



MEL MARIA  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

# MEL MARIA NEWS

TERM 3 WEEK 6

ISSUE 12



Head of Campus

Year 2 News

Junior Carnival

Science Week

Library News

## Mel Maria Performing Arts Choir

# #MakingADifferenceEveryday

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FROM THE  
SOCIAL  
WORKER



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1	17 JUL	18 JUL	19 JUL PN Confirmation Workshop 3.30pm & 5pm	20 JUL PN Confirmation Retreat  PAF Opening Mass 10am	21 JUL	22 JUL PN Reconciliation Commitment Mass 6.00pm	23 JUL PN Reconciliation Commitment 9.30am
2	24 JUL PN & SJP Housekeeping Assembly PN Author Visit PP – Year 2  Speak Up School Finals	25 JUL SJP Author Visit PP-Year 2  Interschool Cross Country Carnival	26 JUL School Photos PN & SJP Family Photos  Religious Education Prac Test	27 JUL School Photos PN & SJP Family Photos Year 6 Graduation Photo 9am – PN Campus	28 JUL School Photos SJP Family Photos	29 JUL	30 JUL
3	31 JUL SJP Reconciliation Parent/Child Workshop. 3.30pm & 5.00pm Yr 4 PN Excursion Yr 1 SJP Excursion	1 AUG Yr 1 PN Excursion	2 AUG CEWA RE Assessment Yr3 & 5	3 AUG CEWA RE Assessment Yr3 & 5 Yr 4 Ensemble Performance Yr 4 Red 9.30 – 10.46 Yr 4 Green 11.00-12.15	4 AUG CEWA RE Assessment Yr3 & 5 SJP Year 4 Assembly 9am	5 AUG Robocup	6 AUG Robocup
4	7 AUG SJP Eucharist Parent/Child Workshop. 3.30pm & 5.00pm	8 AUG Feast of Mary MacKillop Mass 9am  P&F 7pm SJP	9 AUG PN Year 6 Mass 9am PN Reconciliation 10am	10 AUG Pre-Primary Brownes Dairy Excursion PN & SJP	11 AUG PN Confirmation 6pm	12 AUG	13 AUG
5	14 AUG <b>SCIENCE WEEK</b> →  Year 3 Mystery Maths family afternoon PN 4-5.30pm	15 AUG Assumption Mass 9am  Year 3 Mystery Maths family afternoon SJP 4-5.30pm	16 AUG PN Year 3 Assembly 9am	17 AUG PP Constable Care Incursion CPAF Sacred Choir	18 AUG SJP Year 3 Assembly 9am  PN Confirmation 6pm	19 AUG	20 AUG
6	21 AUG <b>Pupil Free</b>	22 AUG  CPAF Primary Choral Singing	23 AUG SJP Yr 4 Excursion	24 AUG SJP Bookweek PP Scitech Excursion	25 AUG School Tours PN 9.30am SJP 11.00am MAD STEM	26 AUG	27 AUG
7	28 AUG Education Assistants' Day	29 AUG PN Bookweek	30 AUG SJP Year 3 Shoenstatt Shrine PN Year 5 Assembly 9am PN Reconciliation Workshop 4pm & 5.30pm	31 AUG	1 SEPT Father's Day Breakfast	2 SEPT TOMS	3 SEPT Father's Day
8	4 SEPT SJP Year 5 Assembly 9am	5 SEPT PN Year 3 Retreat Shoenstatt Shrine	6 SEPT PN Year 3 Assembly	7 SEPT PN Billy Cart Day	8 SEPT SJP Billy Cart Day	9 SEPT	10 SEPT
9	11 SEPT	12 SEPT	13 SEPT Open Night 4.00-6.30pm	14 SEPT	15 SEPT Junior Athletics Carnival PP-Y2	16 SEPT TOMS State Finals	17 SEPT
10	18 SEPT SJP Eucharist Retreat 9am-3pm	19 SEPT	20 SEPT PN Year 3 Mass/Reconciliation 9am  SJP Reconciliation 3.30pm	21 SEPT PN/SJP Mercy Day Celebrations  Junior School 50 years Eucharist Service 9.30am	22 SEPT 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mass 9.30am  P&F Colour Run 1.45pm	23 SEPT	24 SEPT
HOL	25 SEPT QUEEN'S B/DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY	26 SEPT	27 SEPT	28 SEPT	29 SEPT	30 SEPT	1 OCT
HOL	2 OCT	3 OCT	4 OCT	5 OCT	6 OCT	7 OCT	8 OCT





## Head of Campus Message

As we reach the midpoint of Term Three, we are pleased to inform you that both our teachers and students are working diligently and achieving remarkable results in various areas. It is truly heartening to see students genuinely enjoying their learning and readily sharing their experiences. This week's newsletter highlights some of their amazing achievements.

