



# Newsletter

5th December, 2019 Term 4 Week 8

## 2019 Dates to Remember

### Term 4

#### Week 9

#### **Tuesday 10th December**

Reports home to parents

Footsteps Dance

#### **Thursday 12th December**

Christmas Concert

Evening—6.30pm

OLMC Hall

#### **Friday 13th December**

Whole School Assembly—

2pm

#### Week 10

#### **Monday 16th December**

9.15am Year 6 Graduation &

Thanksgiving Mass—

St Patricks Cathedral

#### **Tuesday 17th December**

Meet the Teacher Afternoon

#### **Wednesday 18th Dec**

**LAST DAY FOR 2019**

*Dear Parents,*

*Last Sunday was the first Sunday of the season of Advent, a time of preparation for the birth of our Lord Jesus, on Christmas Day. Every weekend, from now until the end of Advent, churches all over the world will light one of the Advent candles in the Advent Wreath and say prayers to remember this special time of preparation in the Church's calendar. There are five candles on the Advent Wreath, three purple, one rose and the last candle, white.*

*The purple candles are symbols of hope, peace and love and the rose candle represents joy. The final white candle, in the centre of the wreath, is always lit on Christmas Day as a symbol of Christ.*

*Jesus' message of hope, peace, love and joy are as relevant to our world today as they were over two thousand years ago, at the time of his birth. The challenge for each one of us is how to live this message in our own lives not only during Advent but every day. We are challenged to ask:*

*Are we people of **hope**?*

*Do we see and proclaim to our family a positive outlook for the future or do we get caught up in the 'doom and gloom' often portrayed in the evening media.*

*Are we a people of **peace**?*

*Do we promote compassion and forgiveness in our lives? Do we encourage our children to forgive when they are wronged by other children and do we demonstrate forgiveness to those who disappoint or hurt us? Are we open and inclusive towards people that are different to us?*

*Are we people of **love**?*

*Is love the flavour of our intentions, our driver when making decisions?*

*Are we people of **Joy**?*

*Are we beacons of light for others to see? Is the joy we feel in loving the life that Jesus died on the cross to give us, evident in the language we use and the attitudes that we portray.*

*The season of Advent provides each one of us with the opportunity to stop, reflect and discuss with our children the true meaning of this joyful celebration which should have far more to do with giving of ourselves than receiving gifts.*

*God bless you and your family*

*Bernadette Fabri*

*Principal*



**ST PATRICK'S  
GIFT SHOP**

Murphy House, 1 Marist Place, Parramatta.

*Wide range of religious gifts and cards to  
celebrate any special occasion.*

*Open 10am to 4pm on opening day  
Drop in and have a look*

## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP -** **Leaders for 2020**

Last Monday, the new student leadership team for 2020 was announced to the school community. Congratulations to the following children and to their classmates who nominated and voted them into these positions. The children will receive their badges at the Opening School Mass at the beginning of next year.



## **School Leaders 2020**

### **School Captains**

Maria Wahbe

Carl Cauan

### **Vice Captains**

Olivia Wehbe

Liam Jocson

### **ARTS Leaders**

Renee Kougellis

Ashintha Joseph

### **PDHPE Leaders**

Elisa Daher

Oliver Kougellis

### **STEM Leaders**

Rosemary Gonsalves

James Fraser

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Mrs Chantal Tuetue on her appointment as the school's new Religious Education Coordinator from 2020. Mrs Tuetue takes over this role from Mrs Leanda Standing whose appointment as Assistant Principal was announced earlier this term.

### **CONGRATULATIONS MACKILLOP TENNIS TEAM.**

Congratulations to Talia Lahoud and Liam Jocson too for qualifying for the Mackillop Tennis Team. We wish Talia and Liam all the best for their future competitions.

