



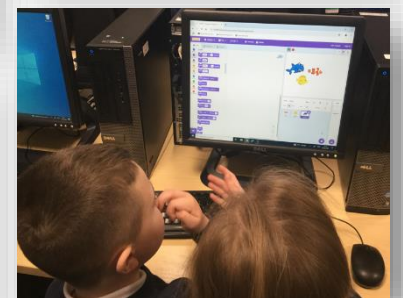
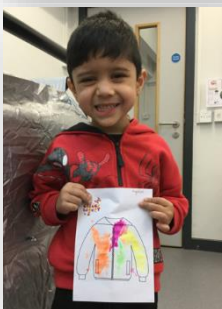
www.gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

March 14th 2025 Issue 2/6 Spring Term 2

British Science Week 2025

We have had a brilliant time this week celebrating Science across our school. We have enjoyed incorporating Science across the curriculum into Art, ICT, English and PE! This year's Science Week theme was change and adapt. Throughout the week we looked at how human and animal adaptations help us survive but also what adaptations would be great for the future! Our activities ranged from creating bioluminescent jackets to making our own underwater video games! Congratulations as well, to our super scientists of the week who were chosen from each class by their teacher for excellent work and teamwork this week.

Miss Pope



Parent Consultations

We will be holding our parent consultation meetings from Nursery to Year 4 during the week beginning 31st March. **Bookings will open on Wednesday 19th March at 4pm** and are to be made via School Cloud **by Wednesday 26th March at 4pm.**

Please visit

<https://gosforthparkfirst.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

to book your appointment.

Telephone appointments will be held on the afternoon of **Tuesday 1st April/ Wednesday 2nd April** and face to face appointments will be held on the evenings of **Tuesday 1st April** and **Thursday 3rd April.** **Ms Gasper** and **Miss Walsh** will also have appointments on **Tuesday 8th April.**

Thanks

Mrs Lamb



Pre-loved uniform

It's not just the spring flowers that have been shooting up over the last few weeks. We're having a growth spurt and I know some of you have been buying new uniform. Please drop off any pre-loved branded navy items or white polo shirts that you no longer need into the wheelie bin in the entrance (washed please). We will make these available for a small donation which then gets spent on playground toys. We'll have more information about prices and how to arrange payment and collection of pre-loved items in next week's newsletter.

Thanks

Mrs Lamb

RED NOSE DAY IS BACK!

Red Nose Day is back. This Red Nose Day, **on 21 March 2025**, let's celebrate 40 years of going big, giving big, and feeling good together! We are inviting you come dressed to school in any style from the 80's up to and including now for a donation of up to £2 on ParentPay! There'll be lots of feel good fun on the day and a few surprises in assembly!

Please make sure children have suitable footwear and coats.

WHICH RED NOSE WILL YOU GET?



THE 80'S NOSE

The OG - smooth, round, red. Life was simpler back then.



THE 90'S NOSE

Put your hands in the air for this favourite from the decade of dance. The first time Comic Relief tweaked its nose.



THE NOUGHTIES NOSE

A new Nose for a new century. If a nose can have hands, it can also have a face.



THE 2010'S

Welcome back this little critter, the DI-NOSE-saurus. A classic from Jurassic and a Red Nose with toes.



THE CUPCAKE NOSE

No celebration is complete without cake. And our cute, soft cupcake is a perfect Red Nose to add to the party - exclusive to our Collector Pack.



THE RARE RUBY NOSE

To celebrate our 40th birthday we've created a very special Rare Ruby Red Nose. It's an absolute gem and a glittering addition to our iconic line-up, only available to a few lucky nosepickers.



You know we love reading at GPFS and I often use this website to find new books for school. Little Parachutes is the World's most useful (and friendly) collection of *Parachute Books*: picture books that help children cope with worries, health issues and new experiences (big and small). Here are just some of the most requested topics.

Our most requested book subjects



Infectious Diseases

Children's picture books that help children learn what they need to know about infectious diseases like Coronavirus (Covid-19).



Anxiety

Children's picture books that explore anxiety, worry and stress.



Divorce / Separation

Picture books that gently explain the issues surrounding divorce and separation to young children, to help them get a sense of what's happening.



