



Becket Keys Church of England School

12th November 2021

SCHOOL REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

IN THIS ISSUE

Mrs Trebess Writes:



The weather was kind to us yesterday and allowed us to gather the entire school together on the playground, with a service to mark and commemorate Remembrance Day. Many of our students wore their poppies with pride, and without exception, students marked the occasion with dignity and respect. It was a privilege to stand with them to mark such an occasion.

The story of why poppies are used as a symbol of remembrance is, in equal measures, wondrous and poignant.

During WW1, much of the fighting took place in Western Europe. The countryside was blasted, bombed and fought over repeatedly. Previously beautiful landscapes turned to mud; bleak and barren scenes where little or nothing could grow.

There was a notable and striking exception to the bleakness - the bright red poppies. These resilient flowers flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, growing in the thousands upon thousands. The war created prime conditions for poppies to flourish.

Rather ironically, the destruction that was wrought by humankind created the very conditions in which poppies thrive. The continual bombardment disturbed the soil and brought the

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Church of England School

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form recently took part in the London Challenge as part of the Enrichment Day.

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Year 8 School Trip

Exciting news about the school trip that has been organised for the Year

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Geography Department

A report from the A-Level Geography field trip to Blencathra.

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Details of an excellent resource for students to use at home.

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Art & Textiles

Excellent work from our talented students in this department.

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seeds to the surface. They were then fertilized by nitrogen in the explosives and lime from the shattered rubble of the buildings.

It was in the second year of the war – in 1915 – that the first records appeared in letters sent home of no-man’s land being “ablaze” with scarlet poppies. From this time onwards, letters written by soldiers constantly referred to the fields of poppies and featured heavily in soldier’s poems.

We remember them.

Yesterday morning, all members of our school community gathered on the playground for a Memorial Service led by Mrs Sharp and Mr. Silver. Liam Apicella-Howard sounded the beginning of the two-minute silence with The Last Post and signaled the end with The Reveille. You can view this here: <https://youtu.be/9NJZTnIn-GM>

In addition, Becket Keys was invited by the Royal British Legion to be represented at a remembrance service for schools at Brentwood War Memorial today. Luke Benson, Isabelle Tilbrook and Alice Bennett attended the service and laid a wreath on behalf of the school community.

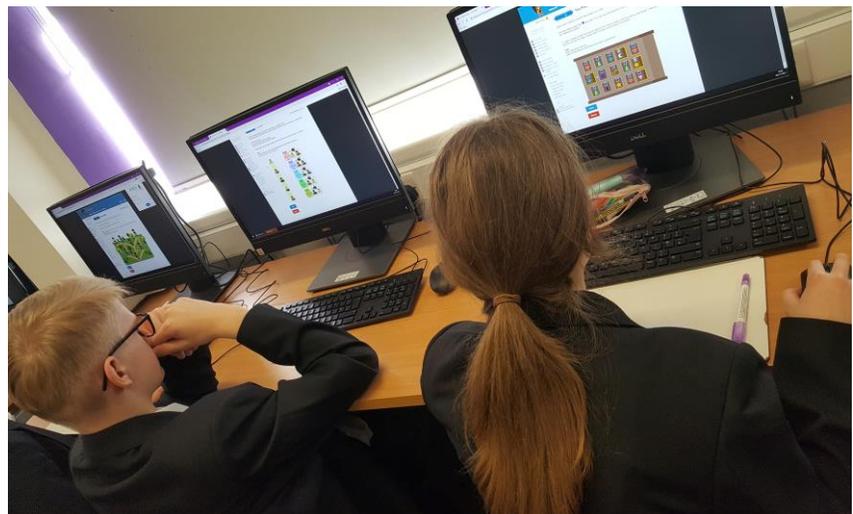
Mrs Trebess
Deputy Headteacher



The Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge



Over the next two weeks, all Year 7, Year 8 & Year 9 students will be taking part in the first round of the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge during their Computer Science lessons. The UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, supported by the Raspberry Pi Foundation, is designed to get students excited about computing and computational thinking. It is a problem-solving contest with questions inspired by topics in computer science.





