

# **Autumn 4 - Newsletter - 25/09/2025**

# **Message from Mrs Sherwood**



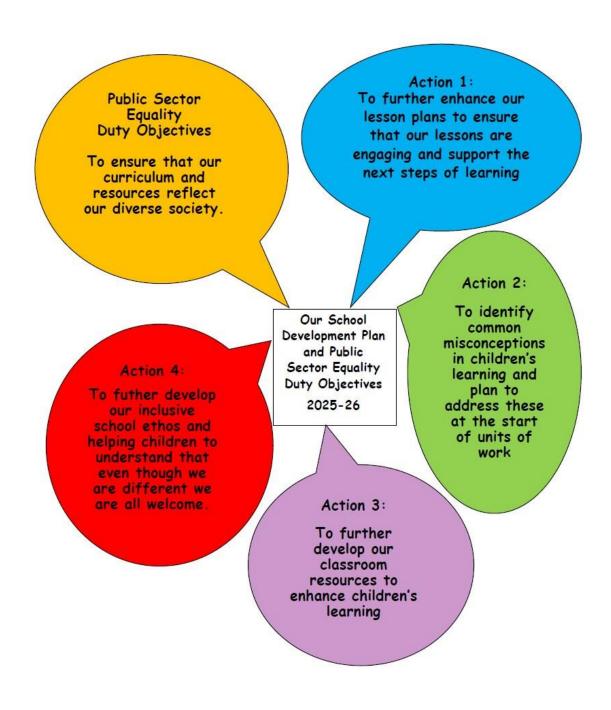
This has been a busy week in school.

Yesterday we held the 'Grand Opening' of our outdoor classroom. Two leading members of the PTA cut the ribbon and all the classes visited the classroom throughout the day to have a story. We are really grateful for all the hard work and enthusiasm from the PTA, who have raised a huge amount of money to purchase the classroom. We are really looking forward to using it regularly. Thank you to governors, Nick Fisk and Rachel Page for attending too.

On Monday we had our first full governing body meeting of the year. We were sorry to see our long-time chair of governors, Kate Hackwell, step down from her role, and we have recorded our grateful thanks for all her hard work and support for the school. Kate has been involved with the school since her son joined in 2007 — we will miss her!

We are really pleased to tell you that the role of Chair of Governors will be a shared role going forward, taken on by Rachel Page and Nick Fisk, who are both very experienced governors, and we know they will support the school very effectively. We welcomed back to the board Tim Johnson as a parent governor (he has a child in year 3) and Sarah Beadle (she has a child in reception). Also joining us as a Local Authority governor is Robyn MacFayden, who leads the North Herts Primary Support Service. She will bring a lot of valuable experience and expertise to the board. At the meeting the governors discussed and approved our new School Development Plan for this academic year (see image below).

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our parents' evenings either in person or virtually. If you are coming to the in-person session (Tuesday 30th Sept), please come into the school via the carpark entrance (the long corridor leading directly to the hall). Please take a seat on one of the chairs in the middle of the hall and wait to be called by the child's teacher. The gate at the back of the school (onto Icknield Walk) will be closed from 5.30pm. Please note that this is a parent-only session. Please do not bring your children with you.