# St Patrick's Swimming Carnival 2019

## CHAMPIONS & RUNNER-UPS

<b>Junior Girl Champion</b>	Gabriella Volante
<b>Junior Girl Runner-Up</b>	Stephanie Jabbour
<b>Junior Boy Champion</b>	Phillip Ayoub
<b>Junior Boy Runner-Up</b>	Adam Jurisic
<b>11 Year Girl Champion</b>	Olivia Saab
<b>11 Year Girl Runner-Up</b>	Elisa Daher
<b>11 Year Boy Champion</b>	Daniel Saleh
<b>11 Year Boy Runner-Up</b>	Carl Cauan
<b>Senior Girl Champion</b>	Brooklyn Munro
<b>Senior Girl Runner-Up</b>	Alexandra Elphinstone
<b>Senior Boy Champion</b>	Michael Ayoub
<b>Senior Boy Runner-Up</b>	Jacob Sayegh

Congratulations to all the above students and to all the students who participated so well on the day. A huge thank you to our parent volunteers whose efforts made the day run so smoothly.



The last day to make payments EFT & Cash at the school office will be Monday 16th December 2019.

Week 9 will be the last week for school banking. It will return in Week 2 of 2020.

**St Patrick's Parramatta**  
**RETURN TO SCHOOL 2020 DATES**

<b>Week One 2020</b>	<b>Monday 27th January 2020</b>	<b>Tuesday 28th January 2020</b>	<b>Wednesday 29th January 2020</b>	<b>Thursday 30th January 2020</b>	<b>Friday 31st January 2020</b>	<b>Week 2 Monday 3rd February 2020</b>
	<b>Public Holiday</b>	<b>Staff Development Day –  Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments</b>	<b>Staff Development Day –  Yrs K-6 Individual Maths Assessments</b>	<b>Years 1 to Year 6 Commence school</b>		<b>Kindergarten commence school (full day)</b>
		<b>Year 1 to 6—Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 2 days.</b>				
		<b>Kindergarten Parents will be asked to book their children into one session with their child's class teacher on any of these 4 days.</b>				



### Christmas Hampers

As the liturgical year draws to a close at the end of this month it seems appropriate to reflect back on the year past and rejoice in the many gifts our Lord has bestowed on us. As we head into Advent - a season of preparation, may we think of those in our local community that have not experienced joys this year but are suffering from financial difficulties and losing hope. This year we have an opportunity to be a shining light to these community members by donating to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal.

The aim of the appeal is to share the love of Jesus and live our mission of being the hands of Jesus on earth. As John 15:11 states “ **that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete**”, donating to the appeal will model to our children the importance of sharing God’s love and living the Good News. What a great gift!, and an opportunity to show our children the importance of outreaching to others.

To make sure we receive a mixture of items we have suggested some items for each grade, a note will be coming home shortly. However, if you wish to donate an item not listed for your grade, please feel free to do so as long as they are non-perishable food items and preferably not baked beans or sardines. Items will be collected during **Week 8 & 9 - 2 to 12 December**.

### **SCHOOL REQUISITES**

A number of parents have mentioned to the school their interest in the school organising a bulk purchase of the school requisites for 2020 through an online distributor instead of the need to purchase individual items. Whilst the school is unable to organise this for next year we will seriously investigate how to make these requirements easier for families for next year. In the meantime we will endeavour to send out the requisite list as early as possible.

Thanking you for your understanding.

## Christmas Concert

Our school Christmas Concert this year will be held on **12 December** in the **Edith Angel Hall, OLMC**, arriving at 6.30pm for a 7:00pm start. This year we will be entertained by the students while they dance the night away showcasing **FOOTSTEPS** choreography.



The committee has discussed costumes and have decided on the following costume for each grade. There is no pressure to buy new items, a t-shirt with the majority of the nominated colour is a great choice.

**Dress:** Students are to wear **denim or black shorts/skirt** and white school sneakers. All students have been **allocated a colour t-shirt** to wear. We would like the shirt to be the majority of this colour. The tinsel can be worn in the hair (for girls) or around the head (all students). The students can also wear the tinsel around their wrists for added sparkle.

If you have any questions about costumes feel free to ask Mrs Standing and she will endeavour to clarify the information for you.