The 11th November A Day to Remember

As soldiers fought for others,
Scared children still waiting with their mothers,

Everyone wanted them to come back home,
Whilst they're still facing battles alone

Thinking about them night and day,
Wondering why they had to go away

Receiving that call that they are not coming home,
Leaves me feeling empty and alone.

We thank the brave soldiers for making us proud,
We gather as a country in a great big crowd.

Standing in two minutes silence
We reject the unwanted violence.

We thank you day after day
In our thoughts we pray

The 11th November,
A day to remember.

In peace they gently lay.

Annie Allardyce
Year 8



Sixth Form – London Challenge

As part of the Enrichment Day the Sixth Form students explored London in small groups and competed against each other in different events. They had a series of cryptic clues to solve in different areas of the city, visited as many areas of the Monopoly board as possible, travelled on as many different modes of transport they could and work out unique landmarks to be pictured with. A great day exploring the capital city!





Year 8 Trip 2022 – Manor Adventure



Please note this is the main trip for Year 8 this year, due to the uncertainty of foreign travel.

Year 8 students will have the chance to go on an end of year trip to Norfolk Lakes, run by Manor Adventure!!

This exciting trip will take place from Friday 27th May to Sunday 29th May 2022, leading into the Whitsun holiday.

Due to uncertainties around what travel will be possible with COVID, we are not undertaking any foreign trips this year so the Year 8 Madrid/China trips will not be taking place. However, this will be an exciting replacement trip, especially as students were unable to go to Bushcraft in year 7!

The trip overall costs £254 with a deadline for the £60 deposit by today, **Friday 12th November;** **this deadline was extended by one week** in case there was any confusion over the Madrid/China trips still running.

Manor Adventure has been operating since 1991, now in seven different locations, with Norfolk Lakes opening in 2016. This adventure trip will give students the opportunity to learn new skills outside of the classroom that will benefit everyone enormously by developing inner confidence, social skills and teamwork through trying new activities.

Throughout the three day residential trip, students will take part in nine different activities including obstacle courses, high ropes and many, many more!

For more information, please visit <https://www.manoradventure.com/presentation/norfolklakesupperbreak.html#/>

We have had a great response for this adventure and hope your son/daughter is excited for their first secondary school residential trip!

Miss Tanner
Head of Year 8



Geography A-Level Field Trip Blencathra 2021



We jumped straight into investigating and understanding the physical and human geography of the area.



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As the Sixth Form Geography students huddled together like penguins at the entrance to Shenfield railway station, eagerly anticipating their trip “up north” and travelling across London to the Lake District National Park, it dawned upon them that packing lighter would have been appropriate.

The weather was kind to us, and the students were ‘blown away’ by the scenery and contrasting environments that we explored.

Some of them were also questioning if the kit list that they had been provided with was, indeed appropriate for the NEA investigations.



We enjoyed a sustainable trip up to Keswick and drank in the fantastic scenery upon our arrival.



Investigations took us to the coast to assess the sustainable coastal management of Silloth which involved some valuable learning experiences about using fieldwork equipment.



We also explored Keswick to study the central topic of 'place' which involved interacting with the locals; which the students took to like ducks to water.



With a bit of exertion, we managed to go beyond our comfort zone and reach new heights of learning!

When asked if it was worth it, there was a resounding positive response. Thank you to all involved.

Mr Taylor Smith – Head of Geography



Drama Department – Digital Theatre

- 15 Heroines: The War (Related to social and emotional learning)
- A Blues for Nia (Related to social and emotional learning)
- A concise introduction to Oscar Wild (A written resource)
- A Streetcar Named Desire: Chelsea Walker on directing (Interview)
- A Disappearing Number (A production relatable to Math)
- Othello
- Great Expectations
- An American in Paris (Musical)
- 42nd Street (Musical)

I wanted to make you aware of how easy it is to access some great quality theatre from the comfort of your own home.

