



# SHOBNALL PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

*"Change your thoughts and you change your world."*



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy week it has been! Since Monday, the school has once again been a hive of activity! Forest School has begun for Year 2, a very productive PFA meeting was held, and extra-curricular clubs are now in full swing. The work being produced in the choir sounds fabulous and Miss Lord is already training our 'Young Voices' superbly. You can read more about the children's achievements and what they have been learning in the 'Shobnall Showcase' further on in the newsletter. Keep it up children!

We will very soon be issuing a letter outlining the arrangements for parent consultations, scheduled for Monday 20 October and Wednesday 22 October 2025, 4.00 – 7.00pm. A link will be sent to your phone, which you will need to click on to book your appointment/s. Please ensure we have up-to-date numbers for you on our system so that you get your preferred slot/s.

Are you following us on Instagram [@shobnallprimary](https://www.instagram.com/shobnallprimary)? This is where you will get that insight into all the exciting things that are happening in school. Please note that this is now our primary social media platform. Our X.com page will still remain live but won't be used to post any school updates on from now.

Staffordshire County Council

HERE  
EVERY DAY  
READY  
ON TIME

Little Heroes Assemble

Find out more → SCAN ME

visit [staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes](http://staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes)

Thank you once again for your continued commitment to ensuring your children are here, ready, and on time every day. The whole school community continues to embrace our Little Heroes campaign – **HERE, EVERYDAY, READY, ON TIME** – and the children displayed their commitment to this during an assembly this week!

We hope that you have a great weekend and, as always, we look forward to seeing you again on Monday! Enjoy!

## Teaching Assistant Vacancy

We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to join our outstanding school. If you would like to apply, please click on the link [here](#).

For further enquires, contact the school on 01283 247410. We look forward to hearing from you!



## Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are a significant feature of our school calendar, and we have some dates for you to add to your diaries. All assemblies will start at 9.00am and will be held in the school hall:

- Year 6 – 13 November 2025
- Year 1 – 26 March 2026

We do hope you are able to join us. These dates have been added to the list at the end of the newsletter.

## Open Evening – Thursday 6 November 2025, 4.30pm – 6.00pm

Don't forget about our forthcoming **Open Evening** on **Thursday 6 November, 4.30pm to 6.00pm**.

The admissions window opens for places in our Reception and Nursery classes in November, so as well as welcoming potential new parents to look round our school, this is also a great opportunity for our existing parents to visit too and see some of the wonderful things that are happening!

So, please join us as we showcase our school, our vision, our values, our philosophy and our approaches. Our theme this year is 'Once Upon an Open Evening' and much of the work on display will be based around the joy of reading!

You will meet our staff and our children and get to see first-hand our work on the curriculum.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Year 7 Secondary School Applications



The application window for a September 2026 start at secondary or high school is now open. Parents can apply online at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions).

As in previous years, the local authority is no longer providing paper copies of the 'Information to Parents' booklet. Parents are able to access this booklet on their [website](#).

Deadline for applications is **31 October 2025**.

An invitation poster for the Open Evening. It features a brick building at the top with the text 'Happy Children, Inspired Learners' and 'SHOBNALL PRIMARY &amp; NURSERY SCHOOL'. Below this is the school's name in large letters, followed by 'PROUDLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR' and a blue button that says 'OPEN EVENING'. A collage of photos shows children and staff at an event. At the bottom, a yellow box says 'THURSDAY 6th NOVEMBER 4.30pm – 6.00pm'. A small text box at the very bottom says 'Please join us as we showcase our school, our vision, our values, our philosophy and our approaches. You will meet our staff and our children and get to see first-hand our incredible work. We look forward to seeing you there!'.

## PFA News!

The first PFA meeting of the year was held on Monday! Many thanks to all of our parent volunteers who came along and to those who have taken on committee roles. A series of fundraisers have been planned, and the dates have been added to the calendar at the end of the newsletter. For your reference, we are looking forward to:

- **Halloween Disco – Friday 17 October 2025**
- **Christmas Market – Friday 5 December 2025**
- **Valentine's Disco – Friday 6 February 2026**
- **Easter Bingo – Friday 20 March 2026**
- **Midsummer Cinema Night – Tuesday 19 May 2026**

Further details will follow, as and when each fundraiser gets a little closer, so please keep checking the newsletter for further information. Please add these dates to your diary for now though!