Grade	Colour T-shirt	Tinsel
Kindergarten	red	red
Year 1	red	red
Year 2	white	gold
Year 3	green	green
Year 4	green	green
Year 5	white	gold
Year 6	green	green

## Art Showcase

The SRC invite all students to participate in St Patrick's Art Showcase. Students can create an artistic piece around the theme - '*The Hope of Christmas*'. *Entries should be no larger than an A4 sized paper. We are asking for a gold coin donation for entry and all proceeds will go towards St Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal. Entries close 8 December.*

All artwork will be displayed throughout the school and students will have the opportunity to vote for the 'People's Choice Award' on 11 December. Please see your teacher with your gold coin, if you are interested in participating.

Please include the following information on the back of your entry:

**Name:**

**Class:**

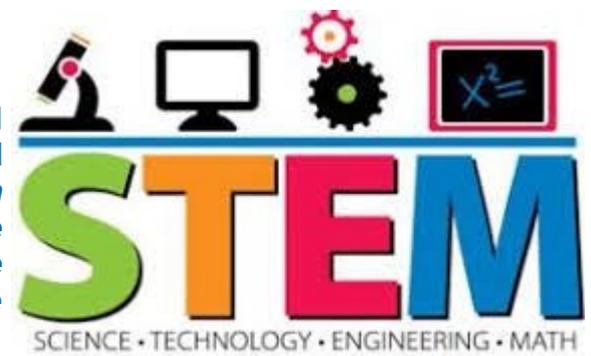
**Title of the Entry:**

From the Year 5 SRC members

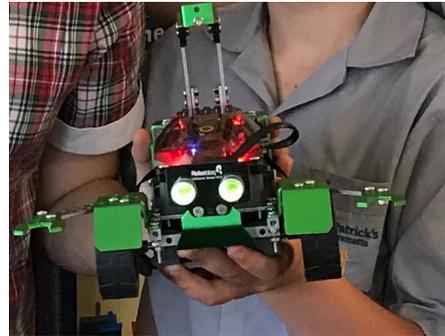
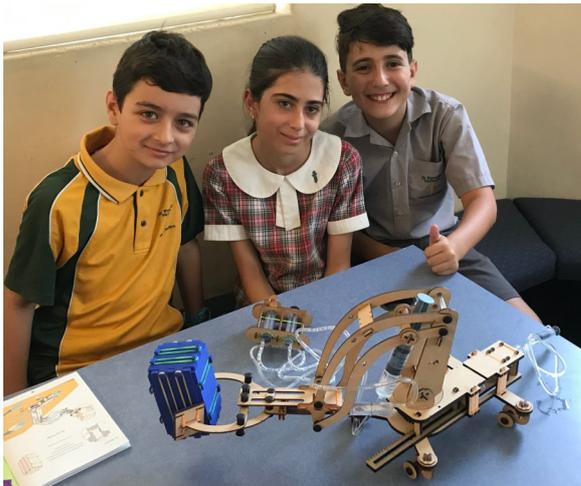


## From the STEM Makerspace

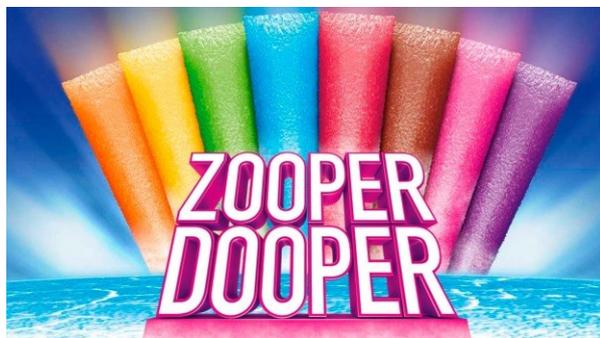
On Wednesday the 11th of December the STEM leaders and committee will be hosting a Science, Technology and Engineering **Marketplace** in the Library. Each class will be given a time when they can come to the library and explore the student's constructions, build with Lego and use robots in the 'Battlebot' challenge. We will send the schedule for the time slots to the class teachers as soon as possible.



The STEM Leaders  
Scarlett Khoury and Jacob Tamaro



Over the past few weeks we have been building an hydraulic crane in the STEM Makerspace. Gabriel made 'the claw', Andrew constructed the crane arm and Christine was responsible for the base. However, we all worked as a team. It has been challenging experience and fun. We will be back next year.