The school have purchased an amazing online product, **Digital Theatre +**. It allows students the opportunity to view streamed theatre and access many different teaching and learning resources.

Most KS3 students know how to access DT+ as the Drama department have been using the online platform during lessons and for homework. I am sure that parents would love to have access too!

Staff and student access to DT+

1. Use the school website to enter your Office365 account
2. Select 'All apps' from the bottom left hand side
3. Hit the **DT+** app/icon (Apps appear in alphabetical order)
4. You can now watch any productions of your choice (There are 100s)
5. You can view interviews with actors, designers, directors etc...
6. You can use a range of teaching materials and print these too



- Macbeth (Many different versions)
- The life of Jane Austen (Interview)

I hope this is useful, please remember **DT+** is not only relevant to Drama. There really are 100s of wonderful productions and resources available.

Enjoy!

Mrs Barr
Head of Drama



If this is not clear, you can see the visual set of instructions above. Please contact me if you need further support navigating your way around the site.

Here are some current highlights that **DT+** has to offer.



During DT club last week we made poppies in preparation for Thursday's remembrance service on the school playground.

We had a great turnout to produce Modroc poppies that were painted and glued to a temporary makeshift wreath to be displayed in the school entrance on the day



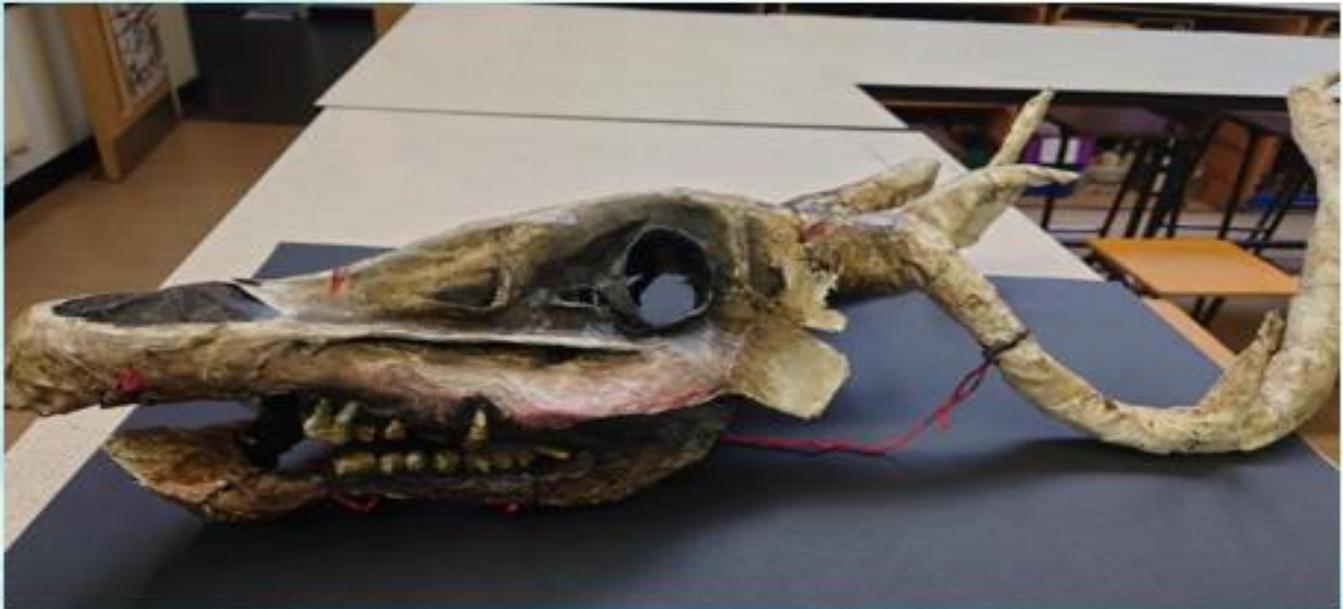
As always, it is great to see the students of Becket Keys showing their respectful natures in a simple, but meaningful way.





