

# MELVILLE MATTERS 77



MELVILLE  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

JULY/AUGUST 2018



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Mentally Healthy School

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## ▼ Year 12 Academic High Achievers



## ▲ Year 10 Academic High Achievers

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Each term in a school has a 'seasonal' rhythm to it. Term 3 is very much a 'down to business' term with the Year 12s, in particular, working hard in their final months of school to finish off the last of their course work and of course to study, study, study for the ATAR exams that are now only a few months away. Each of the other year groups also get a largely uninterrupted 10 week period in which to consolidate and expand on the skills, knowledge and understandings related to their courses they are studying. By term 3 they should have well and truly settled into the routine of their timetable, they should know their teachers, their classmates, their classes and they should know what is expected of them from their course outlines and assessment schedules.

Term 3 should be used by all students, but particularly those in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10, to confirm and demonstrate home study skills. Over and above completing assignment work, students need to develop a pattern of study and revision. Despite a series of exams being conducted across Years 7 to 10 we are still finding that many students are quickly left behind in Year 11 because they don't have the necessary commitment to working at home.

Unfortunately, without practice, it is not easy to find the necessary self-discipline in senior school. I encourage students, supported by their parents, to work on these study skills and not rely on picking these up in Year 11 when it is generally too late. As a guideline, it generally takes 5 to 10 minutes to revise what was learned in a 60 minute academic lesson. This includes organising study notes and identifying areas to clarify with teachers the following day. At least 30 to 60 minutes should be set aside each night of the week, with a bit more over the weekend, to revise what has been done in class that day, noting that this will build up over the course of Years 7 to 12 to be considerably more. Note this is not 'homework' but 'study'. The Melville homework diary addresses study skills and is a useful reference point for parents wishing to help their children with this process. The Elevate program run across Years 7 to 12 also provide specific guidance on the study skills relevant to their phase of development. If you don't know anything about the Elevate program please ask your child and if they give you a blank stare (!) email the relevant Year Coordinator.

In addition to 'getting on with the job', one of the welcome co-curricular activities that make school more pleasurable for our students and staff is our sporting program. The inter-school program in-swing this term is coordinated by Mr Justin McDougall (supported by the HOLA of H&PE Ms Kylee Coonan) and coached by members of the H&PE and other staff. In week 2 the Girls Junior Volleyball team stood tall and won their inter-school competition and at the recent Year 7 lightning for the first time in my memory our AFL team won their division!



▲ Whole of School Assembly Awards - Year 11 Academic High Achievers

Other teams from Melville SHS who have competed in inter-school competitions so far this year include: Senior Basketball, Swimming, Cross Country, Cricket, Soccer, Volleyball, Touch Rugby, AFL, Basketball, Netball and Year 7 to 10 Lightning Carnivals. I would also like to acknowledge and publicly thank the staff/coaches for their commitment and the students for their involvement.

Another renowned co-curricular activity is our Music in Focus program, which also gives the opportunity to perform in public, while competing with other like-minded people. In Term 3 over four weekends, our senior and intermediate bands, swing band, classical guitar ensemble and choirs perform in a formal setting where they are adjudicated by music industry professionals. Needless-to-say our bands all perform very well and are to be congratulated, together with their teachers, Ms Ana Milas, Mr Lachlin Brooks-Crew, Mr Chris Goudge, Mr Chris Booth and Mr Paul Hines for their efforts - thank you and well done.

Our visual arts, film, graphic design and technology teachers and students have worked very hard to get artworks selected in highly regarded art exhibitions such as the Young Originals (ECU), the St Georges Art Award (at St George's Cathedral), Metamorphosis and the City of Melville and the Atwell Youth Art Awards (to name a few). These are prestigious exhibitions and/or competitions with only the best work in the state selected, so a big 'thank you' to our Arts and Technology teachers including Ms Mellissa McCarthy, Ms Jenna Antonioli, Ms Ali Blackwell, Mr Dion Manby, Mr Lev Vykopol and Mr Greg Allin for taking the time to prepare their students - and a special congratulations to the students who have won Best of Show and/or People's Choice awards!