### Iceblocks

We will be selling ice-blocks every Friday. The money raised will be used to support an outreach program for families who are less fortunate than ourselves in our surrounding community. Ice blocks will sell for **\$1 during Primary and Infants lunch times.**

Thank you for your generosity in helping to make this festive season extra special for families in need this Christmas!



### Year 4 Nursing Home Visit

On the 4th December, Year 4 sang Christmas Carols to the elderly people at Marian Nursing home. Year 4 had so much fun and made the elderly people feel loved. Some were dancing and singing along, some were even sleeping. At the end



an elderly man from the nursing home said to us " that it bought back memories from his childhood, when he was in the choir". This was such a wonderful experience for Year 4.

Emma and Isabella 4B

## SCHOOL WELL-BEING COUNSELLING SERVICE

The wellbeing of children and young people in Catholic Education Diocese of Parramatta schools is of paramount importance. A sense of well-being and connectedness in schools promotes optimal development of the person and contributes to academic success.

Access to counselling services can be made by contacting your child's classroom teacher or Ms Fabri, who will then put forward a referral. Mrs Ricketts will then contact you for further information. Further details can be found in previous newsletters.



### NEXT LEVEL SPORTS SUMMER CLINIC DATES CONFIRMED:

Christmas Clinic  
- 2019: Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th of December  
(Christmas Eve pending numbers)

### January Clinic

- 2020: Wednesday 22nd, Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th of January.

Location: St Patrick's PS, Parramatta.

To book or for further enquiries: [nextlevelsports@live.com.au](mailto:nextlevelsports@live.com.au)

## Premier's Reading Challenge

A huge congratulations to the students who received a **Gold Award** for the completing the Premier's Reading Challenge in **FOUR consecutive years**. It is wonderful to see so many of our students enjoying reading a range of books and exploring literature. It is also great to see so many self-directed learners willing to take on and complete the challenge every year.

At St Patrick's, Years 3-6 currently participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge so well done to all of the Year 6 students who received the Gold Award. We also had a student from Year 3, Angelica Beame, who came to St Patrick's from a school that participates in the Challenge from Kindergarten and therefore has completed 4 consecutive years. Well done Angelica!



Congratulations to Zachery Khattar who achieved a **Platinum Award** for completing the Premier's Reading Challenge in **SEVEN consecutive years**, also coming to St Patrick's having started the challenge at a previous school.

The Premier's Reading Challenge has proven to be successful in encouraging students to read new and exciting books. We encourage all students to embrace the world of literature and read daily.

**Happy Birthday to the following children who will celebrate their birthday in the coming week:**



Beth Roumanus, Anthony Malek,  
Joseph Norman, Frank Agostino,  
Christian Barakat, Jim Sahyoun,  
Patrick Katar, Jacob Sayegh

## Its a Girl!!



Congratulations to the Don Family (Deon KA) on the birth of their baby girl, Olivia



## Spotlight on our Year 6 class Members

### Jeremy Moussa

What is your biggest fear?

Clowns are my biggest fear

Name five words describing you?

Funny, Challenging, Sporty, Happy and Adventurous

What is your favourite book?

The Hobbit

What is your favourite movie?

The Simpsons movie

What hobbies do you have?

Playing Video Games, Playing Sport, Reading and Drawing.

### Diana Granados Gavito

Name 5 words describing you?

Weird, Funny, Small, Crazy, Aqua

If you could have any superpower what would it be?

Invisibility because then I would be able to play tricks on my friends and family and I would be able to do whatever I want without anyone seeing.

What's your favourite place in the world?

Mexico where my cousins and family live.

What do you do in your spare time?

Read, dance, sing and flip around (Acro)

What's your favourite line from any book OR movie?

"Wingardium leviosa, not leviosa!"

### Camran Nasrulla

Least favourite dish?

My least favourite food is pork liver with soy sauce.

If you were to be an animal what would you be?

I would be a barracuda.

Who is your biggest inspiration?

My biggest inspirations are my parents.

If you were to have a superpower, what would it be?

I would have the power of teleportation.

If you had one million dollars to spend in a day what would you spend it on?

Make a shelter for abandoned puppies.

### Georgia Wright

Favourite book?