The support and affirmation from parents greatly contributes to creating a stimulating and conducive learning environment. We value your ongoing assistance and recognise the strong partnership between home and school.

On Monday's professional development day at Mel Maria, our dedicated staff had a unique opportunity to come together and reflect on the pedagogical possibilities that lie ahead. As we embark on creating innovative, creative, and spiritually engaging spaces for our students, this day allowed us to deepen our understanding and explore new approaches to education.

Our goal is to create an educational experience that goes beyond traditional boundaries, empowering our students to think critically, embrace creativity, and nurture their spiritual journey. By taking the time to reflect on our practices, we can ensure that we continuously enhance and evolve the learning environment, adapting to the needs and aspirations of our students.

As we move forward, we are excited to witness the impact of our collective efforts on the students at Mel Maria. By coming together and reflecting on pedagogical possibilities, we are shaping a future where education becomes a transformative experience, preparing our students to navigate a complex and rapidly changing world with confidence, compassion, and creativity.

“Exploration is essential if we are to build up in the brain a representation or ‘model’ which is useful for the accurate interpretation of the world ..building up knowledge of the world through our senses and by trial and error is the basis of all later intellectual activity.”  
(Brierley, 1994:75-76)



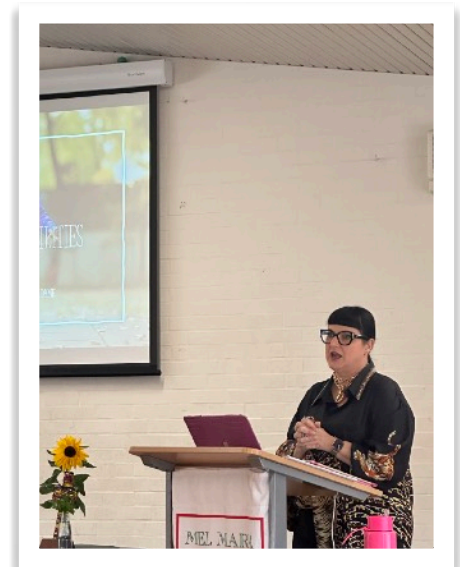
## Professional Development Day At Mel Maria

### Early Childhood Education

The Early Childhood Educators had a Professional Learning Day with Sam Wynne from Notre Dame University. They explored learning theories, brain development, and the importance of play-based learning. Building relationships with children and engaging in conversations were highlighted as essential for developing learning skills. The team had the chance to reflect, collaborate, and discuss pedagogical possibilities and curriculum construction in the early years.

“Play is not an alternative to learning. It is not a diversion from learning. Rather, it provides the foundation for learning and has an important role in shaping a child’s capacity for, and attitude towards subsequent learning.”

Pramling Samuelsson & Pramling (2013)

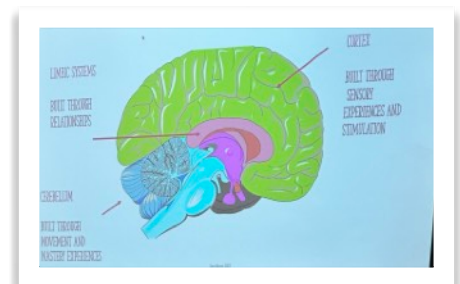


### Middle to Upper Primary Education

The Middle and Upper Primary Staff dedicated their time exploring the Brightpath assessment, with a specific focus on Words, the role of literature, powerful Writing, and the available resources for teachers. This allows teachers to focus on addressing specific learning needs and facilitating real progress for students. We extend our gratitude to Mrs. Massimi for her informative session.