I have a strong belief that our students should be provided with the opportunity to experience success in the academic, sporting, cultural and active citizenship domains. I also think we should offer all students the chance to experience the world outside the school and indeed the world outside Western Australia. On this note, we recently welcomed back from Mongolia our 2018 World Challenge students. Under the close supervision of Ms Jo Daley and Mr Matt Durston, 16 intrepid students had the opportunity to travel to Mongolia and (as well as getting a chance to ride a shaggy pony on the Genghis Khan trail) they worked with school students in Mongolia. A wonderful opportunity, I think you will agree.



▲ Year 9 Academic High Achievers ▼ Year 8 Academic High Achievers



Another group of students returned late last term from a Political and Legal studies trip to Canberra with Ms Cheryl O'Connell and Mr Brendan Crozier and later this term Ms Linda Gangemi will lead a party of students to enjoy the wilds of Italy, where, instead of drinking warm Yaks milk mixed with horse blood they will be forced to drink luke-warm cappuccino in the Piazza Navona in Rome! Finally in early 2019 we have yet another group of students off to visit our sister school in China lead by Ms Stephanie Wignell. I hope you will agree these wonderful opportunities simply couldn't happen if we didn't have amazing staff who are prepared to put a lot more into their jobs than their pay suggests.

This edition of Melville Matters is usually where I announce the great results achieved by our Years 7 and 9 students in NAPLAN. You will probably already know from the news that there is apparently a problem with the NAPLAN data across Australia this year caused by anomalies with online testing trials (we are due to go online in 2019). The Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) found that students who did the test online seem to have scored significantly better than those who used pen and paper. None of this would really matter except that NAPLAN has become a major tool for comparing schools. While most principals don't think that this is a fair comparison it is the reality of the situation. Based on the 2018 results such direct comparisons will be hard to make and the WA government are currently (at the time of writing) refusing to accept this years results as well as threatening to delay the further roll out of the online testing until possible ICT access and connectivity issues are resolved (we think we will be OK at Melville but not all schools have the same levels of ICT infrastructure and support that we have here).

The bottom line is that at the time of writing, the 2018 NAPLAN results are on hold pending negotiations between the state and federal government - so watch this space. All this said, at Melville we use NAPLAN results to identify and improve areas of weakness in literacy and numeracy in our students (the only valid reason for having the NAPLAN tests in my view) and that is what we will continue to do - as soon as we get the results! More to follow.

As always kind regards,  
Phillip White AM, RFD, BA, Grad Dip Ed, Med (Man), psc  
PRINCIPAL

Our principal Phil White was recently made a Harvard Fellow after attending a short course at Harvard with the former Director General Ms Sharyn O'Neill and completing a research paper in conjunction with the Executive Director of Workforce Planning. He is shown here receiving his certificate from the Minister of Education the Honourable Sue Ellery MLA.



▼ Year 7 Academic High Achievers





Melville Maniacs ▲



Numero WINNERS Melville Marvels ▲



Marvels in action ▲

# GIFTED AND TALENTED



Book in a Day ▲

▼ Year 8 Australia-Wide Word Mania Winners





# GIFTED AND TALENTED

## **NUMERO CHAMPIONS- WE WON!**

Melville SHS has won Numero for the first time ever! This is also the first time a Government school has taken out the top spot. The competition has been running in Western Australian secondary schools since 2007.

Congratulations to the *Melville Marvels* Gifted and Talented team of Ethan Hardy-Atkins (Year 10), Taewoo Kim (Year 7), Raymond Khoe (Year 7) and Albin Velutheppilly (Year 7) with a total of 424 points. They were 45 points clear of second place. There were 18 teams who competed and all our teams excelled themselves.

Congratulations also go to the *Melville Maniacs* consisting of Emma Beros (Year 9), Max Kelly-Taylor (Year 9), Saxon Murray (Year 7) and Zoey Tham (Year 7) who narrowly missed out on third place by eight points with a total of 371 points. Special mention to our two reserves Byron Fisker (Year 7) and Harvard Chong (Year 7).

