



Key Notices

Autumn term
around school

Celebrating
Achievements



King James's School

NEWSLETTER





King James's School Christmas Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an extraordinarily busy autumn term and, as we think about finishing for Christmas, there are a few key messages to share, as well as some news to report about events in school.

Mock exams Year 11 and Year 13:

The year 11 pupils conducted themselves very well in the mock exams. It was a hard couple of weeks for them, but absolutely necessary that we got back to real exam practice after so much Covid disruption. They will be getting the results from those mocks shortly, and will have time to act on the feedback before the real thing. Just a reminder that in my last newsletter (available on the website) I did set out the exam board adjustments for the pupils sitting public exams next summer. Year 13 have their mocks in the new year. The revision support is available on the website.

Post 16 options:

Following a highly successful careers fair in November we will have a Sixth Form open evening on 12th January. This will be an opportunity for our current Y11 pupils to learn more about King James's Sixth Form and the courses on offer. This will be followed by a taster day on 9th February where Y11 can sample A level lessons.

Headteacher recruitment:

The chair of governors wrote to all parents in July 2022 to explain that I am retiring from my post as Headteacher after 15 years at King James's School. My leaving date is confirmed as 31st March 2023. They are currently recruiting for a new Headteacher and interviews will take place on 9th and 10th January.

Kind Regards
Carl Sugden



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Values and Expectations

We are delighted that in the main our students transitioned smoothly back into the KJS community in September by being 'ready, respectful and engaged'. Certainly a large majority of our students have sustained really high standards over the past term regarding the meeting of our expectations around these values and we thank you for your support and cooperation with this. At the start of the new term in the New Year we will be resetting and refocusing on the importance of being 'ready' both physically (by wearing the correct KJS uniform with pride) and practically (with regard to having the correct equipment and by being on time to learn by being punctual). For some students it may be necessary to use the Christmas break as an opportunity to 'reset' and to consider ways in which they can ensure that they have a positive and consistent approach to our values and expectations from the offset in January. We ask that any uniform issues (including incorrect footwear) are addressed over the holidays so that on our return students can start afresh in a positive way.

Student Illness

A reminder that when pupils are ill during the school day they should not be calling home directly to ask parents to come and pick them up. We are aware that illness is more prevalent at the moment but any parental contact to come to collect a pupil should come through the school nurse. We would be grateful for your support in reiterating this to your child/ren to ensure that the correct procedure is followed.

“NotMyChild” campaign

This campaign was inspired by the tragic story of Kerry's daughter Leah who died after taking drugs in 2019. Leah was 15 when she lost her life in a car park in Northallerton after taking two MDMA bombs whilst with a group of friends. Kerry wanted to help other parents to have proactive and positive conversations with their children about drugs and alcohol, and also teamed up with Commissioner Zoe to create the “NotMyChild” campaign. Full details are available at www.notmychild.info.

School Production

It's so exciting for us after a 3-year gap that our school production will return to the stage next year with "School of Rock". Since September, the cast and band have been working incredibly hard and bringing their best 'rock n roll' attitudes to rehearsals and have had their first full Sunday together rehearsing.

Dates for the production are 7th, 8th and 9th February 2023, so look out for tickets very soon. Get ready to "Stick It To The Man"!



Othello Trip

Years 11-13 visited York Theatre Royal in October to see Frantic Assembly's outstanding production of "Othello". As always, they represented the school fantastically and will be stealing lots of ideas for their own performance and exams.



Hamilton Cinema Night

Performing Arts students came together, to the Drama Circle, armed with blankets and snacks, to watch Hamilton, as part of their musical theatre studies. Hopefully they will hold onto some of the quotes from the show - "Rise Up", "Be Inimitable and Original", and not "Throwing away their shot"!

York Theatres Visit

On 5th December, our Year 10 Performing Arts students visited two professional venues - York Barbican and York Theatre Royal, to tour the space and learn about the industry and what working in a professional theatre entails.

Year 7 Drama Club

The year 7 students arrive every Monday at 3.15pm with a zest for drama and an abundance of enthusiasm. Recently they began working on Christmas scenes which they are hoping to perform prior to the Christmas holidays! An incredible group of students, huge amounts of talent, skill and imagination! I hope that they have enjoyed the time as much as I have!