My favourite book is Little Brother.

Favourite celebrity/sport icon?

My favourite celebrity is Ariana Grande.

What is your biggest fear?

My biggest fear is spiders.

What sport (s) or music do you play?

I do running and dancing.

What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subject is writing.

# EXPLORING NUMERACY WITH YOUR CHILD

## YEAR 3 TO YEAR 6 – Understanding Fractions

Fractions is a Maths topic that is very relevant to everyday life. We use our knowledge of fractions to solve problems and make decisions all the time. Support your child by using mathematical language to talk about fractions. Here are some maths language terms your child uses at school:

- Fraction – any part of a whole, a group or a number (for example,  $\frac{3}{8}$  )
- Numerator – showing the number of parts of the whole (for example, in the fraction  $\frac{3}{8}$  , the numerator is 3)
- Denominator – shows how many equal parts the whole is divided into (for example, in the fraction  $\frac{3}{8}$  , the denominator is 8)
- Proper fraction – when the value of the numerator is less than the denominator (for example,  $\frac{3}{8}$  )
- Improper fraction – when the numerator is greater than or equal to the denominator (for example,  $\frac{5}{3}$  )
- Equivalent fraction – fractions that have the same value or amount (for example,  $\frac{2}{3} = \frac{4}{6}$  )
- Mixed numbers – a whole number and a fraction (for example,  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  )

*Children begin by learning that there are many numbers between whole numbers. A number line is an effective model to help your child understand this.*

### Connecting online

Here are some other useful websites you can access from home or the local library. Some are also available to download as apps on various devices:

- » <https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au> (select Primary Students tab)
- » <https://education.abc.net.au>
- » <https://www.wolframalpha.com/> (start with the Elementary Maths link)
- » <http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>
- » <https://www.scratchjr.org/>
- » <https://www.kodable.com/parents>

## St Patrick's Current Attendance Level = 85.9%

**K = 85.5%**

2 = 91.5%

4 = 90.3%

**6 = 81.8%**

**1 = 74.6%**

**3 = 88.0%**

**5 = 89.6%**



*sub tuum  
praesidium*

Our **VISION** is to be a child centred faith community within an innovative, interactive learning environment.

Our **MISSION** is to –

Live out the Gospel Values in a visibly Catholic tradition

Nurture students for Christian Leadership

Create a range of learning experiences which allow children to progress at their own level

Assist our students to develop into independent thinkers with a deep sense of responsibility and justice

Lead each individual towards reaching his/her potential

Generate a sense of community and compassion in which all Experience belonging.

**Opportunity for all**

### MASS TIMETABLE FOR ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL PARRAMATTA

#### Weekend Masses

Saturday 8.00am, 6.00pm (Vigil)  
Sunday 8.00am, 9.30am (Family)  
11.00am (Solemn), 6.00pm

#### Weekday Masses

Mon to Fri 6.30am, 12.30pm  
Public Hol 8.00am

#### Pastoral Team

**Bishop of Parramatta Most Rev.**

**Vincent Long Van Nguyen OFM CONV**

Very Rev Fr Robert Bossini

Fr Christopher Del Rosario Rev Deacon Willy Limjap

Meg Gale ( Sacramental Coord)

Milli Lee (Parish Admin Asst) Mindy Mercado (Youth Co-ord)

Patricia Preca (Parish Secretary) Donna Missio (Receptionist)

# Read & win

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Win a  
**GOOGLE  
CHROMEBOOK**

Read as many books as you can, tell us why you love them, and you could win one of **two Google Chromebooks** or one of **thirty gift vouchers** valued at **\$30**.

The more books you read, the more chances you have to win.

Enter online  
[www.parra.catholic.edu.au](http://www.parra.catholic.edu.au)

**Competition opens  
on 2 December 2019 and  
closes at 5pm on 2 February 2020**

Terms and conditions apply.

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Diocese of Parramatta

# CAPTIVATE

*the spirit of expression*



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Diocese of Parramatta

# STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

## DANCE After School Ensemble *Open to students in year 5-12*

This is a Commercial Dance Ensemble that will also focus on Foundation Dance Techniques, Commercial Dance Styles and Performance Techniques.