The PFA are as keen as always for more volunteers to come forward and help support our fundraising events. Please contact the school office if you would like to know more about how you can get involved...



## Harvest Assembly – Tuesday 7 October 2025

On **Tuesday 7 October**, the children will be celebrating harvest in our special Harvest Assembly. Reverend Simon is coming into school to lead the assembly so that we can come together as a school family to talk about harvest and say “Thank You” for the food and clothes that we have. Each year, we like to support a local charity with donations of either money or food to support those children, adults and families who are less fortunate than us. Therefore, please could I ask if you could make a small donation by sending your child in to school on Tuesday 7 October with a tin or packet of food (non-perishable items only). We will once again be supporting the YMCA charity who will come and collect the donations later during that day. Thank you!



## Shobnall Stars Booking Forms

Please don't forget to book your places a week in advance for **Shobnall Stars Early Birds**, or **Shobnall Stars Night Owls** which is our after-school club.

You will need to complete one form per child, on a weekly basis. Forms will need to be submitted by 12noon the Friday before you wish to book. Please also select your breakfast options in advance to assist with

catering, specifying dietary requirements if necessary. You can book your place by accessing the information booklets [here](#) or by scanning the QR codes below.



### Shobnall Stars – After School Club Closure, Tuesday 30 September 2025 AND Thursday 9 October 2025

It is with regret that **After School Club** will not be open on **Tuesday 30 September 2025 AND Thursday 9 October 2025**. This is due to staff having to attend essential training that cannot be rescheduled. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but the rest of the sessions run as normal.

### How Do You Help Birds Thrive In Your Garden?

Share your secrets for creating a bird-friendly haven in your garden!

Whether it's providing nesting spots, planting native flowers, or setting up feeders, we want to hear from you!

[Comment on this Facebook post](#) to get involved.



Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, we are creating a new strategy to help support nature and help it to thrive. It is called the Local Nature Recovery Strategy. The main purpose of the strategy is to identify locations across an area to create or improve habitats like woodlands, rivers, and meadows. [Find out more here.](#)



### Safety Tip!

With Snapchat's ever-evolving features, it's essential for parents and educators to stay informed about new and emerging safeguarding risks.

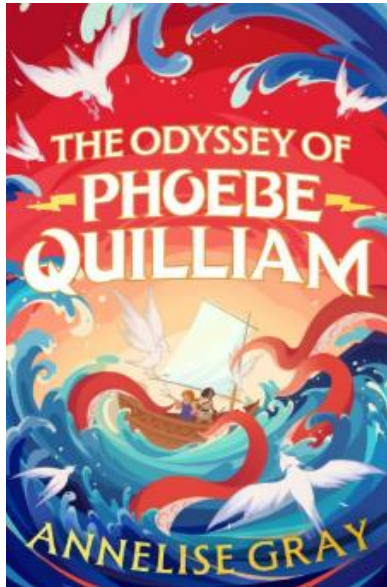
From AI chatbots to paid content options, this week's guide takes a closer look at the platform's most pressing dangers – plus the latest updates to be aware of.

Whether it's sextortion, overspending on Snapchat+ or the effects of screen addiction, our guide provides up-to-date advice to help keep young users safe.

It's essential reading for any parent or educator who wants to understand Snapchat's key risks – and support a safer, more positive experience for the children in their care.

## FREE Uniform!

We continue to accept donations of old uniform via the box situated outside the school office for any parents who wish to donate. Please could we ask that these are cleaned and in good condition before placing in the box outside the school office. If you need any uniform, you will need to pop down to the **Family Hub** on Waterloo Street, DE14 2NJ. The Family Hub do not have the capacity to reply to emails but do have uniform on site all year round and are open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.00pm.



## Reading Corner

This week's recommended read is for children aged 9+...

### **The Odyssey of Phoebe Quilliam**

*Written by Annelise Gray*

A mythical timeslip story about family, love, loss and memory, with an epic sea voyage at its heart, inspired by the legend of Odysseus.