## What's on

Day & Date	Time	Event & Year
Thursday 25.09.2025	am	Year 4 Recorder club
	3.15-3.45pm	Year 3 Recorder club in the school hall – collect from dining hall
	3.15-4.15pm	Lab Tots in Dove classroom
Friday 26.09.2025	-	Flu vaccinations for Reception to Year 4
	3.15-4.15pm	It's Your Cue Drama club for Year 4s
	7.30pm	PTA Bingo event
Monday 29.09.2025	-	Learning logs return to school – Year 1-4
Tuesday 30.09.2025	PM	Year 2 Church visit – non-parent event
	3.15-4.15pm	Multi Skills Club – please collect from Falcon classroom this week only
	3.30-6.00pm	In person Parent & Teacher Check in consultations in the school hall – prebooked
		appointments only
Wednesday 1.10.2025	am	Year 1&2 Football Skills Festival at KJAR - non-parent event
	-	Piano & Guitar lessons
	3.15-4.15pm	Outdoor Project club
Thursday 2.10.2025	am	Year 4 Recorder club
	3.15-3.45pm	Year 3 Recorder club in the school hall – collect from dining hall
	3.15-4.15pm	Lab Tots in Dove classroom
	3.30-6.00pm	Online video Parent & Teacher Check in consultations – prebooked appointments only
Friday 3.10.2025	-	Individual & Sibling portraits with Carmel Jane Photography
	3.15-4.15pm	It's Your Cue Drama club for Year 4s
Monday 6.10.2025	-	Learning logs to go home
Tuesday 7.10.2025	3.15-4.15pm	Multi Skills Club – please collect from Falcon classroom this week only
Wednesday 8.10.2025	-	Piano & Guitar lessons
	3.15-4.15pm	Outdoor Project club
	6.00pm	Grafham Water Residential Trip meeting for parents/carers of Year 4 only
Thursday 9.10.2025	am	Year 4 Recorder club
	-	Years 3 & 4 attending Cross Country event at KJAR – non-parent event
	3.15-3.45pm	Year 3 Recorder club in the school hall – collect from dining hall
	3.15-4.15pm	Lab Tots in Dove classroom
Friday 10.10.2025	-	Non-school uniform day – Wear Yellow for World Mental Health Day
	3.15-4.15pm	It's Your Cue Drama club for Year 4s (this week this club will take place in a classroom)
	4.15-5.15pm	PTA Disco for Nursery to Year 1
	5.45-6.45pm	PTA Disco for Years 2, 3 & 4

# Correspondence home this week

- All Rag Bag leaflets from the PTA
- Year 4 Email regarding Grafham Water Residential Trip meeting
- All Email with Policies for parents and carers also all available on our website: https://icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk/parents/policies-and-forms/

### **Head Lice**

We have had a few cases of head lice throughout the school. Please inspect your child's hair regularly and should you discover head lice, please treat immediately to stop the spread.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

## **Found**

A hearing aid was found near Year 1 Robin class. If it belongs to you or someone you know, please collect from the school office.

# **FLU** - Nasal spray immunisations

Vaccination UK will be visiting school TOMORROW to undertake flu immunisations for children in Reception to Year 4. The immunisation is a nasal spray. Please note, your child will only receive the vaccine IF you have registered your child with Vaccination UK and given consent. Link below will take you to the Vaccination UK consent area of their website.

https://bed.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/hertfordshire

Please contact Vaccination UK with any queries that you may have by sending an email to: Hertfordshire@v-uk.co.uk or by calling 01462 427 008.

# **Check-in parent and teacher meetings/consultations**

We will be holding check-in parent meetings in the week beginning 29th September. At these meetings you will be able to chat with your child's class teacher to see how your child is getting on and also ask any questions that you may have. A guide of how to book appointments is attached for those that have not booked before.

We will be holding two sessions. In person appointments in the school hall will be available on **Tuesday 30th September**, 3.30-6pm, and video call (online) appointments will be available on **Thursday 2nd October**, 3.30-6pm. Nursery appointments will be from 3.50-5.30pm for both video and in person sessions.

The booking system is live (link to the booking system can be found on the front page of our website, under the quick links section) or click on the following

link: <a href="https://icknieldwalk.schoolcloud.co.uk/Admin/Home">https://icknieldwalk.schoolcloud.co.uk/Admin/Home</a>

There will be an opportunity for you to view your child's workbooks in their classroom with your child on Wednesday 10th December, 3.30-4.30pm.

Please note the following:

- 1. Only one appointment available per child.
- 2. Only the parent or carer that is contact 1 on our database can book the appointments.
- 3. If you are new to the school, you will need to make an account to book the appointments.

If you have any problems booking your appointments, please send an email to the office staff at : admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk

# Year 4s moving on from Icknield Walk First School

King James Academy, Royston will be holding their open event TONIGHT - to book to attend, please use the following link: Open Events Booking Form or contact KJAR primary site direct.

Edwinstree Middle School (EMS), Buntingford will be holding their open event on Thursday 9th October, 6pm - for more details, please contact EMS direct.

# **Individual and Sibling portrait photographs**

Individual and Sibling portrait photographs will be taken by Carmel Jane Photography on Friday 3rd October throughout the school day. All children should wear their school uniform, hair accessories should be school colours and kept minimal.