### **2020 Dance Ensemble details:**

Tuesdays (Commencing Term 1, Week 4)

3:45pm - 5:45pm

CathWest Innovation College, 91 North Parade, Mount Druitt

**Register here:** <https://forms.gle/dDHb2SWmnfo1znh7>

## DRAMA After School Ensemble *Open to students in year 7-12*

This Ensemble is for students from secondary school who are interested in developing their drama skills. Our work in the Ensemble will be focused on communication, improvisation, creativity, play building, voice, movement and dramatic collaboration.

### **2020 Drama Ensemble details:**

Thursdays (Commencing Term 1, Week 4)

3:30pm - 5:00pm

Patrician Brothers' College, 100 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown

**Register here:** <https://forms.gle/xPHnyjfu9b6HAZN9>

## Immersion *Open to students in year 6-12*

This six-day program is a collaboration between Dance, Drama and Music allowing the students to have an integrated, cross-art experience culminating in a performance at the end of the program.

The 2020 performance will be centred around the celebration of 200 years of catholic schooling in Australia and we hope to take it on tour both regionally and interstate.

### **Dates:**

#### TERM 1

Week 9 - Saturday 28 & Sunday 29 March

Week 10 - Friday 3 April, Saturday 4 April & Sunday 5 April

Week 11 - Monday 6 April

To audition please fill out this google form - <https://forms.gle/S1kpcDwVKJtVvAKn6>

## Showcase Leading Ensembles *Open to students in year 4-12*

Those with a higher level of experience and training can audition to be in one of the following leading ensembles:

- Voices (Yrs 4-6)
- Leading Instrumental Ensemble (Yrs 6-12)  
*Students must be of at least a 4th grade or equivalent on their instrument*
- Leading Dance Ensembles (Yrs 6-12) *Commercial & Contemporary*
- Leading Drama Ensemble (Yrs 6-12)
- Chamber Choir (Yrs 7-12)

To audition please fill out this google form - <https://forms.gle/93u72zMpqP7bLqm26>

## Singer/Songwriter Project *Open to students in year 7-12*

Do you enjoy writing your own songs? Are you a singer? Do you ever sing and accompany yourself on guitar or piano/keyboard? Do you have a book full of lyrics waiting to come to life musically? If you answered yes to some or all of these questions, then we want to hear from you. Jess + Matt (X-Factor/Sony Music) are continuing their collaboration with CAPTIVATE for the 2020 Singer-Songwriter Project.

<b>TERM 2</b>			
<b>Session</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Project Launch	Week 6	Tuesday 2 June	14:00 - 17:00
Workshop 1	Week 7	Tuesday 9 June	13:30 - 17:00
Workshop 2	Week 8	Monday 15 June	12:00 - 17:00
Recording Session	Week 9	Monday 22 June & Tuesday 23 June	Students will be allocated a 1hr Session
Performance Evening	Week 9	Tuesday 23 June	18:00 - 19:30

To audition please fill out this google form - <https://forms.gle/ZzTQ8LGWawoKaAhj7>

## Remix Project *Open to students in year 7-12*

Are you interested in digital music production? Do you enjoy creating your own music in GarageBand? Are you confident in arranging loops to create your own songs? Do you know how to 'play in' and record different parts? Do you know how to record your voice onto a track? Have you ever created your own remix of a song? If you answered yes to some or all of these questions, then we want to hear from you. Music producer Nyxen (Triple J Unearthed/Unknown Records) is continuing her collaboration with CAPTIVATE for the 2020 Remix Project.

<b>TERM 2</b>			
<b>Session</b>	<b>Week</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
Project Launch	Week 6	Tuesday 2 June	14:00 - 17:00
Workshop 1	Week 7	Tuesday 9 June	13:30 - 17:00
Workshop 2	Week 8	Monday 15 June	13:30 - 17:00
Performance Evening	Week 9	Tuesday 23 June	18:00 - 19:30
Recording Session	Week 9	Wednesday 24 June	Students will be allocated a 1hr Session

To audition please fill out this google form - <https://forms.gle/RLLGJPqTid6N2WSz8>