

SYNERGISE



Welcome

NEILL OLDHAM, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As we wrap up another academic year, I just want to take a moment to say a huge thank you to every single one of you. It's been a year full of energy, creativity, and collaboration—and none of it would have been possible without the incredible dedication of our staff, the support of our partners, governors, and trustees, and of course, the enthusiasm and brilliance of our pupils.

There's so much to celebrate. From classroom achievements to community projects, from quiet moments of growth to big, bold innovations—we've seen our values come to life in so many ways. We've continued to build an inclusive environment where individuality is not just accepted but empowered. We've worked together with honesty and respect, and we've embraced new ideas with open minds and open hearts.

This newsletter is a snapshot of all that we've achieved together. It's a celebration of the people who make our community what it is—and a reminder of the vision that guides us forward.

Here's to a well-earned summer break, and to coming back refreshed and ready for the next academic year.

Neill



Synergy Education Trust Values

Message from the Chair of Trustees

To staff across the Synergy Schools and Central Team:

As we approach the end of another academic year, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on our achievements and express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering dedication and hard work.

This year, we have accomplished so much together, the Best Practice Networks have grown from strength to strength, enabling subject leaders from across the schools to meet, gain ideas, and share best practices. We have also successfully instigated recruitment days, resulting in the appointment of a significant number of high-quality candidates to positions across our schools.

Highfurlong's new secondary and sixth form building opened, ensuring that the school has facilities to match the needs of the pupils. The Trust offices have relocated from Boundary School to Stanley School, and I have personally enjoyed visiting both schools and participating in events.

I visited The Maple in December for their Christmas Fair, where the pupils showcased excellent work. I have since walked around the school, meeting pupils and discussing what they enjoy about school and how we can improve their engagement.

Moor Park School was chosen by the DfE as an Oracy Lead School, showcasing the work done on the Voice 21 project. This is a massive achievement for all the staff and pupils.

I also want to acknowledge the Head of School at The Maple, Steve, who is leaving at the end of this academic year. Steve has played a crucial role in stabilising The Maple, ensuring that the new Head of School will be able to build on a firm foundation and we wish him well for the future.

As we start the new academic year, we will be welcoming Educational Diversity into the Synergy family of schools. They bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experiences that will enhance teamwork across all our schools. We look forward to working with them and benefiting from their expertise.

We have faced numerous challenges this year, but your resilience and commitment have been truly inspiring. Whether it was adapting to new teaching methods, supporting pupils through difficult times, or ensuring the smooth running of our schools, you have risen to every occasion.

As we look forward to the next academic year, the Trust is excited about the opportunities and initiatives that lie ahead. Our strategic goals will continue to focus on pupil and staff well-being, staff development, and community engagement. Your input and collaboration will be vital in achieving these goals and we are committed to providing the necessary support and resources to help you perform your roles effectively.

I want to extend a special thank you to each and every one of you. Your hard work does not go unnoticed, and we are incredibly grateful for your contributions. Special congratulations to those who have received awards or recognition this year. Your achievements are a source of pride for our entire Trust community. Together, we will continue to provide an outstanding educational experience for all our pupils.

Finally, I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable break. Take this time to recharge and spend quality time with your loved ones. You have earned it! When we return, we will continue our journey together, building on our successes and addressing new challenges with the same spirit of collaboration and excellence.

Susan

Susan Strother
Chair of Trustees
Synergy Education Trust



Thank you to all staff who take part in our first Trust wide staff survey. Here is a snapshot of the results.

**97% of staff
are aware of
the Trust
vision and
values**

**97% of staff
believe their
school is
well led and
managed**

“
I am proud to work at Boundary and
would recommend it to other potential
members of staff.
”

“
Since joining Synergy,
Stanley has just flourished -
the whole ethos of the Trust
embodies everything that
Stanley is.
”

**97% of staff
would
recommend
their school
to a parent**

**95% of staff
would
recommend
working at
Synergy
Education Trust**

“
Highfurlong is a
brilliant place to work
and being in Synergy
is amazing.
”

**97% of staff
believe there
is a
supportive
culture in
school**

“
A very supportive culture for all
staff and joining Synergy has
given Stanley so much support
and many benefits.
”

“
I am incredibly proud to work at
Synergy and if I were to ever
consider moving schools, I would
purposely look for a Synergy
school to stay part of the trust.
”

Areas to consider

These will form part of our strategic planning next year

**83% of staff
believe there
are
opportunities
for professional
growth**

**87% of staff
believe their
wellbeing is
considered in
school**

Boundary Primary School



As we come to the end of another successful academic year, we are delighted to share with you a summary of our key achievements and highlights across Boundary Primary School.