Kindness

These children's picture books contain characters which show kindness, or contain messages that encourage children to be kind to others.



Death & Bereavement

Books which tackle the difficult subjects of bereavement and loss. Grieving children may find comfort or answers to challenging questions in the

pages of these books.



Starting School

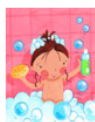
Books that help children prepare for starting school. Starting school is an exciting time for children, but it can also be daunting, particularly for

children who tend to be anxious in new environments.



Holidays & Travel

A collection of picture books for young children about holidays and travel, including what to expect when flying. Includes some great books for children to



Washing & Good Hygiene

While some children really look forward to bath time and never have to be nagged to look after their teeth, others will go to any lengths to avoid having to wash, comb their hair, or brush their teeth.



Shyness

Books that either have a character who is shy, or reassure shy children that they can cope with this emotion.



Listening & Co-operating

A useful collection of picture books that gently encourages a child to listen well and co-operate with others.



Tidiness & Helping Out

Books to encourage children to help out around the house. Children who are reluctant to help out, or keep their toys and bedrooms tidy, sometimes need a gentle reminder that helping can be a lot of fun!



Confidence & Self-esteem

A collection of picture books that champion confidence and self-esteem, encouraging children to appreciate their own self-worth and positively appraise their own appearance, emotions, beliefs and behaviours.



Allergies

Picture books about allergies, including hay fever and various types of food allergies



Disabilities

A positive collection of picture books that are either about disability, or feature people with disabilities.



Doctors, Hospitals &

It really is worth a browse if you're looking for a story to start a conversation and support your child. Follow this link to browse [Little Parachutes](#)

GPFS Book Swap



Thank you so much to parents for your generous donations of pre-loved books. We have used these to top up Early Years, class libraries, wraparound and our main library. We also have some duplicates and would hate for these to go unloved so we will be opening a book swap in the main entrance. This will be a permanent fixture where you can drop off any preloved books that are in good condition and help yourself to a new selection from the shelves!



Newcastle Libraries have a whole host of events in the Spring term ranging from Easter Holiday crafts to Lego Club, Easter Egg hunts and Earth Day Celebrations! For more information see their newsletter attached.



Message from the PTFA

The next **PTFA** meeting will be held on **Tuesday 18th March at 6:15pm** in the community room. We hope you can join us! A huge thank you to everyone that came to the soft play event last Friday evening. We raised an amazing £200! Check out below for information about our Easter Disco!
Many thanks
PTFA



Inclusion Quality Framework

We are incredibly honoured to be working towards the **IQF award** which is a badge presented to schools across Newcastle who are providing the **very best inclusive education** for all of their pupils.

On **Monday 31st March** we will be assessed by the local authority. As part of that process, they will be looking at views from all stakeholders, including parents. At Gosforth Park we are always working hard to improve our school for all of our families and we would be grateful if you could complete a short survey to help us to achieve our award.

Please scan the QR code or follow the link below to **complete the IQF survey**. Thank you for your support!

Mr Hindess



<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wLSfsgQNn0q0YsEpSx4bRyBluEdDyntBjPHexbsmpQ1UME80NUJQT1FZMVZaVzVORTFEODIxS1cyUy4u&origin=QRCode>

Year 4

Our Year 4 children are off to Robinwood next week for their 3 day, 2 night residential. There will be some extra adults under the rainbow canopy and some large bags/suitcases in tow on Wednesday morning as we'll be meeting our Year 4 children and parents in the school hall. As you know, we are no longer using X (formally Twitter) but will be keeping parents up to date with all things Robinwood via a Robinwood SeeSaw group. Year 4 parents, codes will be coming home tonight to access this so we can iron out any issues before the children go away. Please note, you will need to log back into your normal SeeSaw account for all things non Robinwood related such as homework and messages to staff.

There's very little signal/Wifi at Robinwood so photos and videos will be uploaded on an evening or if possible during breaks.



Swimming

A huge thanks to all of our volunteers who helped on the walk to and from the pool over the last two weeks. We wouldn't have been able to take our wonderful Year 4 children swimming without you (or extortionate transport costs!).