Art Department

Star Artist



Rachel Allen Yr 13



Genevieve Stuckey

Yr 10



Milo Waters Yr 8

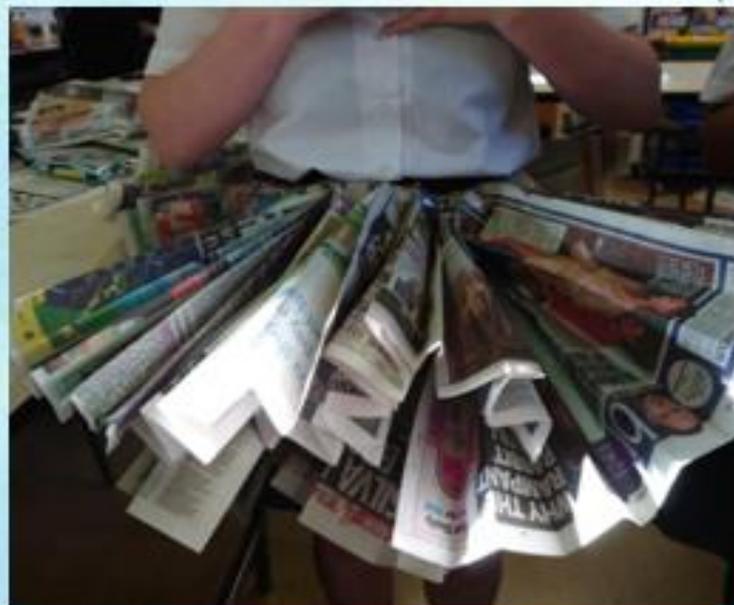


Aurora Bould Yr 12



Sophie Spencer Yr 8

Year 9 'Recycled Couture'