Year 5 Residential

Year 5 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their residential trip. The experience fostered independence, teamwork, and resilience. Pupils returned enthusiastic and ready for the challenges of Year 6, with many sharing stories of personal achievement and growth.



Whole School Farm Visit

We brought the farm to our playground this year, giving all pupils a unique hands-on experience with animals and learning about food production. This event was a highlight for many and enriched our curriculum in science and PSHE.

Choral Speaking Competition

Our annual choral speaking competition was a fantastic celebration of oracy and teamwork. Pupils from across the school participated with enthusiasm, and the quality of performances reflected the hard work of staff and pupils alike.



Heritage Week

Heritage Week was a huge success, with a focus on learning about our local area's history and geography. Pupils explored local landmarks, studied Blackpool's heritage, and developed a greater sense of pride in their community.

Sports and Health Week

We hosted a vibrant Sports and Health Week, welcoming a variety of visitors who shared expertise and inspired pupils to stay active and healthy. Activities included workshops, competitions, and opportunities for pupils to try new sports.



Year 5 Take Over Day

Our Year 5 Take Over Day gave pupils the chance to experience the running of the school. They took on roles such as headteacher, office staff, and lunchtime supervisors. This initiative developed leadership skills and gave pupils a new appreciation for the work of adults in our school.

Academic Results

We are pleased with our results across the school this year. Pupils have made strong progress, and our data shows positive outcomes in all year groups. This is a testament to the hard work of staff, pupils, and the support of our families.



Wow, what an incredible summer term here at Team Highfurlong! It has been full of amazing activities, achievements, and experiences, all of which we are excited to share with you.

TES Schools Awards 2025

We were shortlisted for the EYFS Provision of the year which was such a privilege. Unfortunately we didn't win but we are very proud to have been shortlisted.

Pearson National Teaching Awards

Highfurlong have been awarded a Certificate of Excellence for Making a Difference – Secondary School of the Year at the Pearson Teaching Awards. In addition, the Early Years team won a Bronze award for Early Years Team of the Year.

EdTech 50 2025

We are thrilled to have received the Edtech50 award, recognising positive use of technology to support teaching and learning. The Edtech 50 awards, now in their fifth edition, act as a national benchmark of the imaginative and positive use of technology in schools to support teaching and learning.

World Day for Cultural Diversity

This term we celebrated World Day for Cultural Diversity through an art workshop delivered by our friends at BAE Systems who worked alongside our pupils to create a collage of the all the continents of the world.

Eco Council Swap Shop

Eco council organised a swap shop to help reduce some of the items that may have gone into landfill. The children enjoyed shopping and spending their tokens, one young lady even brought her bag for life , eco friendly and very well prepared for her shopping spree!

Summer Enterprise Fair

The summer Enterprise fair was a busy one. Thank you to all our visitors that bought some of the amazing items our children made. The children did an amazing job making items in their class and using lots of life skills, communication and money skills on the day. We cant wait to see you at Christmas!

Highfurlong Podcast

Sixth form have been visiting Tuneability which is part of the One Fylde group, to create a series of shows called the Highfurlong Takeover. The group have learnt about the radio station, editing and even made a TV podcast! One Fylde has lots going on for young adults including volunteering, craft groups and being a regular host on the radio. Why not have a listen to the podcast Talk with Harry and Jessica by scanning the QR code below.



**Scan the code below
to listen to the podcast**



Stanley Primary School

What a fantastic and action-packed term it's been at Stanley! Our calendar has been bursting with exciting events and achievements that truly highlight the talents, creativity, and teamwork of our school community.