Nursery children who attend on a Friday will be photographed during their nursery day and nursery children who do not attend on a Friday are invited to pop in to have their photograph taken wearing their school uniform, either in the morning at 9.30am or during the afternoon at 1.10pm. Nursery children with siblings in the school will be photographed with their sibling if the nursery child attends either of the photography sessions. Please inform Miss Pinner what session your child will be attending. Please note that if your child does not attend Nursery on a Friday, they can only come in for the photography session and not attend a full nursery session.

All children with siblings who attend Icknield Walk First School will be photographed both together and individually.

# **Icknield Walk First School - Open events**



# Early Years Open Events

Is your child starting nursery or reception in September 2026?

Come and see our amazing school, book your visit today

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October Morning and afternoon sessions available each day

Education and wrap-around care 7.45am-6pm with school holiday care





Click here to book your visit or call us on 01763 243392

Poplar Drive, Royston, Herts, SG8 7EZ admin@icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk Tel: 01763 243392 icknieldwalk.herts.sch.uk

# Follow us on Facebook and Instagram

Our Reception and Nursery are now on Facebook and Instagram as Icknield Walk Reception and Nursery, give us a follow and share with your friends who may be prospective parents.

### **PTA News**



**BINGO** - Just a quick reminder — ticket sales for Bingo Night are closing soon! **\*** If you haven't grabbed yours yet, now's the time. You don't want to miss out on the fun, prizes, and good vibes!

You can buy your tickets here https://www.pta-events.co.uk/iwfspta

**DISCO** - tickets are now on sale. Tickets can be purchased at <a href="https://www.pta-events.co.uk/iwfspta">https://www.pta-events.co.uk/iwfspta</a>

Due to the previous cashless disco being a great success, we will be running a cashless disco again this time.

You are cordially invited to attend the **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** of The PTA, which will be held as follows:

Agenda Includes:

Presentation of Annual Report, Approval of Financial Statements, Election of Board Members, Other business matters

Your presence and participation are important to us. Kindly confirm your attendance by joining <a href="https://chat.whatsapp.com/IXXoUy9okC43sYHtXl4TtH">https://chat.whatsapp.com/IXXoUy9okC43sYHtXl4TtH</a> We look forward to your valuable input and support.

**The Outdoors Project** is running a special kids and adults bushcraft session in support of the Icknield Walk PTA.

- 1.5 hours of outdoors fun whittling toasting sticks, practising bushcraft fire lighting, and cooking over the fire!
- 2.30pm on Sunday 5th October at Icknield Walk First School £15 per child (adults go free) all proceeds will go to the PTA.

Spaces are limited to 15 children. Thank you to the school for the generous use of the grounds.

Book via <u>www.theoutdoorsproject.co.uk/cambridge-royston</u> (select other events and find the event at Icknield).



# Ivy Farm Bridge (over A505) - Campaign for Right of Way

We have had a message from our Local County and District Councillors to request your help.

The councillors are working to create a public right of way over a currently closed agricultural bridge (Ivy Farm Bridge) that crosses the A505 to facilitate access between Bassingbourn and Royston for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders.

Ivy Farm Bridge is owned by Hertfordshire County Council, which has been leading a project to create rights of way over it. Opening the bridge would mean that people in Royston could safely access more of the countryside on foot or bicycle, whilst those in Bassingbourn could access the many local facilities in Royston without needing to drive.

The councillors invite letters from people in the community who support this effort and ask that the key points below are included within their letters.

### **Key points**

Please address your letter to: Mr Anders Holch Povlsen, Cokenach Estate

- There is no safe walking route between Bassingbourn and Royston. To walk between the two, you must run across the A505.
- Royston is the closest place to Bassingbourn for swimming and leisure, transport connections to post-16 education and training, and weekend and holiday jobs.
- There are currently no safe routes out of Royston which children and families can use to access the nearby countryside, or their friends in Bassingbourn.
- There is a bridge over the A505, the Ivy Farm Bridge, but it's against the law to access it.
- Hertfordshire County Council, who own the bridge, are trying to open this route for travel on foot, bicycle, and horseback.
- To do this, HCC need your permission to cross a small section of land on the Cokenach Estate.
- We would be so grateful for your support to help make this happen.
- Thank you!

