden handmade key rings, mehndi and more! There were lots of refreshments on offer too with sweet and savoury treats, as well as mocktails, for everyone to enjoy! Thank you to all the businesses who helped to support this superb event - it was much appreciated!



Road Safety for Year 7

Year 7 learners took part in 'Split Second', a theatrical and multimedia road safety initiative sponsored by West Yorkshire Vision Zero Partnership. Our learners were captivated by the storyline which focussed on key issues of relevance to them, such as; pedestrian and cyclist safety, distractions like mobile phones and understanding the importance of making safe decisions when navigating paths and roads. The session incorporated an immersive and engaging production followed by an interactive workshop where learners had the opportunity to discuss the themes of the production and an opportunity to ask questions to characters in the show. The cast received a standing ovation from our learners, which demonstrates how compelling it was!



PEAK Project

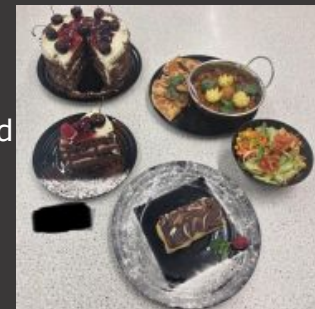
The aim of the PEAK project is to inspire young people, to help them make the right choices, friendships and lead a healthy lifestyle. PEAK involves a five-week programme with weekly sessions run in school-time, delivered by Kirklees Youth Intervention Team (YIT) Police Officers.

Learners discussed the importance of gaining a First Aid qualification and the difference it can make to someone's life. They also learned how to carry out a casualty assessment, how to dress casualties, the recovery position and resuscitation. Real life stories were discussed and an interactive workshop was held with a 'what happens next...' film to educate our learners about the different endings to the same story based on actions, choices and behaviour. During the programme learners have had an opportunity to visit Cliffe House and Huddersfield Fire Station to take part in activities and overcome their fears including; rock climbing stacking as well as many other team building activities. The programme culminated with learners being presented with certificates in recognition of their hard work and achievements.

GCSE Year 11 Food Exam

Year 11 Food learners have completed their GCSE practical exams this week and the aromas from the food room have been amazing!

A massive thank you to Saffiya Patel and Jonny Storey for ensuring these ran so smoothly!



Fantastic Teamwork for Asda Futures

Year 9 learners were given a brief, alongside 14 other schools, to produce a vegan friendly product, suitable to sell within Asda's 'exceptional range'. They have been faced with a number of challenges that have been overcome with absolutely amazing teamwork, resilience and confidence. We have competed with very strong contenders in the other school teams. Some of the learners initially came up with the idea of churros and the others, a cheesecake. It was decided to combine the two ideas to make a unique, yet amazing, product that we believe would sell; a vegan churros flavoured cheesecake! We trialled and tested our cheesecake and had some great feedback on how to improve our product, as well as why our tasters loved it.

Just before the Easter break, we attended the pitch event where we had to sell our idea to the other schools. What we hadn't realised at the time was, we were also being judged by Asda staff. When we were announced as the winner - we couldn't believe it, but it is a testament to all the hard work over the past six months.

A huge thank you to Mrs Denby for the support and a huge congratulations to our learners - you achieved so much in such a short space of time.



Modeshift STARS Secondary School of the Year

Upper Batley High School has been awarded Modeshift STARS National Secondary School of the Year 2024/25. Learners attended the event at the Royal Society in London, where the winning schools from each region across the UK pitched their manifesto to gain the accreditation of National School of the Year, with one primary school and one secondary school being awarded this prestigious honour.

The team have made great strides to progress sustainability and road safety through collaboration with learners, staff and the community resulting in a reduction in car use, improved air quality and a stronger commitment to active travel and environmental responsibility across the school. It is fantastic that these changes have been recognised on a national scale.



Young Green Briton Presentations

The latest stage of the Young Green Briton Challenge recently took place, with the selected groups going through to the Dragons Den style presentation stage.

Each group pitched their ideas to external stakeholders. The learners were extremely professional and the judges were highly impressed. Two groups have gone through to the next stage where they will be working with mentors to develop a prototype of their product ready for the semi-final.