We kicked off the term with five energetic sports days, where pupils showcased their athleticism and team spirit. Our Stanley Dance performance was another highlight, with children choreographing and performing their own routines—an impressive display of confidence and creativity. We also welcomed award-winning author Phil Earle, who visited to share his latest book, *The Dawn of Adonis*, continuing our valued partnership with Book, Bean and Ice Cream in Kirkham.

Our Embrace class had the wonderful opportunity to attend hydrotherapy sessions at Highfurlong's pool—an exciting first-time experience for many. Meanwhile, Team Stanley made us proud at the Blackpool Youth Games, participating in athletics, tennis, golf, tag rugby, cricket, basketball, dance, and the road race. Every pupil represented Stanley with enthusiasm, skill, and determination.

We celebrated major sporting successes, including winning the Blackpool Primary School Cross-country Championship and the Blackpool Cricket Final in a thrilling match against Bispham Endowed. Our team then advanced to the regional final in Ormskirk, thanks to transport support from Moor Park. Our Year 3/4 football team also came 2nd in the Jimmy Armfield tournament.

Exciting changes took place in Key Stage 1, supported by Blackpool Music Service, and our Junior Hall was transformed with new stage curtains and a fresh coat of paint. Year 5 impressed us with their enterprise project, raising £499.17. They celebrated with pizza and sports activities delivered by Blackpool Football Club Community Trust, and each pupil received a surprise piggy bank to encourage saving.

Year 6 enjoyed a memorable trip to London, visiting Parliament, the London Eye, Buckingham Palace, and even posing outside Number 10 Downing Street. They represented Stanley brilliantly throughout. We also hosted the Lancashire Music Hub's 'Create and Sing Day', facilitated by the Royal Ballet and Schools Opera programme, welcoming staff from across the region.

Reception pupils were treated to a visit from Notarianni's ice cream, who shared their history and supported our 'Seaside' theme with materials—and a delicious treat! We also enjoyed a lively performance from the Park Academy band and were proud to host the Blackpool Football Community Trust Kellogg's Sports Summer Camp promotion, where children took part in a range of activities and received a giant box of Cornflakes to take home.

A true highlight was our Year 6 production of *Aladdin*, where pupils wowed families with their acting, singing, and technical skills. As we prepare to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 leavers, we're also looking forward to our end-of-term talent shows and the Reception art exhibition.

None of these incredible opportunities would be possible without our dedicated staff, volunteers, and community partners. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to another amazing term at Team Stanley—we are so proud of all we've achieved together!



This term the staff team have been focusing on continuous professional learning and have taken part in training including Thrive training. We are also continuing implementing our whole school curriculum.

Rainbow Friday

We recently celebrated Rainbow Friday, a vibrant day dedicated to embracing diversity, inclusion, and pride. Students and staff lit up the halls with colorful outfits, kind words, and a spirit of unity. Through fun activities and heartfelt conversations, the school community came together to celebrate what makes each of us unique—and how those differences make us stronger together.

Blackpool Boccia Tournament

Our talented students recently took part in the Blackpool Boccia Tournament, showcasing not only their sporting skills but also their incredible team spirit and determination. Boccia, a precision ball sport similar to bowls, requires focus, strategy, and collaboration—and our pupils rose to the challenge with enthusiasm and grace.

Each student played their part, supporting one another and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout the competition. It was a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, develop communication skills, and represent the school with pride. Well done to all who participated!

Lego therapy

This term, students have been thoroughly enjoying their Lego Therapy sessions, which combine creativity, teamwork, and therapeutic play. Taking advantage of the sunny weather, sessions were held outdoors, where students worked together to design and build their own Lego cars. The activity encouraged problem-solving, communication, and cooperation, as students shared ideas and helped one another bring their creations to life.

Careers Fair

A group of students had the exciting opportunity to attend a Careers Fair at Blackburn College, where they explored a wide range of career paths, with a particular focus on roles in the health and social care sectors.