If you choose to write a letter in support of this, the letter can be left with the school office, for the councillors to collect in mid-October.

# Extra curricular activities/Events in and around Royston/Useful information

Royston Book Fair returns on Saturday 27 September 2025 (12–4 pm) at Royston Parish Church. Part of the Royston Arts Festival, the fair brings together more than 30 authors for an afternoon of talks, readings, and book signings – a wonderful opportunity for young readers and their families to discover new books and meet writers in person. The Book Fair is free to attend and all are welcome. It's a fantastic way to celebrate reading for pleasure, support local authors, and be part of the wider Royston Arts Festival. Full details, including the author line-up, can be found at <a href="https://www.roystonbookfair.co.uk">www.roystonbookfair.co.uk</a>.

# **Supporting Dads** with Protective **Behaviours**

For Dads & Male Carers

Online course starting October 2025

Wednesday

evenings

8 Oct-3 Dec

7.00pm-9.00pm

Course code L4/eve





Are you looking for strategies and new ideas to help improve family life?

#### This fully funded 8-week term time course can help you to:

Understand what may be influencing your child's behaviour

Understand how Feelings, Thoughts and Behaviour link together

Respond to a range of feelings e.g. anger, frustration, anxiety, stress and worry

Improve communication to build better relationships Build on your own and your child's strengths

Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe

For eligibility and to book your fully funded place please contact: enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk Tel: 07850 518216

ase quote the course code and your

**Supporting Families** with Protective **Behaviours** For Mums, Dads & Carers

Online courses starting October 2025





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Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe

Thursday mornings

9 Oct -4 Dec 9.30am-11.30am

Or

Thursday evenings

9 Oct-4 Dec 7.00pm-9.00pm

For eligibility and to book your fully funded place please contact: enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk or Tel: 07850 518216

\*Please quote the course code and your mobile number





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anxiety, stress and worry Improve communication to build better relationships

Build on your own and your child's strengths Learn strategies to help you and your family feel safe Or

Thursday

mornings

9 Oct -4 Dec

9.30am — 11.30am Course code L5/am

Thursday evenings

9 Oct-4 Dec 7.00pm-9.00pm Course code L5/eve



Charity no: 1117059

Weekly online Workshop and Support: Every Tuesday 10am-12pm during term time.



Each week there will be an hour long workshop on a specific topic that you can listen to and ask questions. Following this there will be an hour where we open to discussions/chats about any topic or concern and can offer help support and guidance.

Weekly topics are detailed on our programme

Monthly in person support Letchworth and Stevenage: Will be running on a Wednesday see programme for dates





Our podcasts series "Neurodiversity Chats" cover a wide range of topics, search "Neurodiversity Chats" on Spotify or Apple Podcasts or listen on our website: https://angelssupportgroup.org.uk/podcasts/

Follow us on social media for updates:





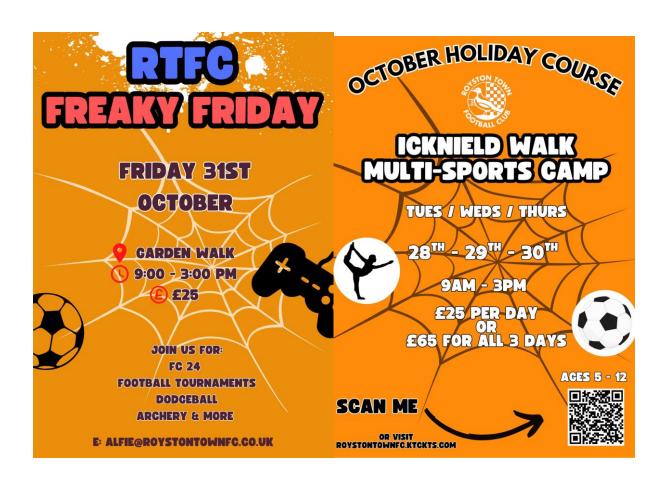


Please like us on Facebook for further updates @familiesfeelingsafe

For eligibility and to book your fully funded place please contact: enquiries@familiesfeelingsafe.co.uk or Tel: 07850 518216

\*Please quote the course code and your mobile number

www.angelssupportgroup.org.uk







3 year olds: Tinies 2-2:45pm, Fridays 4&5 year olds: Minis 4:30-6pm, Wednesdays 3:45-5:15pm, Fridays

6 - 18 years: Main Company 5:30-7pm, Wednesdays & Thursdays 4-7pm, Fridays

> 07747 608 180 01763 220 927 royston@theatretrain.co.uk









# 2025 BARKWAY LITERARY FESTIVAL SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER | 10AM - 8.30PM

#### KAY BLAYNEY

Tells and performs The Very Hungry Caterpillar in costume.