Year 4 Multiplication Check Meeting

Thank you to our Year 4 parents who were able to make it to the MTC meeting on Friday. For anyone who was unable to attend we will send the presentation to all Year 4 parents via SeeSaw.



The Children's Cancer Run 2025

We would like you and your family to join our school team at the Children's Cancer Run at Newcastle Racecourse, Gosforth Park on **Sunday 18th May 2025**.

Please ensure that you **register online** for the event:

1. Log on to <https://childrenscancernorth.org.uk/event/childrens-cancer-run-2025/>
2. Complete your entry form, selecting our **school name** as the team
3. Click **proceed to payment** to complete the registration for you and your family

There is a feature that allows our school to have an online team fundraising page with a shared school total. We have been advised on the following: **Once your pupils have registered, that on their fundraising page they go to 'edit display name' and change their display name so that it does not include their full name and don't update their picture for safeguarding reasons.** For example, just first name or initials. If they do not do this then it is possible for external participants to see a child's full name and the school they go to.

Every child must be accompanied by an adult.

Thank you,
Miss Walsh

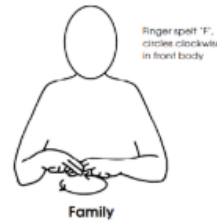
Makaton

This week's sign is –

Sign of the Week

Family

Sign



Symbol



We are hoping to open a new wheeled toys zone as part of OPAL play. We will be purchasing some new scooters and bikes, but were hoping that parents may have scooters, go-karts or ride-alongs that children have outgrown that could be donated. If you have any of these that are in good working order the children would be very very grateful! We have been donated lots and lots of wellies, but could do with a few more in bigger sizes (over a children's size 12 if possible). If you do happen to have any that you no longer use, please could you leave them at the school office.

Thank you, Miss Gasper





Safe travels to anyone who is lucky enough to be supporting Newcastle United in person at the weekend!

I'll be keeping everything crossed - good luck!
Mrs Lamb



RISE Mental Health Workshops

Graded Exposure

Tuesday 18th March 9-10am

It would be great to have an indication of how many people we are expecting so Annie can prepare resources. If you are hoping to join us, please complete the form below. Don't worry if you change your mind, you can still turn up and attend. Please pass on to grandparents and childminders that they are more than welcome to attend too.

<https://forms.office.com/e/3YrnmvEimQ>

Mrs Lamb



Congratulations to Emilia who competed in a gymnastics competition last weekend and came away with one gold, two silver and two bronze medals! She has also qualified and received a place in the North of England gymnastics squad. We're all very proud of you!



Well done to Lily and Abigail who both passed their level one in gymnastics this week at Tumble gymnastics.



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Well done to Miss Tate's class who had 94% activity this week – our most active class! Miss Bell's class, let's see if you can overtake them next week. Well done to Arthur Watkins who became a Rock Star this week! What a super achievement. Our top coin earners this week are: **Mikaiil M**, **Brooke H** and **Arthur W**.



My class were the most active class again this week. KS2 it would be great to see more of you using NumBots this week – your robots miss you! Please remember to keep trying even if you don't get two or three stars on your first try, you will get quicker the more you practise!

Our top coin earners this week are:

Miss Parsons-Munn – **Marwan A**

Miss Coughlan – **Elliot B**

Miss Gledhill – **Eliza T**

Miss Pope – **Huw F**

Miss Walsh – **Lottie G**

Mr Patterson – **Rowan G**

Keep up the good work, Miss Pope.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance to date is a fantastic **96.9%** up from **96.1%** this time last year!

Our classes of the week this week are:

Reception Miss Coughlan and **Year 3 Mrs Easdon/Mrs Armstrong** both with **98.9%**

Well done everyone!

Mrs Lamb



Healthy School

Get your wheels oiled, helmets checked and shoes laced up, this month sees the start of the annual Big Walk and Wheel! Let's demonstrate how we can all pull together to make healthier, car free journeys to school and be mindful of pollution and road safety in and around our local area.

A great way to save money on fuel too! What's more, for each day where over 15% of our children take part, our school will be entered into daily prize draws. We would love for as many families as possible to get involved!

Many thanks,

Mrs Wells

Healthy Start

If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk.

If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops. We'll add your benefit onto this card every 4 weeks.