The event was packed with interactive stalls, industry professionals, and hands-on experiences. Students asked thoughtful questions, gathered useful resources, and came away with a clearer understanding of the opportunities available to them after school. And of course, they enjoyed collecting a few fun freebies along the way!

We Are Noise

Students have completed another inspiring term with We Are Noise, a dynamic music programme that gives young people the chance to explore their creativity through DJing, music production, mixing, and vocal coaching. Each session was filled with energy and passion as students experimented with beats, learned new techniques, and expressed themselves through sound. The programme not only nurtures musical talent but also builds confidence, collaboration, and self-expression. We're incredibly proud of all the students who took part and can't wait to hear what they create next!



Moor Park Primary School



It has been such a busy and end of the year at Moor Park. Here are some of our celebrations:

Bake Off!

An amazing competition which proved very popular – Bloomfield Bear came to judge winners. The cakes were sold at the end of the day – there was a queue out of the car park and we raised approximately £500 which will help us to maintain and improve Mrs Stangwood's memorial garden.

Summer Fair

We raised an incredible £4000 which will go towards visits and visitors to help bring our curriculum to life in 2025-26. Thank you to everyone who attended or donated a prize.

Voice 21

We have completed our 2nd year with fabulous results! We are excited to commence our 3rd year on the project and look forward to working with our Synergy Schools to share good practice.

Attendance

We have worked with our parents and carers throughout the year to encourage good attendance and continue to work on punctuality. We are pleased to see our attendance % increase this year.

Sustainability

The Eco Council have been litter picking. We also had World Ocean Day and learnt about taking care of our planet. The School council have planted a plant for every classroom to keep the air clean and learn about the importance of plants and the environment.

Mock Trial

Year 6 had a visit from The Magistrates and took part in a mock trial. We learnt all about what it means to be a magistrate and the court systems. It was so interesting and we learnt lots. We also took our decision very seriously, but after our role play, we found Sonia guilty!!

Lancashire Music Hub

Year 2 had a visit from Marco and Alex from Lancashire Music Hub with their new mobile music bus. The children had a fantastic time trying out electric guitars, keyboards and digital drum kits as well as using the latest music technology on an iPad. They even got to create sounds using a theremin which you control with your hands and we may have discovered a new Sabrina Carpenter among us!

We also say goodbye to Mrs Taylor – a member of staff since 1994! She has left us with a beautiful bird house! We wish her all the best in her retirement.



Trust Central Team Insight

What an incredible academic year for the whole Trust! We are delighted to share some exciting updates from across the Trust, highlighting our continued growth, collaboration, and commitment to excellence in education.

Welcoming new central team members

In May we welcomed Ali Isaac to the central team as Trust Administrator, she is here to support all schools and is a welcome addition to the team. In September we are pleased to welcome Paula Barlow, as Assistant Director of Education. Paula is a very experienced special school headteacher and she will be supporting the School Improvement Team and is looking forward to meeting you all. We also welcome Danielle Jacques to the team as Trust Behaviour Lead. Danielle has a wealth of knowledge and experience and will be working across all Synergy schools.

Safer recruitment training

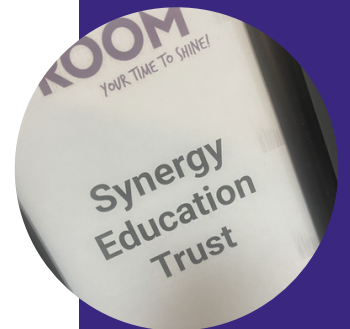
In a commitment to continuous improvement, all senior leaders took part in Safer Recruitment training. This essential training ensures our leadership teams are well-equipped with the knowledge and systems required when recruiting new staff, ensuring our safeguarding systems are robust.

Strategic Planning Day

This term our executive leadership team came together for our annual Strategic Planning Day- a valuable opportunity to reflect on our Synergy values and shape our vision for the future. Key discussions focused on sustainable growth, deepening inclusion, and supporting staff wellbeing by addressing workload and promoting balance. We explored streamlining systems for greater efficiency and investing in staff development to empower confident leadership. At the heart of our planning is a shared commitment to delivering high-quality education for every pupil – ensuring they are supported, challenged, and inspired.