Remembrance Day

On Friday 11th November, three of our students took on a very important job, playing the Last Post to signal the start of the two minute silence that was observed in school to remember the sacrifices made by the armed forces to defend freedom. Jonathan, Ella and Alex took on this role with great pride and responsibility. Thank you to you all.



News from Learning Support

Carlton Lodge

Perfect weather greeted us again when we returned on our annual visit to Carlton Lodge Outdoor Pursuits Centre. We enjoyed 3 days of fun, challenging activities, great food and personal achievements.

This year's highlights included: braving the high ropes, flying down the zipwire, scaling the heights of the climbing wall and climbing tree, terrible singing around the campfire and enduring the freezing waters of the lake. Two exciting new additions this year were axe throwing and stand up paddle boarding on the brand new 10 person paddle boards

The students were a credit to the school and we all returned home dirty and very tired - we can't wait until next year.



Everyman Cinema

Our students were very lucky to receive free tickets to a showing of 'Sing 2' at the Everyman Cinema in Harrogate as part of the 'Into Film Festival'. We had a fantastic time and the students have written a review of the film, which will be entered into a national competition.



GCSE Prize Giving

Three of our older students and their parents attended the GCSE prize giving ceremony to receive their examination certificates from guest speaker Jane Leonard. We are all very proud of the hard work and dedication they have shown throughout their time at KJS! Well done!

Languages Events

On 6th December, we celebrated Sankt Nikolaus Tag in school. Students in Years 8 and 9 were invited to come and try some German Christmas foods, such as Stollen, Lebkuchen (a type of gingerbread), spiced biscuits and German rye bread with various Wurst (sausages). There were also Christmas crafts, making angels and snowmen, and a quiz to see how Germany celebrates Christmas and how German people are responsible for lots of the traditions that we follow today.



We also held a Languages Christmas card competition, which was open to Year 7 and 8 students, who were challenged with designing a card/poster with Christmas vocabulary from another language around the world or finding out about Christmas traditions in another country.



Maths Week England

In November, pupils across school took on various puzzles and challenges for Maths Week England. The theme for this year was "The power of two" and saw pupils learn about exponential growth in lessons, take on the four 2's challenges in form groups and lower school pupils hunting teachers wearing their special number badges.

Congratulations to our form prize winners: 7S2, 8S2, 9S1, 10W2, 11A2, 12IWA and 13SKE.

Winners of the teacher treasure hunt were: Phillip in Year 7 and Bella and Jamie in Year 8. Congratulations!

Well done to all for taking on the week with such energy and enthusiasm.



Christmas Service

On Thursday 15th December, our Year 7 students attended the annual Christmas Service at St John's Church in Knaresborough. They were able to view the Christmas Tree Festival, an annual event where seventy Christmas trees are decorated by local groups and businesses.



Student Leadership

This year we have introduced a number of different student leadership opportunities, ranging from Form Reps, School Council, Wellbeing Ambassadors, House Captains and Subject Champions. In total we have 350 students who are developing their leadership skills as well as helping us to improve aspects of school life.

During this term our Form Reps have asked their form opinions on reading and how we can develop this within school, provided us with feedback on our recent careers week and contributed to ways in which we can become a more energy efficient school.

The School Council will be meeting the Leadership team after Christmas to discuss topics raised by their year groups. They will be receiving some training from an external speaker on communication and presentation skills before they do this in January.

House captains have been busy supporting Mrs Cooper in the organisation of teams for House Netball and Rugby and our Wellbeing Ambassadors will be working with Mr Gordon on some new initiatives to raise awareness of wellbeing in school.

We are lucky to have such a proactive bunch of young people willing to invest their time into improving aspects of school life for others.

Rewards trips

This term, we were delighted to once again be able to run our ever-popular rewards trips. These trips are a fantastic opportunity to reward those students who regularly meet our school expectations and embrace our school values.

In November, 130 Year 9 pupils plus 7 staff went bowling at the Xscape complex in Castleford. They had a fantastic time and fully deserved this treat.