Phoebe dreams of becoming an artist like her grandmother, Cass, a brilliant storyteller who has passed on her love of Greek myths to Phoebe. But Cass is disappearing before Phoebe's eyes, lost to a cruel illness that is destroying her memory. When Phoebe ruins Cass's seascape inspired by childhood holidays on the Greek island of Ithaca, she is mysteriously swept away to a fantasy world that resembles her favourite myth of all - The Odyssey.

## Attendance

Please read the [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) which has further information if you are unsure whether to send your child to school or not. We are always happy to advise in line with this guidance, so if you are still in doubt, please contact the school office if your child develops any symptoms and we can discuss this further with you.

**Children can come to school with mild respiratory illnesses.** This includes general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose, or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

Please note, we can only accept and administer **prescribed medicines** that are in-date, labelled, provided in the original container as dispensed by a pharmacist and include instructions for administration and dosage.

**If your child arrives late, it is the responsibility of the adult to report to the school office and sign the "Late Book", giving a reason for lateness. This is important so that the school office knows your child is in school and can mark your child in in the class register. The class registers in the classrooms close at 8.55am when lessons start.**

**When reporting an absence, please could we ask that parents contact the school office before 9.30am and state clearly reasons for absence.**









Let's keep working together to ensure attendance is as good as it can be! Remember, **every pupil, every day!** Thank you for your support.

This week's Attendance Champions are **Year 2!** Well done! Here are the latest figures...





Reception	97.1%	Target
Year 1	92.8%	97%
Year 2	100%	
Year 3	94.4%	
Year 4	97.9%	Overall (to date)
Year 5	98.4%	97.2%
Year 6	97.6%	
Overall	96.9%	

### Hot Lunch Options 22.09.25 – 26.09.25

WEEK 1	 MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Main dish	Margherita pizza with baked potato wedges	Pork sausage with creamy mash potato & gravy	Roast beef, with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy	Chicken burger with crispy diced potato	Crispy fish fingers with chunky chips
Vegetarian Main dish	Roasted vegetable pizza	 Vegan sausage & mash potato with gravy	 Quorn™ fillet with roast potatoes & gravy	Vegetarian burger with crispy diced potato	 Crispy vegetable fingers with chunky chips
Accompaniments	Peas & baked beans Salad bar	Peas & carrots Salad bar	Carrots & cauliflower Salad bar	Green beans & sweetcorn Salad bar	Peas & baked beans Salad bar
Desserts	Apple & cinnamon muffin	Shortbread	 Flapjack	Jam & coconut sponge	Ice cream
Fresh fruit or yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt	Fresh fruit or Yoghurt
Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection	Jacket potato and sandwich selection

**KEY**

-  1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY
-  MEAT FREE MONDAY
-  CHEF'S CHOICE
-  PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)

**Allergens and intolerances**  
All of our food is lovingly hand-crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.

### Head Teacher's Awards

Nursery	Muhib H	Theodore B
Reception	EVERYONE!	
Year 1	Simeon B-C	Amal M
Year 2	Gibriel D	Olivia W
Year 3	Riley F-T	Miley M
Year 4	Charlotte M	Hassnain Q
Year 5	Mohid S	Harry K
Year 6	Safa Q	Rehaan K

### OPAL Play Awards

Nursery	Yassin A
Reception	Nathaniel L
Year 1	Joey T
Year 2	Fatima A
Year 3	Jack P
Year 4	Evie T
Year 5	Layla N
Year 6	Safa Q

## Team Points

Team Points	Claymills	Rosliston	Sinai	Trent
Points (Week Ending 19.09.25)	49	37	34	54
Position	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> – 2 points	4 <sup>th</sup> – 1 point	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 points
Running Total	7	5	3	5

# SHOBNALL SHOWCASE!

Let's have a sneaky peek as to what has been going on in our classrooms this week...

## Nursery

This week we have had a wonderful time sharing all about what makes us special!

After sharing the book, 'What I Like About Me!' by Allia Zobel Nolan we were all excited to share what we liked about ourselves.