## **BOOK IN A DAY**

In week 6, Melville SHS once again competed in the national competition, Book in a Day. Last year, the Year 9 Book in a Day team were State finalists coming third, so the pressure was on! This year, there were three Gifted and Talented teams participating. Students work-shopped in the Library with an very extended day. The groups created a complete book set around parameters and rules outlined that morning. The competition raises funds for the Kids' Cancer Project and was rewarding for all involved.

The following students participated in the competition:

Year 8: Fariha Asha, Lithika Senthil Kumar, Matthew Zhang, Noah Verney, Arwen Schifferli, Morgan Weguelin, Jayd Foo and Om Sharma.

Year 9: Shradha Shibu, Theresa Eastwood, Nitya Tewari, Aaliyah Ebrahim, Ansu Regmi, Celeste Prowse, Aoife Wolfe, Petra Kovacs and Erin Munro

Year 10: Anushki Kulasekara, Indra Barnuud, Esther Tan, Eunice Tan, LeAnn Yap, Taniya Shrimali, Gabrielle De Guzman, Ethan Hardy-Atkins and Elisabeth Camporeale.

## **WORD MANIA COMPETITION AUSTRALIA WIDE WINNERS**

In week 6, the final round of the Australian Wide competition Word Mania, was played by the Year 8 Gifted and Talented class. They came back from being 10 000 points down to winning by just over 25 000 points. This is the third year Melville SHS has won the title. 2000 schools and 400,000 students played over 5 million games and built over 130 million words.

## **MENTORING PROJECT AT MELVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

This term our Year 10 Gifted and Talented students are taking part in an exciting new project. We have linked with Melville Primary school Gifted and Talented students in Years 1, 2 and 3.

Every Monday afternoon we head off down the road to meet up with our buddies. Each student has a primary school partner and have agreed a project to work on that day. These range from coding, to sewing, to making sculptures to building a robot. Our students are now half way through the program and are thoroughly enjoying the program as the pictures show!

We will be sharing the final products of our projects at the end of Term 3 Gifted and Talented assembly in Week 10. In the meantime, we'll continue to enjoy the remaining Mondays working on our interesting projects!



# AVIATION

Approved Specialist Program

## LIFE'S A DRONE

This term Year 9 Aviation students have been learning to use drones in class and in action on the school oval. This is an excellent way to learn about flight and the use of advanced drones has become an important new industry, as the technology has improved. Students have taken to the subject like ducks to water and many non-Aviation students on the oval look on with envy at what they are doing.

They are well underway with their basic drone flying course. They had some help to from Morgan Beard from Global Drone Solutions. Morgan has been assisting students along with Aviation Teacher in Charge Mr Randall Brink to help with the basics to fly the drones. Although the weather has not been the best, the students are doing well with the practical flying aspect of the course.

Melville SHS now owns ten *DJI Phantom 3* drones and two *DJI Spark* drones. Each drone is worth over \$750 and are the popular choice for drone pilots and photographers. They are both capable of staying in the air for about 18 to 23 minutes and have GPS and return-to-home functions to keep track of their location.

We have initially asked *Global Drone Solutions* to be involved so that students learn the industry aspects of becoming a professional drone pilot. They can log their hours, which count toward their drone pilot licence and can then qualify by passing the CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority) test.

Mr Brink is currently looking at running a Year 10 course that will allow students to qualify for their RePL (Remote Pilot Licence). The course will cost between \$100-500 per student but is a significant saving on the normal \$2,800 cost of the doing the course externally.

## COME FLY WITH ME

Students have begun the third cycle of *Come Fly With Me*, run by the Aviation Centre at Melville SHS. The eight week course is for Year 5 and 6 students from surrounding primary schools interested in Aviation. The course covers a number of aspects relating to flying including the history of flight, basic aerodynamics and using the flight simulators to do flight lessons. The students also participate in practical activities such as paper plane making and testing and a flight in a real plane when they go on an excursion to Jandakot airport.

Pictured below are two of Mr Brink's new 'first officers' complete with their wings, Abigail and Hannah Barrett from White Gum Valley Primary School have shown great skill in flying the flight simulators and have won the right to become Mr Brinks' assistants when it comes to helping other students with flying the complicated machine.