Attendance Matters: 'Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow'

All schools across the Trust launched our new attendance initiative, 'Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow' and we are now seeing the impact. As a whole our mainstream primaries have reduced persistent absence by an incredible 7% on last year. Our special schools have increased attendance by 7% and reduced persistent absence by 5%. What an incredible achievement by all schools.



Successful Trust-Wide Recruitment Day

Our second Trust-wide recruitment day was held in May and was a resounding success, with eight exceptional candidates securing positions across our schools. We are thrilled to welcome these new members to our team and look forward to their contributions. If you missed this opportunity, don't worry—our next recruitment event will be held in the Autumn term, so stay tuned for further details!

Inspiring Leadership Conference

In May, Synergy Headteachers and Executive Leaders attended the Inspiring Leadership Conference — a valuable opportunity for reflection, collaboration, and growth. Our leaders left the session feeling inspired and motivated, ready to embrace the insights and connections gained throughout the conference. The day fostered collaborative thinking, strengthened team bonds, and sparked valuable conversations that will continue to shape our strategic direction.

Northwest Education Exchange

We were proud to join the Northwest Education Exchange alongside over 130 like-minded professionals and Multi-Academy Trusts, all united by a shared commitment to making a difference in education and supporting one another wherever possible.

The event provided a valuable platform for collaboration, idea-sharing, and strengthening partnerships across the region. It was also a special moment for Suzanne Hamilton, Director of Education, who had the opportunity to return to her former university as an alumna — a meaningful and inspiring visit that added a personal touch to an already impactful day.

Annual Estates Summit

Recently, Lisa Tupman, our Chief Operating Officer and all of our schools' Business and Operations Managers attended the annual Estates Summit — a valuable day of learning, collaboration, and inspiration.

The event offered a fantastic opportunity to network with peers, gain fresh ideas, and hear from experts on managing school estates and driving sustainability across educational settings. It also served as an excellent team-building experience, strengthening connections within our own Trust and with others across the sector.

We left the summit energised and full of ideas to enhance our environments for the benefit of all our pupils and staff.





Autumn term priorities

The autumn priorities for the Trust will include:

- Welcoming Educational Diversity to the Trust
- Embedding and establishing Synergy policies across all schools
- Recruitment at both central and school level
- Further development of the Best Practice networks to support high quality teaching and learning
- Curriculum development at Maple
- Introducing AI to schools to reduce workload



to all of our pupils
on your amazing
exam results!!

**The
National
College®**

Synergy Education Trust Joins The National College

We're proud to announce that Synergy Education Trust is now a member of The National College. This partnership provides our staff with access to a wealth of high-quality professional development resources, training, and up-to-date guidance across all areas of education.

Joining The National College reflects our ongoing commitment to investing in our people, supporting continuous learning, and ensuring we remain at the forefront of best practice — all in service of delivering the very best outcomes for our pupils.

The platform will be available from September.

All staff, governors and trustees will receive a joining email, so keep an eye out in your mailbox.



BECOME A LOCAL GOVERNOR TODAY

We are looking for local governors across all of our Synergy Schools.

Register Now

Website
www.seteducation.org.uk/become-a-local-governor



Join Us as a Local Governor!
We are looking for passionate, community-minded individuals to become Local Governors and help shape the future of education in our schools.

Open to all Synergy Staff and partners

As a local governor, you'll play a vital role in supporting school leadership, ensuring high standards, and helping every child reach their full potential.

No prior experience needed – just commitment, curiosity, and a desire to help.

Full training and support provided!