Following this, Mr. Hille took the lead for the remainder of the day. Through thought-provoking questions, such as identifying our strengths and what makes our school unique, we were able to identify both our successes and areas for growth. This reflective process will guide our future planning and development, ensuring that we continue to provide the best educational experience for our students.

By working together to evaluate and improve our practices, we are committed to creating a positive and engaging educational setting. We thank Mr Hille’s leadership and are excited for what the future holds.



## EDUTECH Conference

Mr Hille, Mrs Massimi, Ms Marra and Miss Figueira are currently attending the EDUTECH conference in Melbourne. EduTECH is Australia's largest education event, bringing together the entire education ecosystem to discuss, debate, and evaluate the future of education. A global 2-day conference with over 500 speakers covering the latest trends, market disruptors and technologies shaping the education industry.


## MAD STEM

On Friday, six Year 5 teams from Pater Noster Campus will be representing Mel Maria in the The CEWA STEM Mad Show Case. This showcase is a celebration of student learning designed to acknowledge and promote STEM learning initiatives that address real-world problems and demonstrate the particularity of Catholic Schools; encouraging students to make a difference (MAD) in the world by acting for justice and the common good. This aligns with the papal call for action in Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home.

We wish our teams all the best as they present their ideas to industries and aim to be selected for the National Showcase.

### STEM education for life

#### STUDENT PROJECTS

 Mel Maria Catholic Primary School – Pater Noster

**Double R: Rubbish Remover:**  
This robot is designed to pick up rubbish in parks and after community events as an efficient means of sorting and distributing recyclable materials.

**CleanAir 2000**  
The CleanAir 2000 is a multipurpose machine designed to clean the carbon monoxide from the exhaust of your car. A simple flick of a switch will have you travelling cleaner and the trees will thank you.

**Bin-Bot**  
The Bin-Bot transforms your ordinary wheelie bin into an efficient and fun way to sort and recycle your rubbish, while protecting the environment.

**TranslateMe**  
Have you ever wanted to know how to say, "Where is the nearest bathroom?" in Mandarin? TranslateMe is the easy, convenient way to translate those awkward conversations when traveling.

**Super Safety Heroes**  
Cyber safety is an issue that concerns us all. The Super Safety Heroes app will help keep your young ones safe from online bullies and free to search with confidence.

**RADAR Pole**  
This handy, portable device can help solve the problem of overfishing. With a simple click, you will be able to know if the fish population in an area is sustainable to be fished, or should you move on.





## Catholic Performing Arts

Congratulations to all of our Year 4 students and Mr. Murphy for receiving awards for their instrumental ensemble performances. All four groups were acknowledged what a wonderful achievement.

### OUTSTANDING

Year 4 Red Ensemble St Joseph Pignatelli Campus

### EXCELLENCE

Year 4 Green Ensemble St Joseph Pignatelli Campus

Year 4 Red Ensemble Pater Noster Campus

Year 4 Green Ensemble Pater Noster Campus

## School Choir

Our school choir, represented our school beautifully, delivered an exceptional performance that left the audience in awe. Their musical talents and dedication shone through as they sang with passion, precision, and unity. Their exceptional performance showcased the talent, hard work, and commitment of our students, leaving no doubt that our school choir is a true testament to the incredible musical education and opportunities provided at Mel Maria.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Sumich for her exceptional leadership of our school choir and to Mrs. Spencer for her outstanding work as our accompanist. Their dedication and talent have truly made our choir shine.

We also extend our thanks to all the parents who have shown unwavering support to their children, attending choir practices and cheering our students on during performances. Your encouragement and involvement have played a vital role in our students' success. We greatly appreciate everything that you do.



# Religious Education

## You're Invited



**MEL MARIA**  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Celebrates

**50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC PRIMARY EDUCATION**

We cordially invite you to join us:

*Date: Friday 22nd September 2023*

*Mass: 9.30am*

Followed by light refreshments & a dedication ceremony in honour of our Mercy heritage and traditions.