# HASS

## CANBERRA TOUR

Late in term two Ms O'Connell and Mr Crozier accompanied 21 students across the country for the annual Canberra study tour. After months of planning, departure day could not come soon enough for the Year 11 and 12 students. With winter woollies packed, they hit the ground running with an exciting schedule of activities.

The tour began at Parliament House with students seeing where the laws of Australia are made. Not only did students get to experience the halls of power but they were also able to act out the procedure of parliament in the Parliamentary Education Office. This allowed students to experience what it is like to be Prime Minister and how they could one day have an impact on Australian society. Following this they visited Old Parliament House where students were able to recreate historical political debates and stand on the steps where Gough Whitlam gave his infamous speech following his dismissal as Prime Minister.

The highlight of our first day in Canberra was undoubtedly the visit to the Australian War Memorial. Students were able to reflect on the great sacrifice made by Australians that had gone before them. The quality of the exhibits and the sombre nature of the War Memorial had a lasting impact on everyone. In what was a great honour for the group, Melville students were able to lay a wreath at the Last Post ceremony.

After a long day it was off to dinner followed by a night of laser tag! Both Ms O'Connell and Mr Crozier became the favourite targets with a little bit of payback given with each hit.

Students continued to explore the sights of Canberra with a trip to the High Court and the National Museum of Australia. The High Court allowed a deeper understanding of the Constitution to take place and they were able to see where the most important legal decisions in Australia are made. Upon leaving Canberra the group explored the Australian Institute of Sport. Through a range of "gruelling" tests we were able to find our future Olympians in the group.



After a good night sleep everyone was ready to explore Sydney. We embarked on a sightseeing cruise of Sydney Harbour where we were able to see the world famous sights of the Harbour Bridge, the Opera House, Admiralty House and Taronga Zoo.

To conclude our trip we embarked on a historical walking tour of the Rocks precinct in Sydney and a coastal walk to Bondi Beach. Fortunately no help from Bondi Rescue was required!

Overall the Canberra study tour was an excellent opportunity for students to interact with the most important institutions in Australia. The decisions made in Canberra affect the lives of our students at Melville and for our students to see where this occurs was an extremely valuable experience. Any student studying senior school HASS subjects in Year 11 and 12 has the opportunity to take part in the Canberra study tour. If you would like to attend in the future please keep an eye out for expressions of interest in Term Four.

## **A LETTER TO THE MINISTER**

### **Corey McCann Writes a Letter to the State Minister for Fisheries in WA**

During term two, the Year 7 HASS students studied Civics and Citizenship (Politics and the Law). Part of their studies involved researching the issue of shark culling in Australia and in particular in WA. This was in response to several shark attacks in the South West that led to the cancellation of the Margaret River Pro Surfing Competition.

The students then had to draft a letter to a politician, expressing their opinion about the matter, based on their research.

Year 7 Academic Extension student Corey McCann felt so strongly about the issue that he asked his HASS teacher, Mrs Hudson, if he could really send his letter to the State Minister for Fisheries, the Honourable Mr Dave Kelly. He rode to the post office on his bike to post his letter and was rewarded by a very prompt and detailed personal reply from Mr Kelly, addressing every one of his research points and concerns. Mr Kelly also thanked Corey for writing to him and wished him all the best with his future education at Melville Senior High School.

Corey is featured in the photo below right holding his letter, surrounded by some of his classmates.



# SCIENCE

## SCIENCE WEEK

Week 5 was full of experiments and science excitement both in class and at lunch time. On Monday Mrs Wood performed a range of chemical 'bangs and burns'. The Tuesday lunch activity for those keen on biology was witnessing Mrs Daley's dissection of a rat. The Science quad on the Thursday had Melville Primary School and our own students fascinated by the effects of liquid nitrogen.

Science teachers Mr Rosenthal and Mr Sin experimented with what happens to different objects as they are immersed in Liquid Nitrogen. On other days, students were encouraged to make build DNA, model car building, drop eggs investigation, build a phone hologram building and drone flying.

## ROBOCUP

The Year 7 and 8 Gifted and Talented students competed against other WA schools at the RoboCup Junior competition at Curtin University last week. All students (and robots!) had a great time, well done to all involved.