At the start of December, 120 Year 10 students had the opportunity to start their Christmas shopping with a rewards trip to Meadowhall Shopping Centre. It was a great opportunity for the students to socialise with each other and celebrate the first term completed of Year 10.

On Thursday 8th December, Mr Atkinson took 132 year 8 students to Xscape, Castleford to celebrate their hard work and efforts during the first term. Students and staff competed in 2 games of bowling, followed by a visit to '5 GUYS' or Burger King. All students and staff had a great time and are looking forward to another enrichment activity in the summer term.



GCSE PRIZE GIVING



In November, we were delighted to be able to once again hold our annual GCSE Prize Giving ceremony to celebrate the achievements of last year's Year 11 students. Students came together in Chaloner Hall, where prizes were awarded and students were presented with their exam certificates.

Students were presented with their prizes and certificates by guest speaker Jane Leonard. Jane has represented England Rugby in both 7s and 15s, she



has also captained the Army and the UK Armed Forces women's rugby teams. Off the field, Jane served as a Royal Engineer and Physical Training Instructor. Jane spoke to students about her latest adventure, taking part in the Great Pacific Race, for which she and her team now hold the world record, and we hope very much that she has inspired our students to push themselves and achieve their full potential in whatever paths they choose to take in the future.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

On Tuesday 6th December the Music department put on their first performance for almost 3 years. The Christmas concert was a huge success with performances from ensembles such as concert band, choir, hand bells and brass group. A number of soloists also performed. Everybody played and sang really well and staff, parents, family and friends were really proud of their achievements. We look forward to performing more now we are able, and we are already planning the Spring concert!



Nervous faces, anxious smiles and gleaming new uniforms filled S1 on the first day of their first term at King James's back in September. And that was just the tutors! Especially the four new staff: Miss Gerard, Miss Cameron, Miss Quinn and Mr Bell, who have settled into the school just as well as the new cohort of Y7 pupils.

Since September, our fantastic Year 7s have thrown themselves into clubs at lunch and after school, literally in the case of rugby practice. They have been to drama, Art, Lego and coding clubs amongst others. Over fifty boys regularly attend football practice on a Wednesday and the girls turn out in equally impressive numbers on a Friday after school.

They have got used to new classrooms and teachers without getting lost too many times and embraced all that King James's has to offer. We have some very talented youngsters in the year group, both in and out of school. House cross country was a breeze as they sprinted around the course and then stood and sportingly applauded their peers. Some then went on to compete at the County event representing the school.

Their behaviour was exemplary at this year's Founder's Day in October and they were outstanding ambassadors on Open Evening, showing off their new school with pride. Was there nothing that these intrepid students could not do? Lunchtimes saw pasta

pots, noodles, pizza, salad and fish n chips, lovingly prepared by Chef Richard and his award winning team and enthusiastically devoured by our hungry pupils. They seemed to have boundless energy and appetites.

Half term came and went with 270 certificates being awarded for making it through to their first holidays at KJS. Nothing could stop them. The Christmas music concert entertained the audience. We also had a wonderful Christingle service where staff and students sang in the beautifully decorated church. Everybody present commented on the impeccable behaviour of the pupils. Both Miss Dennis and I were very proud of our Year 7s, as always.

The pupils showed their amazing generosity raising £1500 for Barnardo's, running Miss Ramplin's superbly organised mini marathon in fancy dress and then filled over a hundred shoeboxes for less fortunate children in Ukraine and Eastern Europe as part of the Rotary Club Appeal. They have helped put the smiles back on the faces of children.

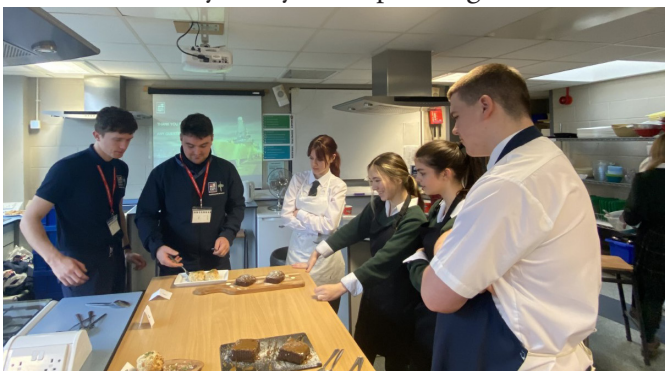
Well, we've finally made it to the end of a very long and hard first term. The Year 7 students, their parents and carers should be very proud of all the wonderful achievements this term. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a good rest. You all deserve it. See you next year.