*St Joseph Pignatelli Church  
40 Galloway St, Attadale*

Celebrations will conclude at 12.00pm. *RSVP: [admin@melmaria.cewa.edu.au](mailto:admin@melmaria.cewa.edu.au)*

**Reconciliation  
Pater Noster**



**Wednesday  
20th September  
9.45am**

**Mercy Market**



**Celebrations  
21 September**

9

**Junior School  
Pre-Primary to  
Year 2 Eucharist  
Service**



## Confirmation

Congratulations to all our students at Pater Noster who have now received the Sacrament of Confirmation. This sacrament is such an important step in their faith journey, as it is seen as a personal commitment and strengthening of one's faith, allowing individuals to fully participate in the life of the Church. Through their commitment and dedication, they have embraced the gifts of the Holy Spirit and proclaimed their faith to the world. We are immensely proud of their spiritual growth and wish them continued blessings in their daily lives.

Special thanks to the Parish Co Ordinator Mrs Ann Chew, the Catechist teachers and our Year 6 teachers, Miss Naomi Smyth and Mr Andrew Carr for preparing our students so reverently.





# PN Year 2 News



## PN Year Two Class News

In Religious Education we have been learning that praying is a special way to talk, listen and become closer to God, and that there are many different ways to pray. Followers of Jesus make time each day to pray, we can also pray anytime and anywhere.

In English we have been working on our storytelling and retelling stories as a way to explore the structure of narratives. We have innovated on these stories and are busily creating our own picture books.

We are also continuing to develop our research skills. We have been guided through the inquiry process as we identified what we already know about a topic, questions we would like to find the answers to, and how to locate information in non-fiction texts. We have learnt lots of things about frogs and other animals, and are creating our own non-fiction books to present what we have learnt.

In Maths we have been looking at measurement, multiplication and division, money, fractions and 3D shapes as well as continuing to review and develop our addition, subtraction, sequencing, skip counting and understanding of place value.

Last week the children had a terrific time on their excursion to Wireless Hill. We had a chance to see how artefacts are displayed in a museum and to learn about the changes in communication technology over time. We even got the opportunity to participate in an archaeological dig and uncovered some interesting artefacts, bones and 'fossils'. It was a great day!





# SJP Year 2 News



## SJP Year 2

In Year Two at SJP we have been busy investigating different types of frogs. We have learnt about life cycles, habitats, diets, and lots of interesting facts about frogs around the world. From our research we created a frog report including a labelled diagram of both a frog and it's lifecycle, as well as a detailed drawing focusing on its appearance and features. We also created a 3D Frog out of clay which we are very excited to showcase at Open Night. During this process we have developed our report writing skills and inquired into how living things grow and change. We are looking forward to seeing where this journey takes us!



## JUNIOR FACTION CARNIVAL

### JUNIOR FACTION CARNIVAL

*Friday 15th September, 2023*

*Troy Park, Attadale*

The Junior Faction Carnival is fast approaching! Pre Primary, Year One and Year Two students are keenly practicing their games and practicing their sprinting in preparation for what is one of the great days on the Mel Maria calendar. Students will use skills such as running, passing and catching, underarm throwing, balancing and agility to help earn points for their faction. Every kilometre students have run at Running Club across the term will also contribute a point to their faction's total. All students will be involved in one 50m sprint event and five tabloid games during the day, while parents get the chance to participate in the inaugural Dress Up Relay. Parents, start getting your teams of 6-8 together for this one and practice how fast you can get your tie, scarf, hat or glasses on!

The program for the day can be found below. Our Year Six Sports Ministry will be attending to help the students and cheer them on, and all classes will move together in year groups to each of the activities. These are mapped out and planned to allow all students to have at least one go at all of the games.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr David John ([david.john@cewa.edu.au](mailto:david.john@cewa.edu.au)) or Mr Damian Williams ([damian.williams@cewa.edu.au](mailto:damian.williams@cewa.edu.au)).

Junior Primary Carnival 2023			
+	9:30 – 9:45	Students arrive, Briefing	
		<b>Pre-Primary</b>	<b>Year 1</b>
	9:50 – 10:10	Races	Rob the nest
	10:10 – 10:30	Rob the nest	BREAK
	10:30 – 10:50	BREAK	Races
	10:50 – 11:10	Bean bag relay	Egg and spoon
	11:10 – 11:30	Egg and spoon	LUNCH
	11:30 – 11:50	LUNCH	Bean bag relay
	11:50 – 12:10	Baggo	Passball
	12:10 – 12:30	Sack Race	Baggo
	12:30 – 12:50	PARENT DRESS UP RACE	
	12:50 – 1:00	PRESENTATIONS	



## BREAD BAG RECYCLING FINISHES

# THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who has been collecting bread bags this year. With your help, we have managed to fill four large boxes of bread bags!