## ZOO EXCURSION

The two Year 12 Human Biology classes recently spent the day at the Perth Zoo where they met and studied their relatives. An informative and fun day was had by both parties. All participants returned obligingly to their respective habitats at the end of the day.

## CRYSTAL GROWING

The Year 8 Academic Extension Science class recently grew copper sulphate crystals as part of their chemistry topic. There were some fine crystals grown by some groups.

Below is a photo collage of just some of the Science fun happening all the time at Melville SHS.



# ENGLISH

## BOOK WEEK

The English Department, together with the Resource Centre library staff and Literacy Committee, have once again run a successful Book Week in week 6. There was a hive of activities and fun to promote literacy. Many events took place in class and the whole school got behind words in the following ways:

- There was a daily quiz for students that tested their functional literacy skills. Staff also had a daily quiz to test their mettle.
- The school had dress-as-your-favourite-book-character day on the Friday. This was a joint initiative with Gifted and Talented, who are raising funds for the Kids' Cancer Project.
- The Spelling Bee returned for 2018 with heats in the Library at lunchtime and the final on the Thursday. The **proliferation** of words became **quintessentially obsequious** and as the crowd became **raucous**, the finalists were **nauseous**. They had no chance to **plagiarise** or become **querulous** of results. The winner, who correctly spelt **isosceles** was Diarmuid O'Connor with Dylan De Roode second and Justina Peter third (finalists are pictured below right and the winners below left with Busy Bee Ms Crane)

## GUESS WHO'S READING THE BOOK?

There was an intriguing set of photos in the Learning Resource Centre in week 6. Students had to try to identify the staff members reading their books and magazines. The first two correct entries that guessed the teachers through their choice of book were drawn at the end of the week to win a prize.

## CREATIVE WRITING CLUB

This new club is the place for all aspiring young writers who would like to hone their craft and learn to collaborate on the story-to-end-all-stories. It is held at lunch time on Tuesdays with our young inspiring English teachers Ms Haight-Ashbury (former journalist) and Ms Jennings. If you have never written a narrative before, don't despair, as there is a great story in everyone.





# ART AND TECHNOLOGIES



## YEAR 7 CROSS CURRICULUM PRIORITY: SUSTAINABILITY

Year 7s have created a collaborative artwork inspired by this year's Sculpture by the Sea installation titled 'Carnaby's in Flight'. The work (pictured top) has been made using recycled milk bottles and plastic bags. The work seeks to draw attention to the plight of the now endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoo, an endemic species to South- Western Australia and one that was once plentiful across Perth. Their numbers are now in severe decline due to clearing of habitat. We need to protect existing habitat and plant more trees around Perth to provide food and habitat for the birds.

## ST GEORGE'S ART EXHIBITION

Year 12 Visual Art students Kristina Shtanko (pictured centre left), Stella Gray Broun (Centre) and Nene Naganuma (work pictured bottom centre) had art works selected for this year's St George's Art Awards. Each year this annual exhibition gathers momentum as one of the most important art education events in the Western Australian student art calendar, and provides an outstanding opportunity for secondary schools to present students' work in the unique "gallery" in St George's Cathedral, Perth.

## YOUNG ORIGINALS 2018

This exhibition celebrates the visual arts program delivered across WA public schools and the talents of young artists. This year saw the highest number of entries since the exhibition began with over 240 entries and 60 chosen to exhibit. Melville SHS was fortunate to have two entries selected, one by Year 12 Edie Duffy (pictured bottom right) with her painting 'Humors Sanguine' and the other was Year 7 Graphic Design Media student Charlotte Edge with her video work. It was great to see families attending the Opening Night at Gallery 25 at ECU.

## GRAPHICS

In week 5 a master-class was held with the Year 12 Graphics students. The presenter was Justin Randall, a former illustration lecturer from Curtin Design School. He delivered ideas on graphic novel development as well as working through some design ideas and practices.

## DANCE AND DRAMA

Year 11-12 Dance and Drama students participating with artist Chris Greenwood (pictured below left) at Sculptures by the Sea.

See the photos of the fabulous Variety Night on the next page. These were just a few of the performers who wowed the audiences.