Our Sixth Form News



Examination preparation conferences with tutor2u

Exam preparation is well underway for our Year 13 learners in social sciences subjects. Last month Year 13 Psychology and Business Studies learners attended the examination preparation grade booster conferences held at Cineworld Leeds, the cinema complex, at the White Rose Centre.

Our learners had the opportunity to cover the more challenging parts of the course and prepare for the exams with masterclasses on examination techniques.



[Apply to BG6 here](#)

Eid Fair Ambassadors

At the Eid Fair that took place in the Exam Hall at BGHS just before the Easter break, our BG6 ambassadors played a key role.

They supported with the planning and setting up on the day, as well as being on hand as ambassadors during the event to help support staff and coordinate all the learners attending.



Preparations for Prom...

Our BG6 prom committee have been busy fundraising as their prom plans have begun to take shape.

They have sold sweet cones and offered henna painting, as part of Eid celebrations, and have a whole host of other ideas to drive their preparations for their end of year celebration. Entrepreneurial spirit is evident, indeed!





Our Staff Superheroes



Liam Clark

Our resident gardener and woodworker, Liam, has created some new bespoke, works of art at Manorfield which are helping to transform the school corridors into engaging, inspiring learning environments with a focus on reading and developing a love of learning for all.



Nicola Jerry

Nicola is new to UBHS, but it is as if she has been there years. Her overall contribution to the school community during the time she has been here, has been brilliant. Thank you!



Francesca Dobson and Rajinder Randhawa

For their work at Field Lane to attain the status of Neurodiversity Champion School. Francesca is SENDCo at Field Lane and has led this piece of work fantastically at the school, supported by Rajinder our Trust SEND Lead. Through embracing collaboration and working together with parents/carers the school community has demonstrated inclusivity marvellously well.



Alistair Milligan

Alistair recently joined the Trust team and has hit-the-ground-running in his role as Governance Professional, fitting seamlessly into the team and getting to grips with all the ins and outs of school governance.



Lisa Woods

At UBHS, for leading our Modeshift STARS learners to achieve Secondary School of the Year and leading on the wider Trust sustainability strategy.



Paul Robinson

Paul is one of our Trust caretakers; he is always helpful, and demonstrates brilliant teamwork, going above and beyond to keep our school sites in great condition. Thank you Paul for all that you do.



Kate Seaman

We would like to thank Kate for her hard work and dedication over the past five years and wish her all the best for her well-deserved retirement next month. Happy travels!

Our Community Work ...

really means a lot to us, and we see our Trust and our schools at the very heart of our community. **Community** Makes Us and it is the **unity** in community that matters.



Connections on and off stage

The team from WYDA (West Yorkshire Drama Academy) performed Alys Metcalf's play 'You 2.0' at Batley Girls' High School earlier this month. This was part of National Theatre Connections - each year, Connections commissions a selection of brand-new plays for young people to perform, pairing some of the UK's most exciting writers with the theatre-makers of tomorrow. Working with over youth companies from all across the UK. The cast included a learner from one of our Trust schools. A director from the National Theatre and one from CAST Doncaster also attended to observe and provide feedback.

A huge well done to everyone involved in putting on the performance in our local community - both teams at WYDA and Batley Girls', which also involved raising over £70 for Batley Food Bank as well!

Choose us with your Tesco blue token from 1 April 2025 and support our **Community Garden Project**

How to get involved?

When you have finished your Tesco shop in one of the **11 stores listed below**, you will be given a blue token to vote with. If we receive the most customer votes we will receive funding to realise our plans to create a fantastic space with an orchard and raised beds for our Trust family of schools as well as the local community.

You can be a part of it and benefit from it too!