You can use your card to buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk
- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses
- infant formula milk based on cow's milk

You can also use your card to collect:

Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old

To find out more information and to apply, visit <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/>

Find lots more information about Children and Families Newcastle including everything from pregnancy to school age children, visit

<https://www.childrenandfamiliesnewcastle.org.uk/welcome-your-family-hub>

Important Dates 2024-2025

| Spring 2 | |
|--|---|
| Friday 21st February | GST Training Day |
| Monday 3rd March | First Day Back at School |
| Monday 3rd March – Friday 14th March | KS2 Swimming Lessons every afternoon at Gosforth Pool |
| Friday 14 th March | Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check Parent Meeting 9.15-9.45am |
| WB 17 th March | STEM Week |
| Monday 17 th March | Y4 Visit to GEMS – Moana the Musical |
| Tuesday 18 th March | PTFA Meeting 6:15pm Community Room |
| Wednesday 19 th – Friday 21st March | Year 4 Residential to Robinwood |
| Friday 21st March | Red Nose Day |
| WB Monday 24th March | Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel Week |
| Wednesday 26th March | Nursery Mother's Day Assembly 9.30 am |
| WB 31 st March | Parent Consultations |
| Monday 31 st March | Inclusion Quality Framework |
| Wednesday 2nd – Tuesday 8th April | Book Fair |
| Friday 11th April | PTFA Easter Disco |
| Friday 11th April | Last Day of Term |
| Summer 1 | |
| Monday 28th April | First Day Back at school |
| Monday 5th May | Bank Holiday |
| Thursday 15th May | Safety Works Visit for Year 2 and Year 4 |
| Friday 23rd May | Last Day of Term |
| Summer 2 | |
| Monday 2nd June | GST Training Day |
| Tuesday 3rd June | First Day Back at School |
| Wednesday 18th June | Year 1 Trip to Washington Wetlands |
| Monday 23rd June | Sports Week |
| WB 30th June | In school transition week |
| Wednesday 2nd – Friday 4th July | Year 4 Transition to GEMS |
| Thursday 3rd/Friday 4th July | Year 3 On site residential with Mr H |

Staff Training Days

Staff Training Days for GST schools this academic year will be:

- Monday 2nd June 2025

School re-opens Monday 1st September 2025



Rainbow Wraparound

Bookings must be made during the booking window which opens on the 10th of each month and closes on the 20th of each month, for the following month.

| | Booking opens 12 noon | Booking closes 12 noon |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| October bookings | September 10 th | September 20 th |
| November bookings | October 10 th | October 20 th |
| December booking | November 10 th | November 20 th |
| January bookings | December 10 th | December 20 th |
| February bookings | January 10 th | January 20 th |
| March bookings | February 10 th | February 20 th |
| April bookings | March 10 th | March 20 th |
| May bookings | April 10 th | April 20 th |
| June bookings | May 10 th | May 20 th |
| July bookings | June 10 th | June 20 th |

Parents must make their own bookings on the school cloud system. The only exception to this is families using vouchers. If you are emailing dates for voucher bookings, you must include

- Your child's name
- The day and date
- The sessions required (breakfast, until 5pm, until 6pm).

If you would like to, you can book sessions in advance for the entire school year.

If you do wish to book the same sessions for the entire school year, please email Mrs Carrick at wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

Block bookings can only be made via email or through school cloud (not text message).

Please email wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk for any wraparound queries, **NOT the admin inbox or Mrs Carrick directly, as this will delay any response and may result in you missing the booking window.**

Please ensure all block bookings are made/requested before the booking window closes. We cannot guarantee any block bookings after this date.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thanks

Mrs Carrick

wraparound@gosforthpark.newcastle.sch.uk

Rainbow Wraparound: 07926 946 565.

GPFS PTFA PRESENTS

EASTER DISCO

FRIDAY 4:30
11TH
-
APRIL 6PM

SCHOOL HALL

PLEASE RETURN TO SCHOOL IN YOUR PARTY CLOTHES.

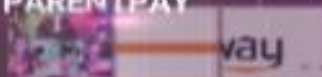
ANY CHILDREN WITH A WRAPAROUND BOOKING CAN BE
TAKEN THROUGH TO THE DISCO BY SCHOOL STAFF AT
4.30 IF THEY HAVE A DISCO TICKET.