## VARIETY NIGHT

Late last term the Music, Dance and Drama staff and students went into a frenzy of activity to present two nights of 'sold out' Variety Show entertainment. Junior school students wowed the crowd on the Tuesday night and Senior Students on the Wednesday night.



# COMMUNITY

## JUNIOR WA AMBASSADOR OF THE RSPCA

Year 10 student Dean Morris has been awarded a very special title, as Junior Ambassador of the RSPCA. Dean is the founder of Give Our Strays A Chance (GOSAC) and RSPCA Community Outreach Coordinator Nat Foster attended his yearly event to raise funds. She recommended he apply to be an Ambassador. He has had a long term dedication to GOSAC, the charity he created to save stray animals and encourage people to adopt pets from animal shelters.

“GOSAC started as a one-off leadership project and the first GOSAC day was a huge success, people from all over the city came to help the animals,” he said. “Suddenly I found myself in a position where I just had to keep going.” He said the most rewarding part was knowing he was helping give stray animals a second chance.

Photo: below left is of the RSPCA Community Outreach Volunteer Janet Ingham, Dean and RSPCA Community Outreach Coordinator Nat Foster

## ACT BELONG COMMIT

Congratulations to the following successful applicants who have been selected to represent the new Act Belong Commit Student well-being committee. A big thank you to all those students who nominated themselves! This is a very exciting opportunity for all involved to be able to put forward and implement well-being activities that promote positive mental health for all students at Melville.

### Committee

- Year 7 Alaina Grony and Krish Jhaveri
- Year 8 Hamish Patel and Vincent Vitug
- Year 9 Isobelle Shinner and Emma Berros
- Year 10 Francesca Gratton and Ramon Rezani
- Year 11 Tahlia Sheppard, Kara Dropalich and Hailey Benis-Hewison
- Year 12 Jade Nodari and Monique Burns



There first meeting was well attended (photo below right).



# HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION



## STATE TEAM AND HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES

- Congratulations to Year 7 student Mia Karehana who has been selected in the 12s School Sports WA Netball State team. The team travels to Darwin in the school holidays.
- Also congratulations to Year 10 Carl Dias who has been selected in the WA State U15 Soccer team that will tour China.
- Ms Susan Gerrard was once again the coach of the State U15 WA School Girls Netball team. On the school holidays the team competed in Melbourne and beat all teams in round games. They then lost a semi-final by three goals and eventually won the bronze medal.
- Year 10 student Sam McCulloch has been chosen to represent Australia in the U18 Australian ISA World Stand Up Paddle board and Paddle board team in China. Sam has also been chosen to represent Western Australia in the Nationals in November in Queensland.
- Jarrod Pickett was a student from the class of 2014 and has had a successful season playing for Carlton in the AFL. He has played the last eight games straight to cement his place in the team after being transferred from the GWS Giants last year.

## INTER-SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL

At the SSWA Inter-school Championships, our top junior girls team (Melville 1) were crowned champions after a dominant display of consistent, highly-skilled volleyball. They comfortably won the final against All Saints College 3 sets to 0. Our other two girls teams Melville 2 and 3 finished second and third respectively in the B Division competition. Our boys teams were competitive but were a little out of their depth against some good opposition. With close to 43 students involved, hopefully we can get similar interest and results in the years to come.

## YEAR 8 LIGHTNING CARNIVAL

Results:	AFL	B Division	First
	Netball	Team 1	Fifth
		Team 2	Second
	Girls Soccer	B Division	Third
	Boys Basketball	A Division	Fourth

Photos of Girls Soccer and Boys AFL are on the back page.

## SSWA INTER-SCHOOL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Kane Litterick, Tyler Fong and Cody Pham represented Melville SHS at the School Sport WA secondary golf championships. They behaved with style and good grace.



Year 8 Lightning Carnival Basketball Team



Volleyball A Grade Winners trophy



YEAR 8 LIGHTNING CARNIVAL



MELVILLE  
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As a part of Health Week, some leading Dockers visited the school to encourage students to participate in Sport. Students were very excited to meet and get football skills from Hayden Ballantyne, Brandon Matera, Cameron Sutcliffe, Darcy Tucker and Taylin Duman. The Specialist Program Netball girls were particularly agile at goal scoring.

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