In Art & Textiles this week with Mrs Cherry

Star Designer for Textiles

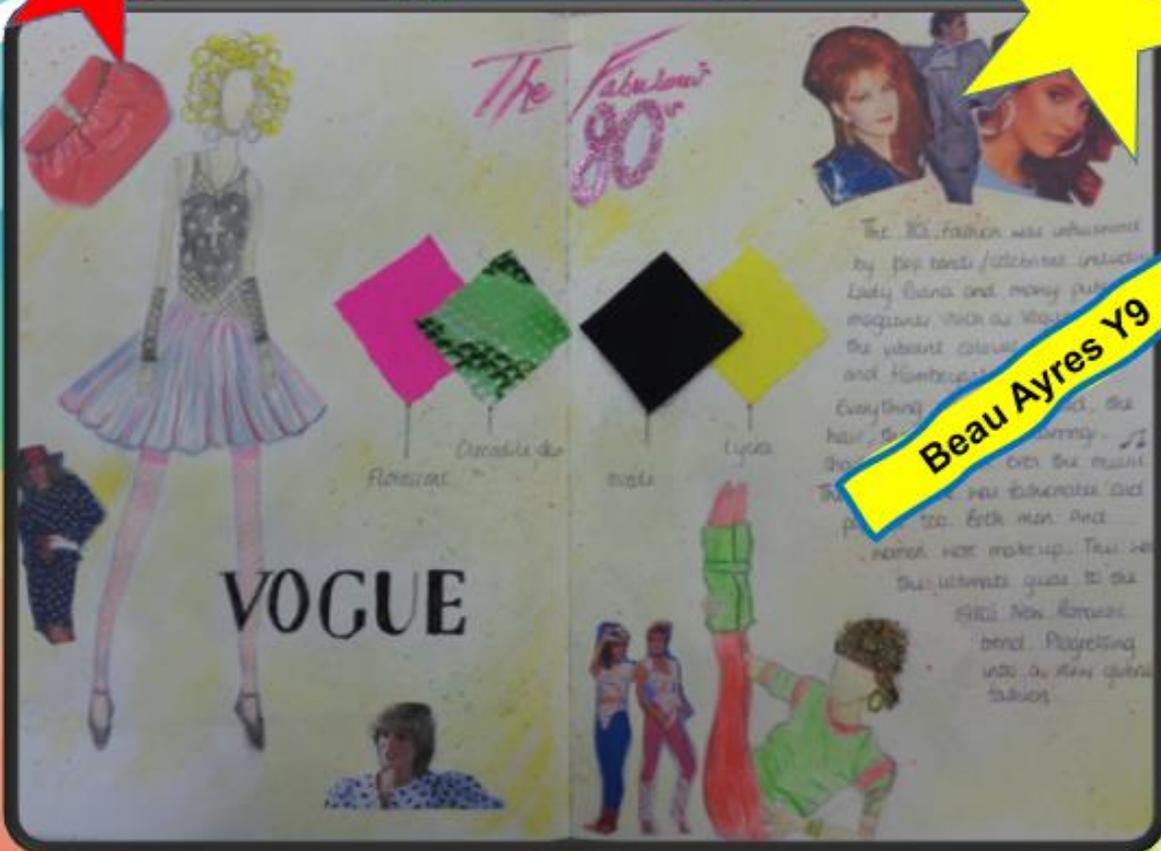
Y13

Grace Bowtell



@becketkeysart

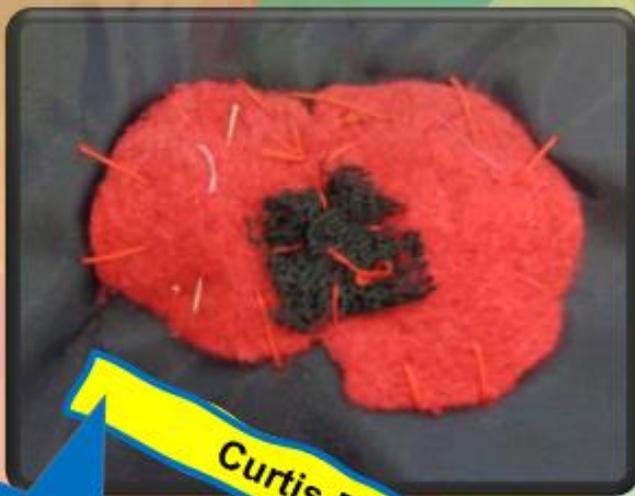
Key stage 3



Beau Ayres Y9



Arabella Carroll Y9



Curtis Phillips Y9



@becketkeysart

★ Key stage 4 & 5

Amelia Hussey Y12



McKenzie Reid Y11



Libby Prentice Y12

@becketkeysart



Upcoming Sports Fixtures November

Monday 15th

Year 11 Boys' Basketball v William de Ferrers School (A)
Year 7 & 8 Girls' Football v Sandon (A)

Tuesday 16th

Year 8 Boys' Football v Chelmer (H)
Year 9 Girls' Futsal Tournament (H)

Wednesday 17th

Year 9 Boys' Basketball v Great Baddow High School (H)
All Years Girls' Swimming Gala

Thursday 18th

Year 10 Netball v Chelmer (A)
Year 9 Boys' Football v Anglo European School (H)
Year 7 & 8 Netball v Brentwood County High School (H)

Monday 22nd

Year 7 Netball v Anglo (A)

Wednesday 24th

Year 7 & 8 Girls' Basketball v St John Payne (A)
Year 8 Boys' Football v Brentwood County High School (H)

Thursday 25th

Year 9 Boys' Football v Plume (A) on field
Year 9 Girls' Football v William de Ferrers (H)

Monday 29th

Year 8 Boys' Football v Ormiston (H)
Year 7 Netball v Hylands (A)



School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans is now every Wednesday at 8.45am. This is a short meeting where we pray together for local and national events and for any intentions of those in our school family. All are welcome, please enter via reception.

If you have any prayer intentions, please send them into the school via the office email:

office@becketkeys.org

LOST PROPERTY

If your son/daughter has misplaced anything at school, then kindly inform them that all lost property is taken to reception for collection.