Royal Navy Catering Workshop

On Thursday 1st December, the Food department at King James's School welcomed two serving members of the Royal Navy's catering team all the way from Portsmouth to deliver a cookery competition to Year 11 Hospitality & Catering students. There was a presentation regarding career pathways in the Royal Navy, which opened the eyes of many students as to where a career in catering could take you.

The students were divided into teams of 4 and were set a timed task to create two dishes: Fish cakes for the main followed by sticky toffee pudding for dessert. For



the winners, there were Royal Navy t-shirts up for grabs which the students were desperate to get their hands on! I've never seen the students so focused and wanting to show the two navy chefs just what they were capable of. The two dishes required a lot of technical skill and know-how, and all teams thoroughly demonstrated their skills and subject knowledge which highly impressed our guests. The students' final dishes were all outstanding but congratulations (along with Royal Navy t-shirts and Paul Hollywood-esque handshakes) went to the winning team comprising: Anna, Josh, Sophie and Jasmine.

The Royal Navy chefs work with schools up and down the country but were blown away by the knowledge, We know this has helped to inform students and parents and helped students with planning their next steps

King James's School Careers Fair

November saw the return of our Careers Fair. The purpose of our event is to raise awareness of a wide variety of opportunities and to motivate our students to consider a broad and ambitious range of pathways. We aimed to provide something for everyone.

We attracted exhibitors from major national, regional and local companies, together with universities and other organisations. The support we received for the event from students and parents in Key stages 4 and 5 was fantastic - with over 700 people attending the event!

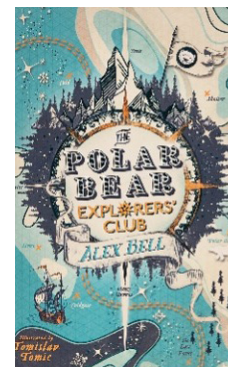
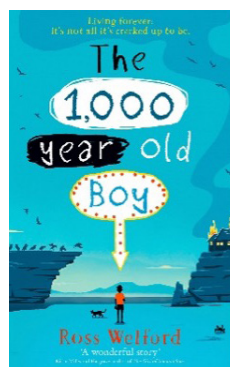


Exhibitors who attended our event included: Nidd Hall, ISG Ltd, White Rose Beauty Colleges, Belzona, 02, Betty's and Taylors, Labcorp Development, Saffrey Champness, RAF, Ask Apprenticeships, White Rose Beauty Colleges, Askham Bryan College, Harrogate College, York College, Northern School of Art, York University, Leeds Beckett University, York St John University, Leeds Trinity University, Harrogate District Hospital – volunteers We received lots of very positive feedback after the evening from both parents and exhibitors:

- “lots of stalls, well-staffed and people were friendly to talk to and encouraging .. “
- “gained information from very knowledgeable people”
- “Great evening – good set up. Great to be a part of our next generations career journey in the community.”
- “Students were fantastically engaged and asked brilliant questions...”
- “It was great to have the opportunity to chat to so many parents too”

Jólabókaflóðið (the Christmas Book Flood) is an Icelandic tradition that involves gifting books to others on Christmas Eve. The tradition began after World War II when many gifts were in short supply,

but books were readily available. This has become a much-loved tradition that has a huge impact on book sales and charts in Iceland. Here are our favourite recommendations for this December.



King James's School
Books for ages 11+

Your Autumn Digital Book Club is here! Shop all the latest and greatest children's books, carefully chosen to encourage reading for pleasure, quickly and easily online.

Browse all books for 11+ year olds here or return to the homepage to browse more books.

Offer price £7.25	Offer price £6.40	Offer price £19.99	Offer price £7.20	Offer price £6.40	Offer price £5.99
Buy	Buy	Buy	Buy	Buy	Buy

Scholastic Book Club

If you missed out on our Book Fair last week, don't worry! You can still order books from Scholastic to be delivered to school. Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/king-james/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online. Please place your order online by January 31st, 2023.