Interested? email us at admin@seteducation.org.uk to learn more and apply.

book now



All Networks are free to Synergy Schools
£20 per person, per network for Non-Synergy schools


BOOK NOW through the Synergy Education Trust Website!
<https://seteducation.org.uk/courses>

AUTUMN TERM 2025

Upcoming Best Practice Networks

SEPTEMBER 18	BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ SYNERGY OFFICES Focus: Zones of regulation Led by Danielle Jacques, Behaviour Lead at Synergy Education Trust
SEPTEMBER 22	ENGLISH BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ MOOR PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: A Culture of Oracy Led by Joanne Forrester and Helen Jefferson
SEPTEMBER 29	MATHS BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ BOUNDARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Bar modelling Led by Robyn Starkey
OCTOBER 8	SCIENCE BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ MOOR PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Making Science Relevant Led by Hannah Woods
OCTOBER 13	ART BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ HIGHFURLONG Focus: Curriculum development to support all learners Led by Katie Dove
OCTOBER 15	HISTORY BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ BOUNDARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Diversity in the History Curriculum Led by Samara Crystal
NOVEMBER 5	SEND BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ HIGHFURLONG Focus: Using visuals to support learning Led by Sarah Senior
NOVEMBER 6	MFL BEST PRACTICE NETWORK 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ BOUNDARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Teaching of Phonics Led by Chris Jones

book now



BOOK NOW through the Synergy Education Trust Website!
<https://seteducation.org.uk/courses>

Upcoming Best Practice Networks

NOVEMBER 12 **SUSTAINABILITY BEST PRACTICE NETWORK** 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ MOOR-PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Sustainability, Climate Change and what it means for schools Led by Charlotte Harrison || **NOVEMBER 24** | **EYFS BEST PRACTICE NETWORK** 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ MOOR PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Adaptive teaching in the EYFS Led by Hannah Woods |
| **DECEMBER 3** | **RE BEST PRACTICE NETWORK** 4:00PM – 5:00PM @ BOUNDARY PRIMARY SCHOOL Focus: Assessment in RE and trips and visitors Led by Emily Kay |

All Networks are free to Synergy Schools
£20 per person, per network for Non-Synergy schools

AUTUMN TERM 2025



SPECIAL OFFER!

BEST PRACTICE NETWORKS 25/28

LET'S SHARE THE GOOD PRACTICE GOING ON IN OUR SCHOOLS AND OFFER SUPPORT TO YOUR HARDWORKING STAFF THROUGH NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES.

CONTACT US **NOW** IF YOU WANT TO SIGN UP FOR THE SCHOOL ANNUAL 25/26 PLACE
ADMIN@SETEDUCATION.ORG.UK

BOOK INDIVIDUAL SESSIONS FOR AUTUMN, THROUGH THE SYNERGY WEBSITE [HTTPS://SETEDUCATION.ORG.UK/](https://seteducation.org.uk/)
BOOKING WILL OPEN JULY 2025

SUBJECT NETWORKS

- ENGLISH X2
- MATHS X2
- SCIENCE X2
- HISTORY X2
- GEOGRAPHY X2
- MFL X2
- COMPUTING X2
- RE X2
- PHSE/SMSC X2
- MUSIC X2
- ART X2
- DESIGN TECHNOLOGY X2
- PE X2

RESPONSIBILITY NETWORKS

- EYFS X3
- ECO/SUSTAINABILITY X3
- SEND (SPECIFIC ELEMENTS OF SEND) X3
- BEHAVIOUR X3

Well done

to the Early Years team at Highfurlong, for receiving the Bronze Pearson Award.

Well done

to Nicola Edge, HLTA at Boundary for winning Student of the Year at the B&FC awards and congratulations on completing your degree.

Well done

to Melissa Barker and Tiernan Hamill, Assistant Heads at Maple for successfully completing their Thrive accreditations.

Well done

to Jen Monaghan from Highfurlong, who has been shortlisted for Support Practitioner of the year at NASEN awards 2025.

Congratulations!

Happy 80th Birthday
to Glenis Dean, our lovely welfare assistant from Stanley

Huge congratulations

to Mrs Lavelle, from Highfurlong who has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence in the Teacher of the Year in the Primary schools category.

Well done to

Dan Parsons at Boundary for completing his first year of Teach First (teacher training)

Huge congratulations

to Chantelle Altham, from Highfurlong who has been awarded a Certificate of Excellence in the Teacher of the Year in the Secondary schools category.

Thank you!

to all pupils, staff, governors and trustees for your incredible hard work this year.
Have a wonderful Summer break!