Please make sure that all items, especially uniform are named, this will ensure that items can be returned to the student easily. There are in particular a large number of trainers, water bottles and items of PE kit looking for their owner!



**"Mercy and truth are met together;
righteousness and peace
have kissed each other."**

Psalms 85:10 (KJV)

The Virtue of Peace

Winston Churchill had been Prime Minister for five weeks when, in his speech on 18th June 1940, he said:

"The Battle of Britain is about to begin. Upon this battle depends the survival of Christian civilisation," he warned. "Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duty and so bear ourselves that, if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, men will still say: 'This was their finest hour'."

Sadly, his words can still ring true. There are still acts of terrorism in our world. Remembrance services

are just as significant and indeed of increasing significance in our society.

In Micah Chapter 4 verses 1 to 4, we read:

In days to come the mountain where the temple stands will be the highest one of all, towering above all the hills. Many nations will come streaming to it and their people will say, 'Let us go up the Hill to the Lord, to the temple of Israel's God. For he will teach us what he wants us to do; we will walk in the paths he has chosen. For the Lord's teaching comes from Jerusalem; from Zion he speaks to his people.'

He will settle disputes among the nations, among the great powers near and far. They will hammer

PAUSE

their swords into ploughs and their spears into pruning knives. Nations will never again go to war, never prepare for battle again. Everyone will live in peace among his own vineyards and fig trees, and no one will make him afraid. The Lord Almighty has promised this.

This reading speaks of the hope and assurance for Christians that God is with us and for us on our journey to our future, whatever we may encounter on the way. The prophet Micah speaks of a brighter and peaceful future where nation will not take up sword against nation, nor train for war anymore. We may not know what the future holds for us, but we do know **who** holds the future for us.

Leviticus 26 verse 6 reads:

'I will give peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and none will make you afraid.'

Whatever our view about what is going on in our world, we can express our common humanity in our hearts by praying and pausing to think of the value and worth of every life lost and the heart ache of those left behind. Our thoughts are also drawn to those

currently serving in the forces on active service in fields of conflict. We can pray for those who mourn, those who fear for loved ones serving in the armed forces and for those who have returned from conflict affected in mind, body or spirit.

This famous poem always moves me when I read it:

The Soldier by Rupert Brook

If I should die, think only this of me:

That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England. There shall be
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,
A body of England's, breathing English air,
Washed by the rivers, blest by suns of home.
And think, this heart, all evil shed away,
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

Benedict de Spinoza (a Dutch philosopher) reminds us:

"Peace does not necessarily mean the absence of war; it is a



virtue, a way of thinking, an attitude of mercy, trust and righteousness."

We want to live our lives without worry and fear. We can only achieve this by walking along the ways of the Lord: the way of light and truth, of prayer and humility, of faithful Scripture study where we seek God's revealed will for our lives. Through prayer the Holy Spirit opens up our hearts for the love of God in Jesus Christ. Where His love dwells, there His peace will reign. Peace cannot come to our country or the world unless it first comes into the hearts of people. Love must become visible in you and me, manifesting itself in our words, deeds and chosen lifestyle. The peace in our hearts also creates peace in the area that surrounds us. From there it will

stretch wider and wider, until peace reigns in our country and God's world.

We are all, therefore, personally responsible for peace. Unless we surrender our lives to the love of God, peace will remain an empty dream.

Let us pray:

Lord God increase and strengthen the desire for peace in every human heart, so that the temptation to violence, injustice and revenge may be overcome, and people will live no longer in fear, but in freedom. **Amen.**

Mrs Sharp
Deputy Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

YEAR 12

SUBJECT CONSULTATION EVENING

WEDNESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER

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STUDENT HALF DAY

THURSDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2021

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STUDENT CHRISTMAS LUNCH

WEDNESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2021

*

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2021 –

MONDAY 3RD JANUARY 2022

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INSET DAY

TUESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2022

(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)

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