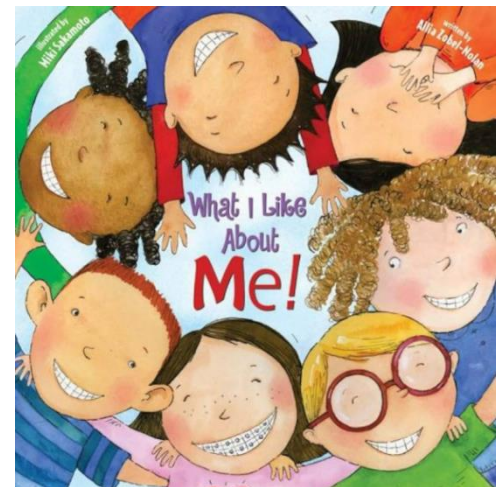
"My big smile." (Kylan)

"I have black hair." (Aatika)

"My eyes are blue." (Lara)

"I love my hair!" (Theo)

"I have got beads in my hair." (Zeenat)

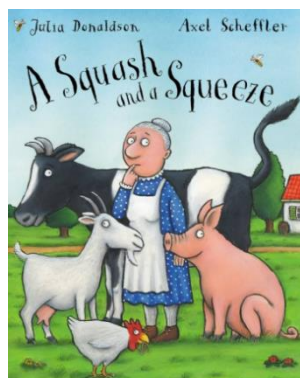


We then went onto create representations of our faces in different ways including using playdough and by painting self-portraits. We looked in the mirrors and thought carefully about our different features. Then we chose colours and different sized brushes to create our beautiful artwork.

During our maths adventures we have explored building with different shapes using some great vocabulary to describe and compare them. We worked hard to make different types of walls for Humpty Dumpty to sit on and thought carefully about our choices.

We are continuing to follow our class routines, transitions and expectations brilliantly!

We are excited to learn more about each other next week when we will be sharing everything about our families.



## Reception

This week in Reception, we've been exploring the theme *All About Me and My Family*. The children have had a wonderful time creating portraits of their families and building models of their homes using a variety of materials. They especially enjoyed the story *A Squash and a Squeeze*, which sparked lots of discussion and imaginative play. In our fine motor activities, we've been focusing on drawing circles and swirls to support pencil control and early writing skills. Our small world area has been buzzing with creativity as the children worked together to build communities and explore the idea of belonging. It's been a fantastic week full of learning, laughter, and connection!

## Year 1

This week, Year 1 have been excelling in their phonics lessons, showing great confidence in applying their segmenting and blending skills to read longer words.

In maths, we have been finding one more than a given number and practising counting backwards from 10 to 0. The children have shown excellent number knowledge and growing confidence with these skills.

In English, we continued practising writing phonics sentences, using segmenting and blending to spell known words correctly. It has been fantastic to see their independence grow in writing.

During our COOL time, we created a map of our classroom and explored the history of Queen Elizabeth II. In science, the children enjoyed investigating the properties of different materials, learning to describe them as stretchy, hard, opaque, or shiny. They loved testing and comparing objects to discover their features.

Well done, Year 1, for another fantastic week of learning!

## **Year 2**

Year 2 have had a fantastic week full of learning and creativity! In Maths, we've been exploring number lines and enjoying some tricky challenges, while in English we started our first piece of writing inspired by a diary entry from Nell Saunders during the Great Fire of London. History lessons took us back even further as we learned all about the plague, bringing the past to life. The highlight of the week was our first Forest School session, where the children loved using loppers to make wands, building shelters to "stay safe" from the fire, and creating magical potions in the mud kitchen – imagination and teamwork were everywhere! We also got hands-on in Art, making pinch pots, which everyone enjoyed. It has been a week full of fun, creativity, and fantastic learning in Year 2!



## **Year 3**

This week in Year 3, the children have been busy exploring life in the Stone Age! They created their very own cave art, experimenting with symbols and designs inspired by those found in real caves, and also learned how to place key events from the Stone Age on a timeline. In maths, we have been working hard on finding 1, 10 and 100 more or less of different numbers, practising our place value skills. In French, the children have been learning to describe different emotions, beginning to express how they feel in another language. A wonderful week of creativity, curiosity and learning!



#### Year 4

Year 4 have had another fantastic week of learning! In maths, we have been exploring place value to 1,000, using base 10 equipment and place value counters to help us. We also looked at finding 1,000, 100, 10 and 1 more or less of different numbers. In English, we revised key concepts such as different types of suffixes, as well as making sure we know how to use capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks correctly. All this has been great preparation for starting our first Year 4 English unit on Monday – we can't wait to get stuck in! In

science, we learned about electrical components in a series circuit, and in computing we discussed what the internet is made of. In RE, we thought about wealth and its connection to happiness, linking to our enquiry question: Is it possible for everyone to be happy? Well done on a great week, Year 4!

#### Year 5

Year 5 are speeding through their learning and trying hard in everything that they do in lessons. In Maths, the children have been continuing their learning around place value to 1,000,000. The class were particularly successful in comparing numbers based on their place value. Year 5 have been enjoying conducting a lot of research this week across all areas of the curriculum. In History, Year 5 researched the main changes that happened during the reigns of six different Tudor monarchs and presented these in their own information booklets. Keep up the great work Year 5.



#### Year 6

This week in Year 6, the children have been working hard across all areas of the curriculum. In Maths, we have been focusing on the four operations, with particular attention on adding and subtracting integers. The children have been practising strategies to solve problems efficiently and building confidence in tackling increasingly challenging calculations. In English, our focus has been on persuasive language. The children have explored how writers use specific techniques to influence their audience and have started applying these skills in preparation for writing their own persuasive texts. They are very excited to use their writing to convince people to buy their newly designed trainers! In History, we have been exploring propaganda, discussing how it was used in the past to influence opinions and shape public thinking. The children have been making thoughtful links between propaganda and modern-day advertising. In Science, our investigations have centred on periscopes and the fascinating ways they manipulate light. The children have enjoyed exploring how periscopes work and discussing their practical uses in the real world. Well done Year 6!

#### Diary Dates 2025-2026

Event	Date/Time
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Year 6 Class Assembly	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella, Lichfield Garrick	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 10.00am
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 2.00pm

School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Young Voices 2026	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Year 6 Laches Wood	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January to Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
PFA Valentine's Disco	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2026
PFA Easter Bingo	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
Year 1 Class Assembly	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026, 9.00am
Year 5 Hampton Court Palace	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
School Closes for Easter	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Key Stage 2 SATs Week	Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
PFA Midsummer Cinema Night	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
School Closes for Half-Term	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2026
School Reopens for Pupils	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026
Year 4 Multiplication Check	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2026 to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
Year 1 Phonics Screening Check	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2026 to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
<b>JTMAT INSET Day</b>	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026
School Closes for Summer	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2026, 2.00pm
<b>INSET Day</b>	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026

### Autumn Term Diary Dates

Event	Date/Time
<b>Shobnall Stars Night Owls (After School Club)</b> <b>CLOSED for staff training</b>	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Harvest	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
<b>Shobnall Stars Night Owls (After School Club)</b> <b>CLOSED for staff training</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
PFA Halloween Discos	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reception, Y1, Y2 – 3.45pm – 5.00pm</li> <li>• Y3, 4, 5 &amp; 6 – 5.15pm – 6.30pm</li> </ul>
Parents' Evening	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025 Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025
School Closes for Half Term	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2025
Open Evening	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 4.30-6.00pm
Odd Socks Day	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2025
Year 6 Class Assembly	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am
Parent Coffee Morning	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, 9.00am – 10.00am
Children in Need	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2025
Year 5 Whitemoor Lakes	Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 to Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2025 inclusive
Christingle	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025
A Nursery Noel	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am
PFA Christmas Market	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
Reception / Year 1 Nativity	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Whole School Trip to Pantomime – Cinderella, Lichfield Garrick	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 10.00am
Year 2 / Year 3 Nativity	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 9.15am AND 2.15pm
Christmas Lunch / Christmas Jumper Day	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
School Closes for Christmas	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025, 2.00pm
School Reopens for Pupils	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026



Funding for Selected Routes

Full or Part-Time Routes

Gain School Experience

# Train to Teach

in Local Schools

Primary (3-7) · Primary (5-11) · Secondary (11-16)



The John Taylor SCITT  
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