The program has now finished for the year. Our bread bags will now be sent in and we will receive a notification of how many points we have earned to use on sports gear for our school. Keep an eye out in Term Four for the new additions!

It has been fantastic to see so many students actively recycling and showing enthusiasm for it. Thank you again to those students and families who were doing their bit to help out the planet and the school!

## RUNNING CLUB

Mel Maria's Running Club program continues again until the end of Term Three.

**Who:** Years K-6 (all students have a laminated QR card with their name on it)

**Where:** SJP and PN Ovals

**When:** 8:00am-8:30am, Mondays at SJP; Fridays at PN

**How it works:**

- When they arrive, students come and retrieve their card from one of the staff or Year Six Leaders.
- Start running!
- Every time a student completes a lap, they scan their card at one of the devices next on the tables provided.
- When they are finished or at 8:30am, students return their cards to their year level containers and head to class. Staff and Year Six leaders assist with this process for younger/new students.

**Do I need to sign up?:** No! The more the merrier, so please come down at any point during the half hour.

We hope to see you there!

**Mr David John and Mr Damian Williams**

Physical Education Teachers



## App checklist for parents



### Checklist

The aim of this checklist is to help you navigate the app world and give you the tools to ensure you and your family enjoy safe and positive online experiences.

#### Do your research

- [The eSafety Guide](#) is a good starting point.
- Other sources include [Common Sense Media](#) and [ConnectSafely](#), which review the most popular apps.
- Search for recent reviews from Google Play and Apple Store.
- Discuss the benefits and risks with family or friends who use the app.

**eSafety tip:** Check whether the app can be used for [content sharing](#), [photo and video sharing](#), [messaging and online chat](#), [voice chat](#), [video calling](#), [live streaming](#), [gaming](#), [in-app purchasing](#), [online relationships](#), [location sharing](#) and [encryption](#).

#### Check the age rating and requirements

- Apps usually state a minimum age for users in their terms of use but they don't all have verification requirements.
- [The eSafety Guide](#) includes the stated age for many popular apps.
- [Common Sense Media](#) makes an independent assessment of provides age recommendations.
- Check the advice on the eSafety Parent page [Are they old enough?](#)

**eSafety tip:** When deciding if an app is suitable for your child, think about their level of maturity and judgement as well as the age recommendation.

#### Consider privacy – read the terms and conditions and ask yourself these questions:

- What information does the app request?
- Does the app provide privacy protections?
- Can you restrict who sees your profile?
- Who can find you in a search?
- What information can people see about you?

**eSafety tip:** See the eSafety page [Connecting safely – Apps](#) for more advice. [The eSafety Guide](#) contains links to information about how to adjust privacy settings in popular apps.

**Check the permissions and other settings – read the community guidelines and ask yourself these questions:**

- What permissions does the app request?
- What information the app collect?
- Does the app need microphone and/or video camera access to perform its functions?
- What are the default settings?
- Do you need to change default settings, initially and after each update?
- Does the app allow in-app purchases?

**eSafety tip:** See the eSafety Parents page [Taming the technology](#) for advice on using parental control and safe browsing tools.

### Safety check

- Can you report things in the app? (For example: online abuse, impersonator accounts, offensive or illegal content).
- Is the in-app reporting process easy and clear?
- Are the in-app reporting options limited or can you report a wide range of safety concerns?

**eSafety tip:** Let you child know they can come to you for help if anything makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe and they won't be in trouble. You can help them [report serious online abuse](#) to the eSafety Commissioner.



Published 05/2021



## The Great Indigenous Book Swap

During library the children have been discussing easy ways to create costumes for their book week character using up-cycled and recycled material. They came up with some fantastic ideas.



A BIG SHOUT OUT to all the classes who donated good quality books for the Indigenous Book Swap and a special thank you to parent helpers. The children are very excited. Don't forget your gold coin.

- SJP Campus Thursday 24 August
- PN Campus Tuesday 29 August
- PN Campus Wednesday 30th August Kindy
- SJP Campus Wednesday 30th August Pre Kindy, Kindy and Pre Primary

## Mel Maria Waste Wise Warriors

Go Mel Maria ! We have been collecting, sorting and caring for our environment.

Don't forget we have collection containers in the library for lids, batteries, bread tags, ring pulls, plastic stationary and plastic bread bags. We also have the 10c Containers for Cash bins on both campus'. Keep up the great work.

*Mrs Irene Windsor*



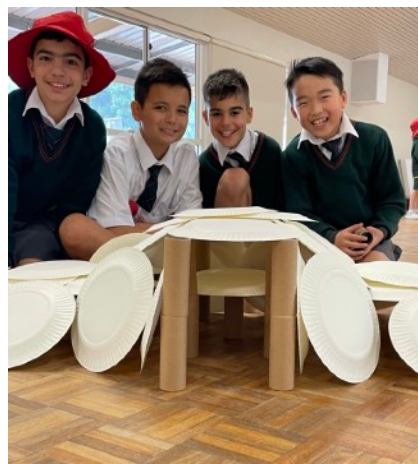
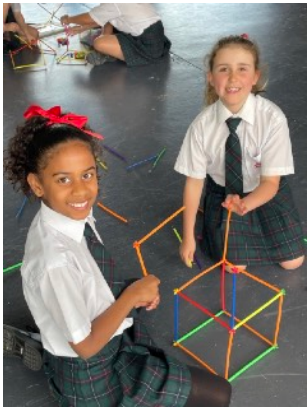


## Science Week 2023

Did you know that WIFI technology and the pacemaker were both developed in Australia? Also did you know the Wright Brother designed, made, and flew the first aeroplane? We did! Many interesting facts about inventors, innovations and inventions were shared over the week. Quizzes, puzzles, and crosswords were completed with enthusiasm. Then using many skills, like creative thinking, collaboration, and problem solving we explored, created, and designed with different materials over lunchtimes. We were now ready to take these skills and ideas and put them into our own designs. Don't forget entries are due this Friday.

There are a few design scientists among us. We can't wait to see who comes up with the next invention like the sticky note or a new video game. Innovation and design will power us into the future.

**Mrs Angie Cannell**



## Why Are Kids Different at Home and at School?

Some hold it together at school, only to lose it at home. Others stress out in the classroom.

Some children seem very different at home and at school. That can be confusing to parents and make you wonder if something is wrong.

Some kids with learning or behaviour issues do great at school, where structure makes them feel secure. At home, though, they totally lose it. For other kids, the opposite is true. School triggers their symptoms because it is stressful for them. They seem like different kids at home, where they're more relaxed.

There are also kids who work so hard to keep it together at school that they melt down the second they get home, taking it out on parents and/or siblings. It may be because home is a safe landing spot and family will love them no matter what.

To understand what your child's behaviour might mean, try talking to the teacher and compare notes. This helps you both figure out what may be causing stress for the child and what's causing the behaviour. Then you can work on ways to help your child (and you!) feel better, which helps with behaviour.

For kids who do better at school, it can help to add more routine, structure and clear boundaries with workable consequences for challenging behaviour at home. Your local Parenting Support Service may have suggestions and resources to help parents with this. If the change from school to home is hard, then downtime and a snack can help. Keep conversations about behaviour to a time when emotions are less heightened. It goes the other way too. If parents have routines that help kids at home, then sharing those with the teacher can help kids at school.

See the link below for other suggestions. The school social worker is available for parents to access as well.

<https://childmind.org/article/kids-different-home-school/>







## Join the Support Our Schools Program (SOS)

- It's free and available to all Gilbert's customers!
- Gilbert's Fresh Market donates 1% of the money spent by you to your nominated school every time you shop with us.
- Sign up at the checkout and simply present your SOS card for scanning each time you shop to earn funds for your school.

It's so easy!

[gilbertsfresh.com.au](http://gilbertsfresh.com.au)



SIGN UP  
IN-STORE TODAY

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WILLETTON

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