#### GILLIAN McCLURE - TANGLEWOOD

1.30pm

Vastly experienced, award-winning, Carnegie Medal shortlisted author and illustrator of numerous picture books. Hosts an inspiring story-telling session for 3-7 year olds, using puppets. Learn how a picture book is created from start to finish.



#### Dr MATTHEW BOTHWELL - ASTROPHYSICS FOR SUPERVILLAINS 2.30pm

Public Astronomer at Cambridge University's Institute of Astronomy. Based on his two books for 6-10 year old, a fun session exploring myriad questions about the mysteries of space, extra-terrestrial life and cosmic time. Expert facilitator of events at schools, festivals and stargazing evenings. Writer and lecturer at the Royal Institution, New Scientist, the Royal Astronomical Society and the British Astronomical Association.



# **RACHEL & PAUL LAWSTON - MY NATURE TRAIL**

Highly qualified environmental advocates in children's education. Activity-based session for 6-10 year olds, based on their fun-filled, fact-filled, highly illustrated book, inviting curiosity and wonder.



## LAURA NOAKES - COSIMA UNFORTUNATE

4.30pm Young disabled author - shortlisted for the Wicked Young Writer Awards. Presenting her two warm

but twisty stories for 8-12 year olds, full of adventure and historical detail. Cosima lives at the Home for Unfortunate Girls where children deemed different are sent.



## TICKETS:

#### SINGLE EVENTS:

Adults £10 | Children £5, accompanying adult/guardian, FREE DAY TICKET: Adults £40 | Children all afternoon £15

FOR TICKETS SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT: www.ticketsource.co.uk/barkwaylitfest



#### FIND US:

Barkway Village Hall, Barkway, Hertfordshire: SG8 8BS

Adult Events: Barkway Village Hall Children Events: The Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Barkway

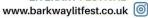
**REFRESHMENTS:** Available throughout the day - Barkway Social Club



Sponsored by: HOW HOOKS Royston, SG8 9AS

www.bow-books.co.uk

2025 BARKWAY LITERARY FESTIVAL





#### **Parent & Carer Support**

**Autumn Term 2025** 



FREE to parents and carers living in Hertfordshire

#### TALKING TEENS

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 12-19, covering:

- . The Teen Brain: physical and emotional changes taking place and why behaviour changes.
- . The link between behaviour and communicating difficult feelings.
- · How to maintain your relationship with good communication.
- · Understand risk taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture. · How to negotiate and reduce conflict.

Tuesdays 7.45 16<sup>th</sup> Sep – 21<sup>st</sup> Oct

Thursdays 7.45 - 9.15pm Online Course: ID 777

#### TALKING ANGER in

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 11-19, supporting you to:

Understand why children & adults get angry.

- Develop strategies to handle anger in
- yourself and others within your family. Recognise the early signs of anger.
- Reduce conflict and arguments.
- Encourage positive behaviour.

Tuesdays 4th Nov - 9th Dec Online Course: ID 775

#### TALKING ADDITION

A 6-week group for parents and carers of children 249, with any additional need. Your child does not need a diagnosis.

- · Understand your child's behaviour. · Develop strategies that really work.
- · Reduce conflict.
- · Improve emotional regulation.
- · Explore sensory needs. · Increase your child's resilience.
- · Manage different needs in your family.

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Wednesdays 7pm 5th Nov - 10th Dec Reddings Family Centre. Bushey, WD23 3PE

Wednesdays 9.45 - 11.15am 17<sup>th</sup> Sep – 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct Course ID 770

#### **TALKING FAMILIES**

6, weekly sessions for parents and carers of children aged 0-12 sharing tips on:

- Managing challenging behaviour with consistency.
- Encouraging positive behaviour.
- · Building your child's self-esteem.
- Setting and maintaining boundaries. