

# Jayhawk Journal



**Week of Oct 30 - Nov 3rd**

## ***Principal's Corner***

We are looking forward to our first spirit week of the year! Parents please look at the attached flyer that shows what is the theme for each day this week. We pride ourself on working hard here at Johnson, but we also enjoy having fun with our students as these are the moments that build our community and make us who we are. We hope everyone enjoys this week, can't wait!

*-Mr. Traub*

## ***Staff Member of the Week:***

We would like to congratulate Ms. Dimmer for being voted this award by her colleagues this week!

Mrs. Dimmer is one of our ESAPs (Elementary Student Assistance Providers) here at Johnson. She has had many roles over the years, and seems to thrive, no matter what the role or title is. She has a heart of gold, and is able to shine that onto anyone that she meets. She is absolutely adored by her colleagues, and always finds a way to do what is best for all of our students here!

## ***PBIS Update***

This week we spent time going over our SOAR Expectations for the cafeteria. Also, this week our SOAR Clubs began, something we will look to implement at the end of every month. Students had the option to choose from 10 different clubs that they got to join for an hour on Friday. Our PBIS Team will continue to look this over and make improvements during the year. We will be pulling in students at the beginning of November to look over our data for the month of October.

## **Points of Pride**

- ⇒ We have implemented our first round SOAR Clubs and students had a blast!
- ⇒ Our Car Loop continues to improve each day and we are under 10 minutes!
- ⇒ Our staff continues to learn from one another and work together in Professional Learning Teams each week!
- ⇒ One student from every class was nominated for student of the week!



## **Planning for the future:**

### **October 2023**

- Spirit Week 10/30 - 11/3
- Halloween Fun 10/31

### **November 2023**

- No School 11/7
- Buddy's Pizza PTA Fundraiser 11/9

## **Week At A Glance**

Monday 10/30

Tuesday 10/31

Wednesday 11/1

Thursday 11/2

Friday 11/3

***Our Mission: Johnson Upper Elementary School is committed to providing a safe, respectful environment that supports the academic and socio-emotional needs of every student as they develop the necessary skills to become capable, confident, life-long learners.***

***Keep soaring Jayhawks!***

## **My favorite part of being a Jayhawk is ...**

Working with such caring and hilarious staff  
and helping kids be the best humans they can be.  
I love my Jayhawk family!

### **Some of My Favorite Things:**

#### **Place To Travel :**

The Upper Peninsula

#### **Foods:**

Guacamole and Chips

#### **Color:**

Turquoise

#### **College:**

Eastern Michigan University

#### **TV Show:**

Adventure Time

#### **Sports Team:**

Detroit Tigers

#### **School Subject:**

Art & Social/Emotional Learning

### **Staff Member of the Week**



**Mrs. Dimmer**

## **My hobbies:**

Collecting rocks and crystals, puzzles, art, bowling,  
and books!

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***Keep soaring Jayhawks!***

# PTA Updates

Week of October 30th

Due to your support, PTA is able to provide 5,000 pieces of candy for the school to help students celebrate!

At our last PTA meeting, we randomly selected 2 members to win Target gift cards. Congratulations to Jeremy Byrnes and Erin Hulett. We appreciate your support of the PTA.

Johnson PTA now has an email! If you have any ideas or questions, please feel free to contact us at [johnsonupperpta@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonupperpta@gmail.com).

Instead of cooking on Thursday, November 9th, dine out at Buddy's on Plymouth Road in Livonia from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. and some of the proceeds will come back to Johnson PTA. Be sure to mention Johnson PTA. Dine-in or carry out will work.

Our first Color Run was a great success! Our community raised \$23,000!!! Thank you to the incredibly generous Johnson community for supporting the students. They had a blast participating in the Color Run. We look forward to seeing Mr. Traub and Mrs. Samouelian pied at an upcoming date. Raffle prizes will be raffled off soon.

Reflections Program- It celebrates the many skills of our students and encourages them to pursue artistic expression in a number of different ways including Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, and Visual Arts. [Entry Form](#)

-Johnson Spirit Wear is available all year. Check out <https://www.johnsonupperpiritwear.com/> to order some Johnson clothing today.

**-Save the date for our next PTA meeting on November 16th at 6 pm. We can't wait to share what we have accomplished so far this year!**

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# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th



## Spirit Week October 30 - November 3



Monday October 30 - Stand Up 2 Cancer Day (Pink Out for Breast Cancer Awareness or wear other bright colors)



Tuesday October 31 - Dress for Halloween (Costumes must be school appropriate, no masks or toy weapons)



Wednesday November 1 - Relax and Roll Into November (Pajama Day)



Thursday November 2 - Twinning Thursday (Pick a friend or a few, and dress alike!)



Friday November 3 - Jayhawk Spirit Day (Black, Red, and Everything Johnson Jayhawk you can wear!)



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*Keep soaring Jayhawks!*



# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th

## Livonia Public Schools UPPER ELEMENTARY MENU November 2023

MICHIGAN SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM NO COST FOR MEAL **ALL ENTREES INCLUDE CHOICE OF SIDE ITEMS AND MILK** **COST FOR MILK ONLY: 0.60** THIS MENU SUBJECT TO CHANGE					**UPPER EL 3 <sup>rd</sup> CHOICE OPTIONS** Turkey & Cheese and Ham & Cheese Wraps Offered Daily	
10/29	10/30	10/31	11/01	11/02	11/03	04
	<b>HOT DOG ON BUN</b> (33g Carbs) Baked Beans (29g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	 <b>MACARONI &amp; CHEESE</b> (38g Carbs) Roll (15g Carbs) Carrot Coins (6g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	 <b>DOMINO'S DAY</b> <b>CHEESE 30g Carbs</b> <b>PEPPERONI 29g Carbs</b> <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	<b>MINI CORN DOGS</b> (24g Carbs) Baked Beans (29g Carbs) Tater Tots (30g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	<b>CHEESE BOSCO STICKS</b> (17g Carbs) Dipping Sauce (6g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
	<b>NACHO SUPREME</b> (35g Carbs) Salsa (19g Carbs) <b>GRILLED CHEESE</b> (31g Carbs)	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> <b>STAFF</b> <b>PROFESIONAL DEVELOPMEN T</b>	 <b>DOMINO'S DAY</b> <b>CHEESE 30g Carbs</b> <b>PEPPERONI 29g Carbs</b> <b>GRILLED CHEESE</b> (31g Carbs)	<b>CRUNCHY TACO STICK</b> (32g Carbs) Salsa (19g Carbs) Green Beans (11g Carbs) <b>GRILLED CHEESE</b> (31g Carbs)	<b>CHEESY BREADSTICKS</b> (28g Carbs) Marinara Sauce (8g Carbs) Sweet Peas (11g Carbs) <b>GRILLED CHEESE</b> (31g Carbs)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	<b>SOUTHWEST PULL-APART</b> (33g Carbs) Carrot Coins (6g Carbs) Fruit <b>MUNCHABLE</b>	<b>CHICKEN NUGGETS</b> (13g Carbs) Roll (19g Carbs) Corn (13g Carbs) <b>MUNCHABLE</b>	 <b>DOMINO'S DAY</b> <b>CHEESE 30g Carbs</b> <b>PEPPERONI 29g Carbs</b> <b>MUNCHABLE</b>	<b>ROTINI W/MEAT SC</b> (24g Carbs) Roll (16g Carbs) Broccoli (4g Carbs) <b>MUNCHABLE</b>	<b>CALZONE</b> (35g Carbs) Marinara Sauce (8g Carbs) Fruit <b>MUNCHABLE</b>	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	<b>PANCAKE/SAUSAGE ON A STICK</b> (21g Carbs) Potato (30g Carbs) Juice (16g Carbs) <b>TURKEY / CHEESE STICKS W/ CRACKERS</b> (17g Carbs)	<b>TWIN MINI CHEESEBURGERS</b> (30g Carbs) Broccoli (4g Carbs) <b>TURKEY / CHEESE STICKS W/CRACKERS</b> (17g Carbs)	 <div>NO SCHOOL – THANKSGIVING RECESS</div>			
26	27	28	29	30	12/01	02
	<b>HOT DOG ON BUN</b> (33g Carbs) Baked Beans (29g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	<b>MACARONI &amp; CHEESE</b> (38g Carbs) Roll (15g Carbs) Carrot Coins (6g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	 <b>DOMINO'S DAY</b> <b>CHEESE 30g Carbs</b> <b>PEPPERONI 29g Carbs</b> <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	<b>PIZZA CRUNCHERS</b> (41g Carbs) Corn (13g Carbs) Dipping Sauce (8g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	<b>CHEESE BOSCO STICKS</b> (17g Carbs) Dipping Sauce (6g Carbs) <b>YOGURT PARFAIT</b> (38g Carbs)	

\*THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER\*

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Keep soaring Jayhawks!

## Important Reminders

Week of October 30th



### ***LPS Food Pantry and Clothing Cove***

If interested,  
please contact  
any of the  
following at your  
school for help  
signing up:

- Social Worker
- EST/ ESAP
- SAP
- Counselor
- Principal



The LPS Clothing Cove serves our Livonia Public Schools children and their immediate families with access to gently used clothing.

The LPS Food Pantry provides monthly food boxes, toiletry items and cleaning supplies that supplement a family's living needs.

Both services help provide work skills to our students in our Franklin Transition Program.



# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th

## CAPTURE YOUR MEMORIES IN THIS YEAR'S JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL YEARBOOK!

treering

**10% OFF**  
purchase by  
October 31



### Customize Your 2 Free Pages

Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive & more.

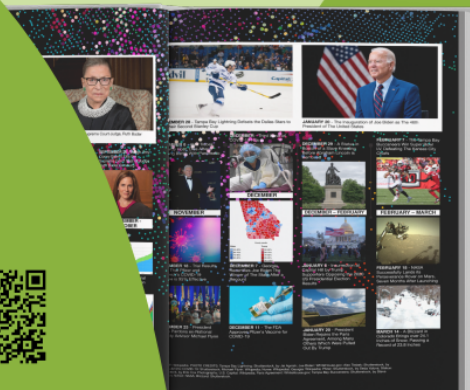
Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.

The 2 Custom Pages are FREE and are printed ONLY in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages is just \$0.99.

### To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.

- 1 Go to: [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate)
- 2 Enter your school's passcode:  
1016976710002014



Regular price: **\$18.71**

Create Custom Pages by: **Mar 29**

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## **Important Reminders**

**Week of October 30th**

# **AFTER THE BELL**

**LET'S HAVE FUN LEARNING THE FUNDAMENTALS OF**

## **BASEBALL/SOFTBALL**

WEDNESDAYS

11/8/2023 - 12/6/2023

3:45 - 4:45 **AT**

JOHNSON UPPER ELEMENTARY  
IN THE GYM AFTER THE BELL

USING PLASTIC BATS & BALLS  
MITTS WILL BE PROVIDED

**REGISTER AT**

**[DAWGPOUNDBASEBALLORG@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DAWGPOUNDBASEBALLORG@GMAIL.COM)**

**\$75.00**

**CASH APP TO \$DAWGPOUNDBASEBALL**

**ANY QUESTIONS CALL**

**AARON RICHARD**

**248-521-0597**



# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th

[E-Backpack Mail - Click & Scroll to Find Out What's Happening! \(livoniapublicschools.org\)](http://livoniapublicschools.org)



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# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th



## Annual Bowling For Backpacks – Livonia

Families, Groups, Individuals

Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile Road, Livonia, MI

**Saturday, November 18, 2023, 2:30pm - 4:30pm (registration begins at 1:30pm)**

**\$22.50 (bowler) \$12.50 (Non-bowler)**

***Bowler includes: 2 hours of bowling, shoes rental, 2 slices pizza and pop  
access to raffle gifts, doorprize***

***Non-bowler includes: 2 slices pizza and pop, access to raffle gifts, doorprize***

**Opportunities to sponsor lanes, donate raffle items**

## DOORPRIZE, RAFFLE. 50/50 DRAWING

*Please Register online prior to the event!*

Purchase Tickets at <https://guestli.st/757722>

Or Visit our website at [www.biablivonia.org](http://www.biablivonia.org)

For special accommodations or information, contact  
Audra Rons at [audrarons@gmail.com](mailto:audrarons@gmail.com)

**Proceeds to Benefit Blessings in a Backpack-Livonia for the children of Livonia Public Schools**

Blessings in a Backpack is a non-profit organization 501(c)(3). All donations are tax deductible.  
This organization provides backpacks of food each weekend to at-risk, school-age children in the Livonia School System.

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# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th

## BOWLING FOR BACKPACKS SPONSORSHIP/DONATION FORM to Benefit Blessings in a Backpack – Livonia

November 18, 2023 Merri-Bowl Lanes, 30950 Five Mile, Livonia, MI

Name of Company or Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I/My company would be interested in participating in the following manner:

**Sponsorships** ☐ Gold \$ 500 ☐ Silver \$ 250 ☐ Bronze \$ 100 ☐ Door Prize \$100+

☐ Check -- Payable to Blessings in a Backpack-Livonia.

☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Amer. Expr. ☐ Discover

Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

V/Code \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Auction / Raffle Donation

☐ Enclosed is the donated item(s)

☐ Please call to schedule pick-up arrangements

Donation: Please provide a detailed description of the donation

Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please remit to: BIAB - Livonia, P.O. Box 51603, Livonia, MI 48151

Or Contact: Audra Rons at [audrarons@gmail.com](mailto:audrarons@gmail.com)

Blessings in a Backpack is a non-profit organization 501(c)(3). This organization provides backpacks of food each weekend to At-Risk school age children in the Livonia School System.

For more information, go to [www.biablivonia.org](http://www.biablivonia.org) or find us on Facebook at [BlessingsInABackpackLivonia](https://www.facebook.com/BlessingsInABackpackLivonia)

Tax ID #26-1964620

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# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th

## GOOD & STRONG CLUB



## Social club for tweens, teens and adults with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

### Friday July 14

Meet and Greet/Information night with Karaoke

### Friday August 4

Makers and Mentors - make a treat

### Friday September 15

Karaoke

### Friday October 20

Makers and Mentors - make a treat  
Halloween costumes encouraged

### Friday November 10

Karaoke

### Friday December 8

Holiday Party  
(may take place offsite)

at Anastasia and Katie's  
Coffee Shop & Cafe

19215 Merriman Road in Livonia

Cost - \$5

**Advance Registration Required**

[anastasiaandkatiecoffee.com/](http://anastasiaandkatiecoffee.com/)

Light snack included

Coffee shop open for food purchases

Time:

**Adults 5:00-6:30 pm**

**Tweens/Teens 7:00-8:30 pm**

**Volunteers Wanted!**

[anastasiaandkatiecoffee.com/good-strong-club-info](http://anastasiaandkatiecoffee.com/good-strong-club-info)

This event is made possible  
by a grant from the  
Livonia Community Foundation.



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# Important Reminders

Week of October 30th

## ABOUT MI WORK MATTERS

### WHO ARE WE?

Mi Work Matters, (pronounced My Work Matters!) is a small 501(c)(3) Michigan non-profit organization founded in 2018 by a group of families, caregivers and advocates of people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD). We are on a mission to create, sustain, and advocate for meaningful, paid employment opportunities for people with I/DD.

We believe in the unique significance and unlimited potential of each and every person.

Everyone's Dreams Matter!

### WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?

"Alone on my parent's couch" is not a likely answer. Yet that is the reality for most adults with disabilities facing an over 80% unemployment rate. At age 26 students age out of school-based transition programs and are left to pursue employment opportunities that simply do not exist.

In addition to a lack of job opportunities, there is also a pay disparity between individuals with disabilities and those without. People with disabilities are more likely to make below minimum wage. In 2019, more than 5,000 workers with disabilities in Michigan earned about \$3.61 an hour through a waiver to the Fair Labor Standards Act. **We know we can do better here in Michigan!**

### GETTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES TO WORK

We create paid work opportunities through grassroots advocacy and directly employing people with I/DD at our award winning, inclusive program – Anastasia and Katie's Coffee Shop & Cafe.

*"We first met Mi Work Matters in December 2019 when 4 Ambassadors from their organization visited our corporate office in Novi, MI. They enlightened many of our business leaders about the benefits of hiring people with Down syndrome. It was then that we realized our company had a business need and that there was a talent pool available to help us address that need."*

– Theresa Gutierrez, Sr. Director, HR, Talent & Culture, Learning Care Group

### ANASTASIA AND KATIE'S COFFEE SHOP & CAFE



The coffee shop is Mi Work Matters first employment program. It was opened to create a place where people with disabilities can work in an inclusive and supportive environment. Through the coffee shop and our current Employment Ambassadors advocacy program we are starting the conversation about how businesses can hire somebody with a disability and why they should.

*Anastasia and Katie's was awarded the Livonia Chamber of Commerce 2021 Community Enhancement Award!*

### EMPLOYMENT AMBASSADORS + EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS

These amazing young adults earned money giving presentations to area businesses on the advantages of hiring people with Down syndrome. Mi Work Matters worked with the ambassadors to create a presentation and provided training in the area of public speaking. This resulted in our first employment partnership. Learning Care Group successfully hired one of the Ambassadors to work in their corporate offices in Novi following one of the presentations.

If you would like to learn more about working with and employing people with developmental disabilities please contact us!



To learn more or support our work, visit us at:  
[MiWorkMatters.org](https://MiWorkMatters.org) or email [info@MiWorkMatters.org](mailto:info@MiWorkMatters.org)



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# Important Reminders

**Week of October 30th**

**Upcoming Spirit Days** - Spirit Days are one of our favorite things we do here at Johnson. We will also have a Spirit Week October 30th - November 3rd. Please see the attached flyer that gives specifics. We WILL allow students to dress up for Halloween on October 31st. Costumes must be school appropriate.

**EMERGENCY CARD INFORMATION** - It is required that each family review the emergency contact information that is on file at Johnson. You can view this information in parent connect. **WHY?** in the event of an emergency, sick child, severe weather, we may need to reach you. The process to verify your emergency contact information is correct is simple. Simply log into Parent Connect and follow the prompts.

**DROPOFF AND PICKUP TIMES** - Students cannot be dropped off for school in the morning prior to 8:15am. This is when the doors open for breakfast and when staff is available to supervise students. Prior to this time, all school doors are locked. Students are not to be left unattended, arrangements must be made. Also, dismissal is at 3:30pm daily and at 11:45am on half days. It is required that all students who are picked up in the car loop be picked up no later than 3:45pm. Staff is not available to supervise students beyond that time. The district offers a SACC program for those students that cannot be picked up by 3:45pm. Please contact SACC at (734)744-2966 to make arrangements.

**COMMUNICATION** - The beginning of the day and the end of the day are always busy times in the school office. At Johnson, we realize there are always unexpected circumstances that arise and we will do everything in our power to accommodate unplanned interruptions. We also ask parents to call the office after 9:00am and prior to 3:00pm if they are making alternate transportation arrangements for their students' trip home. Teachers frequently use the end of the day time for classroom reorganization, recess and/or specials and catching up to a class can be a challenge. We appreciate your help. The office phone number is (734)744-2740.

**OFFICE HOURS** - Mr. Traub, Principal and Mrs. Samouelian, Assistant Principal, are available via email, telephone and in person. If you have any questions or concerns, please set an appointment to discuss your situation privately with one of our Administrators. The Johnson school office is open M-F from 7:45am to 4:15pm. Teachers are generally unavailable during the day as they are teaching. If you have a concern, please reach out to teachers via email or contact the office directly at (734) 744-2740. Students will not be permitted back into the building for forgotten items once the office is closed for the day!

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# Important Reminders

**Week of October 30th**

**ATTENDANCE LINE** - It is vital for academic success that your student be in attendance daily, ready to learn. If your student is absent on any given day, please contact the school office and let them know. This helps reduce phone calls home to verify a student's absence and it helps keep accurate attendance records. A reminder, if a student has a fever or has vomited, they are not to return to school for 24 hours once the fever is gone and/or vomiting has stopped. In this time of concern over congested or cold/coughing students still coming to school, we will leave this judgment to the parents. We simply ask you to make sure your student is healthy and not a distraction to the learning environment. Thank you for your cooperation. The attendance line is available at (734) 744-2740 ext 1.

**MEDICATIONS AT SCHOOL** - Oftentimes a student will come to the office with a medical need. The office staff is able to dispense medication as needed as long as the medication is: 1) Delivered to school by a parent in the original unopened package or prescription container, {NO MEDICATION can be brought to school by students} 2) As long as there is an individual, signed medical authorization on file for each medication {form available in the office and online} Medication includes but is not limited to cough drops, aspirin, Tylenol, Advil, prescription drugs, creams, lotions, vitamins, inhalers, EpiPens, etc.... We cannot administer any medication that is not listed on file in the office. Please reach out to Jill Jablonski in the office to set up a time to bring in medications and to review your student's medical needs when they are in the building.

**BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK (BIAB)** - We work in conjunction with BIAB to provide weekend meals to those families in need of food assistance. If this is something you would like to participate in, all you have to do is fill out the form that came home with students today or simply contact the office at (734) 744-2740 and we will sign you up. Delivery will begin the following week.

**SOCIAL MEDIA** - JOHNSON has a Facebook page filled with stories of our daily student activities/projects/concerts and general shenanigans. Be sure to like our page to see our students and staff in action! In addition, Johnson is fortunate to have an amazing PTA and they have a facebook as well! Information about how to join the PTA, events, volunteering, contributing and general information are included in the welcome packet.

**"There are no shortcuts to any place worth going."**

**-Beverly Stills**

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