UNFORTUNATELY THIS EVENT IS ONLY OPEN TO
CURRENT GPFS PUPILS

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON PARENTPAY

£5

PER
TICKET
HOT DOG
INCLUDED



vay



NEWCASTLE VIKINGS HOSTS

HANDBALL FUN

15TH MARCH 2025, 3-6PM
Benfield Sports Centre, NE6 4NU

Skills + Matches for children year 2-year 5, from 3-5pm
Skills + Matches for children year 6-year 10, from 3-6pm



Cake Sale **JOIN US** **Easter Egg Raffle**
£6 PER CHILD

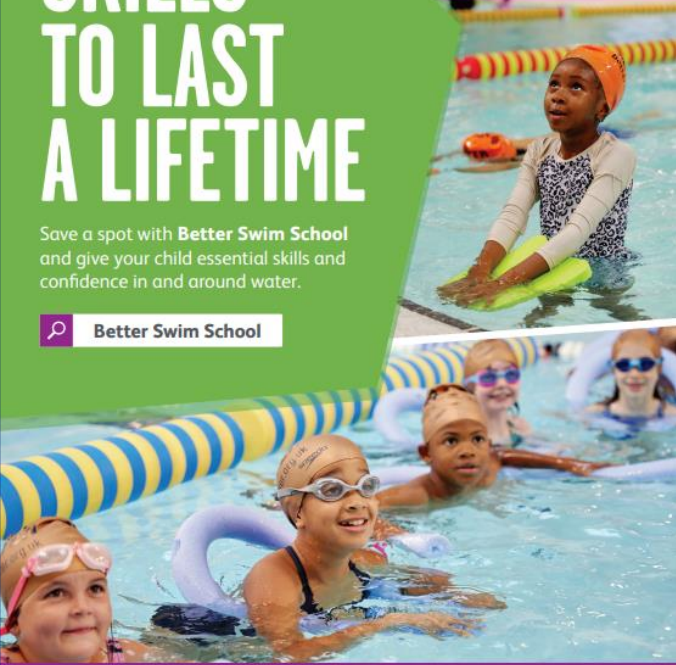
Hay & Kilner TO BOOK A PLACE EMAIL **APG**
NEWCASTLEVIKINGS@GMAIL.COM The Network for Active Services

SKILLS TO LAST A LIFETIME

AGES 4-16 YEARS

Save a spot with **Better Swim School** and give your child essential skills and confidence in and around water.

Better Swim School



Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School at East End Pool or Gosforth Leisure Centre and get 25% off your first payment with code NEW25.

BETTER

SWIMMING LESSONS NEAR YOU


CHILDREN'S SWIMMING LESSONS

Give your child essential skills and confidence in and around water with Better Swim School. With same-day, same-time lessons, your child will develop the crucial water safety knowledge to progress from beginner to confident swimmer.

East End Pool
Hadrian Square, Byker, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE6 1AL

Gosforth Leisure Centre
Regent Farm Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, Tyne and Wear, NE3 3HD

Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School at East End Pool or Gosforth Leisure Centre and get 25% off your first payment with code NEW25.



Scan the QR code or search Swimming Lessons with Better to join and find out more.

Terms and conditions apply. The offer is to receive 25% off Better Swimming Lessons when booked online at <https://www.better.org.uk/what-we-offer/lessons-and-courses/swimming>. The offer is only available at East End Pool & Gosforth LC. Offer ends on 31/03/2025. To claim the offer, promotional code NEW25 must be applied at the point of making the booking. 16+ only. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. We reserve the right to amend the terms and conditions at any time without prior notice. Full terms and conditions at [better.org.uk/offer/terms](https://www.better.org.uk/offer/terms). Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014, registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SK. Inland Revenue Charity no. XBR43398.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX



Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



NHS



Are you pregnant or do you have children under the age of four?

You could get help to buy fruit, vegetables, pulses, milk and infant formula.

You could also get free Healthy Start vitamins.

Apply online for NHS Healthy Start
www.healthystart.nhs.uk

  @NHSHealthyStart



SCAN ME