Batley Extra Large (WF17 5DR)
Outwood Wakefield Express (WF1 2DX)
Tingley Westerton Road Express (WF3 1PZ)
Crigglestone Express (WF4 3EF)
Ardsley Express (WF3 2JA)
Wakefield Express (WF1 4LH)
Ossett Express (WF5 9NQ)
Dewsbury Yorks Express (WF12 8AJ)
Mirfield Queen Road Express (WF14 8AN)
Wakefield Barn Road Express (WF1 5NP)
Dewsbury Leeds Road Express (WF12 7DR)



The Fields

Community Spaces at Field Lane and Manorfield

We have a wide range of events and activities on offer at The Fields, from one-off sessions to regular groups to meet a variety of needs, and interests.

Please take a look and share with friends and family who may be interested.

Contact The Fields Community Space Administrator for more information or to let us know what you'd like to see:

Huda Khan
fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk
07497 512801

Find us at:

Field Lane: Albion Street, Batley,
WF17 5AH

Manorfield: Manor Way, Batley, WF17 7DQ



The Fields
Community Spaces



Batley Multi Academy Trust

What's on at The Fields – APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2025

Day	Events	Providers	Location	When
Monday	Henry Programme	Henry.org	Manorfield School	From Monday 24 February 9:00–11:30 am
	Gardening Club	The Fields Team	Manorfield School	Every Monday 9:00–10:00 am
	Fields Crafts Coffee & Chat	The Fields Team	Field Lane School	Monday, 12 May 9:00–10:30 am
	Get Ready for School (school readiness workshop for parents/carers)	Kirklees Success Centre	Field Lane School	Monday, 19 May 9:30–11:30 am
Tuesday	Tiny Readers	The Fields Team	Manorfield School	Every Tuesday 9:00–10:00 am
	Clear Wellbeing Sessions	Clear	Manorfield School	6–20 May 10:00–11:00 am
	Clear Arts & Crafts	Clear	Manorfield School	12 June – 3 July 10:00–11:00 am
	Fields Creative Walks	S2R	Manorfield School	2 April, 21 May 9:30–11:30 am
Wednesday	PCAN Coffee Morning	PCAN	Manorfield I & N School	Wednesday, 30 April 9:00–10:00 am
	Fields Crafts Coffee & Chat	Fields Team	Manorfield I & N School	Wednesday, 7 May 9:00–10:30 am
	ESOL	Kirklees College	Manorfield School	From Thursday 27 February 9:00–11:30 am
Thursday	Baby Massage	Happy Moments	Manorfield School	From Thursday 1 May 12:00–1:00 pm
	Prepare to Volunteer or Work in Schools	Kirklees Success Centre	Field Lane School	From Thursday 8 May 9:00–12:00 pm
	My Wellbeing w/Kirklees	Kirklees Wellness Team	Field Lane School	5–26 June 1:45–3:00 pm
	Clear Arts & Crafts	Clear	Field Lane School	9, 16 & 23 May 9:30–10:30 pm
Friday	Clear Wellbeing Sessions	Clear	Field Lane School	6, 13 & 20 June 9:30–10:30 am
				One-off session Longer running session

For further information, you can reach us at **07497 512801** or
fieldscoordinator@batleymat.co.uk

Careers: the golden thread

Essential Skills

Spotlight on: **Listening**

Listening is a core communication skill fundamental to learning and forms a key part of education on a daily basis, whether that's listening to teachers during a lesson or an assembly, listening to others during in-class activities where teamwork and collaboration is required or extracurricular activities such as, sports and creative clubs and events.

All of these examples transfer to most, if not all, careers, which is why it's so important to develop listening skills from a young age with our nursery and reception learners during storytime, through to our secondary learners who work together on projects such as; First Give and Young Green Briton Challenge.

Listening is also about asking questions. Active listening involves fully engaging with the speaker, understanding their message, and responding thoughtfully.



Singing performances



Team sports



Storytime



Teamwork



Active listening

Great Governance

Our Trust is governed by three key layers: Members, Trustees and Governors

Members are custodians of the Trust. They have a hands-off role in terms of managing the Trust and act as a 'check and balance' on the performance of the Multi Academy Trust.