KING JAMES'S SCHOOL
SCHOOL LIBRARY

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Popular Titles

Stolen with Style	The Last Hour: Chain of Command	The Summer I Turned Out	The Diary of a Young Girl	The Hate U Give	The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas

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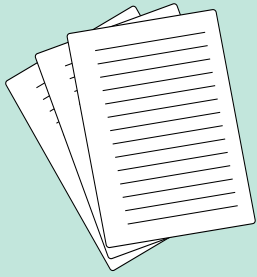
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Recommended | Browse | Favourites & Bundles | Search | Standards

Browse

Reading level: [dropdown] Fiction / Non-fiction: [dropdown] Graphic novels only

1,455 books	1,220 books	3,090 books	279 books	236 books
286 books	1,808 books	1,185 books	1,803 books	716 books
379 books				



SKRENTNY CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION

Identity

Your challenge is to write a short story or poem of no more than 1,000 words based on the theme 'Identity'.

You may interpret the theme however you wish.

All entries should be written in a word document and sent in an email with the title 'Identity Writing Competition' to library@king-james.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Entries must be received by 31st December 2022.



Careers Week - Learning Cycle 1

During every Learning Cycle there will be one week devoted to Careers during tutor time and assemblies for every year group. In October we had our first week which concentrated on helping students identify their skills and personal qualities and what this means for making key choices. We had a range of visiting speakers in to talk to students about the importance of self-awareness in career choice and to talk about their journey. Speakers included the RAF, York College and Ask Apprenticeships.

Careers Week - Learning Cycle 2

During the next Learning Cycle, we will be looking at progression opportunities for all year groups and at the choices students make at the different key stages. For instance Year 9 will focus on option choices - and where they might lead. Years 11 and 12 will be reviewing their choices and ensuring they know how to apply for the next stage of their career journey. This will also include ensuring they all have a back up safety plan.

German Exchange 2023

We are looking forward to welcoming 20 German students from our partner school in Bebra, Germany in March 2023 to stay with 20 KJS students and their families. A programme of activities, both in and out of school, awaits our German friends. This academic year marks the 49th year of exchange between the two schools, a partnership which is one of the longest running exchanges between a British and German secondary school. Our students will have the opportunity to return to Germany in 2024.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

In October, Sixth Form students held a cake sale in aid of MacMillian. They did a tremendous job of baking, donating cakes and running the sale, and raised a total of £394.58. Well done to everyone involved.



Wellbeing Ambassadors

Our brilliant team of Sixth Form Wellbeing Ambassadors have been busy this term. Four students have been meeting weekly with a small group of Year 7 boys to help them feel more settled. Another has been helping Ms Tarren with the Year 8 Flourish project after school. Last Friday, three Ambassadors braved the cold weather and planted over 100 spring bulbs at the front of sixth form. The team has lots more plans in progress to support others in school and we are proud of the contribution they are making to KJS.

hello



Mental Health Support Team

The Wellbeing in Mind Team (WiMT) is a Mental Health Support Team (MHST) which is an NHS service that has been introduced as part of the national plans to expand mental health services for children, young people, and their families within the education setting.

The Wellbeing in Mind Team aims to positively impact the mental health and wellbeing of young people by:

- Using low-intensity evidence-based CBT interventions for low mood and anxiety.
- Working closely with each school's identified Mental Health Lead (a senior member of the school staff who has received specific training to support this role) to support individual referrals through consultations.
- Supporting each school in developing and maintain a 'whole school approach' (WSA) which includes delivering assemblies, classroom-based sessions, staff training and workshops covering a range of topics.

We work across the Harrogate and District in the following schools:

King James's School, Knaresborough
Boroughbridge High School
St. John Fisher Catholic High School
Ripon Grammar School
Ripon Outwood Academy
Rossett School
Harrogate High School

The King James's Team:



Jo, Bethany, Holly and Abigail

No one should go hungry!



We are very grateful of any donations of food or gifts, please see below as to what is needed and where you can give.

Please help by providing food donations to:



Harrogate and Knaresborough Foodbank

Christmas donations:

Holy Trinity Knaresborough Wednesdays 10.30am -12.30pm.