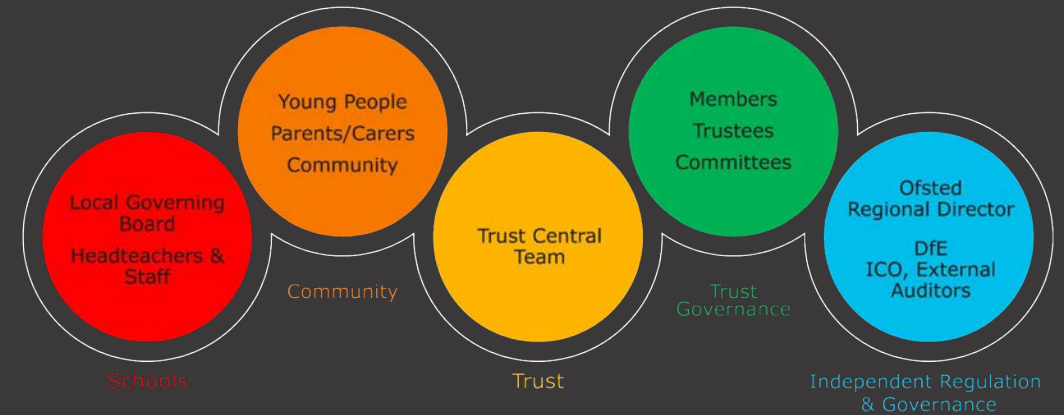
Batley Multi Academy Trust is a legal entity and our **Board of Trustees** have collective accountability and responsibility for the Trust, assuring themselves that there is compliance with regulatory, contractual and statutory requirements. The Board of Trustees provide:

- Strategic leadership of the Trust
- Accountability and assurance
- Engagement

Trustees must apply the highest standards of conduct, adhering to the Seven Principles of Public Life (Nolan Principles), ensure robust governance and effective financial management.

All of the schools in our Trust family have **Local Governing Boards** - these boards are made up of Co-opted Governors, Parent/Carer Governors and Staff Governors.

Our Governors play a key role, alongside our Board of Trustees, and act as the 'custodians of culture' and the 'caretakers of promoting and celebrating their school's uniqueness'. There are no formal qualifications required for a role in Governance, simply a passion and desire to support the young people of Batley and the wider school community. We are looking for great team players, and people with a forward thinking, solution-focused approach.



Are you interested in finding out more about governance?

Across our Trust family of schools, we currently have the following vacancies:

2 Co-opted Governors
2 Trustees
1 Member

If you are interested or know of anyone who is, please contact Laura Bland on:

governance.professional@batleymat.co.uk

Our wider links

Our family of schools
Works closely with the
BBEST Hub.

Take a look at
their website for
details of local services,
support and activities.

We are proud to lead the
Yorkshire Rose Teaching Partnership
- providing high quality primary
and secondary teacher training
in West Yorkshire.

This consortium includes 15 local
schools, Exceed SCITT and local
Higher Education Institutions.

Our schools play a key role in the
Calderdale & Kirklees Teaching
School Hub. This Hub offers support
to over 400 schools across our
region. The purpose of the hub is to
provide high-quality professional
development for teachers and
leaders.

We are proud to
partner with the Global
Equality Collective. We
are working with them
to support our
approach to inclusion
for staff and learners,
driven by our belief
that no child should be
left behind, ever.



Support & advice for parents/carers and families

Childnet International has produced a very informative resource for parents/carers to help you keep your child safe online:

www.childnet.com/resources/parent-and-carer-toolkit/



For young people;

Childline

Providing help & support for under 18s.

0800 11 11

www.childline.org.uk



The Mix

Provides essential support for 13-25 year olds.

www.themix.org.uk



For families;

NSPCC

Free support & advice for parents/carers worried about a young person.

0808 800 500

www.nspcc.org.uk



Family Lives

Free, professional non-judgemental advice.

0800 800 222

www.familylives.org.uk



Other specialist services;

Get it right from a genuine site

Find out which sites are legal for downloading movies, music and games

www.getitrightfromagenuinesite.org

GET IT RIGHT
FROM A
GENUINE SITE

Ask about games

Advice and online guides about gaming and PEGI ratings.

www.askaboutgames.com



Batley Multi Academy Trust

Our Trust family



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