Mowbray Community Church, Harrogate Tuesdays & Fridays 10.30am -12.30pm.

Life Destiny Church , Starbeck Thursdays 10.30am -12.30pm.

Email:info@harrogedistrict.foodbank.org.uk



Ripon, Boroughbridge and Masham Foodbank

Accepting donations of food for Christmas until Wednesday 21st Dec.

Email: foodsupport@riponcommunityhouse.co.uk

Text/phone: 07486 458 963



Resurrected Bites

Donations of foil wrapped chocolates e.g coins or santas would be welcomed.

Donation drop off points:

Gracious St Methodist Church, Knaresborough, Tuesdays & Fridays 9am – 2.30pm

New Park Community Hub, Harrogate Tuesdays & Thursdays 9.30am - 3pm

Email: resbitesdonations@gmail.com if you cannot drop off large donations.



Harrogate St Peters Church

Email: stpeterschurchhgtooffice@gmail.com

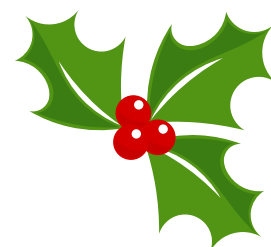


Boroughbridge and District Community Care

Donations welcomed of any unwanted presents suitable for an older person and families.

Email: boroughbridgecommunitycare@gmail.com or phone 01423 324504.

Please remember food donations are needed all year round not just for Christmas.



Don't go hungry this Christmas or New Year



Our local food providers are here to help you and your family if you find yourself in need of food. They can provide you with food parcels including basic provisions and some provide cooked meals or a combination of both.

Please contact your nearest provider to find out how they can help you.
All enquiries are dealt with in strict confidence.



Harrogate and Knaresborough Foodbank

Food collections (referrals only):

Holy Trinity, Knaresborough Wednesdays 10.30am -12.30pm.

Mowbray Community Church, Harrogate Tuesday & Fridays 10.30am -12.30pm.

Life Destiny Church, Starbeck Thursdays 10.30am -12.30pm.

Email: info@harrogedistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Closed 24 Dec - 3 Jan 2023.



Ripon, Boroughbridge and Masham Foodbank

Waste Not Wednesday at Ripon Community House Wednesday 21 December 3 - 5pm. Surplus food cooked up into meals and treats plus short-dated items to take away for a donation. Open to all in the community.

Tel: 07486 458963 Email: foodsupport@riponcommunityhouse.co.uk

Closed from Thursday 22 Dec - reopening Tuesday 3 Jan 2023.



Resurrected Bites

"Give as you can" Cafes at:

Gracious St Methodist Church, Knaresborough on Fridays 10am - 2pm,

West Park United Reformed Church, Harrogate on Wednesdays 10am - 2pm.

Closed 24 Dec - 3 Jan 2023. Reopens 4 Jan.

Community Groceries for people in food poverty:

New Park Community Grocery on West St, Harrogate 9.30-3pm,

Gracious St Methodist Church, Knaresborough 9am – 2.30pm.

Closed 24 Dec - 4 Jan 2023. Reopens 5 Jan.

See website for more information: www.resurrectedbites.co.uk



Harrogate St Peters Church

Christmas Day: Breakfast not available. Christmas Day lunch available 1 - 1.30pm, eat in only, no booking required. All other times:

Hot breakfast 8.20 - 8.45am Monday to Saturday (eat in/take away)

Hot meal 4.30 - 4.50pm Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (eat in or take away)

Mini Supermarket every Thursday 4.30 - 4.50pm. Sunday Lunch 1 - 1.30pm Sundays (eat in or take away) including New Year's Day 1st January

Any urgent requests can be texted to Hannah: 07503 186455 (no deliveries)

More information is available at www.stpetersharrogate.org.uk



Boroughbridge and district Community Care

Boroughbridge Community Larder will be closed on **Wednesday 28 Dec.**

Reopen on Wednesday 4 Jan 23.

Emergency food support closed from **23 Dec 22 until 3 Jan 23.**

Tel: 01423324504 or email: boroughbridgecommunitycare@gmail.com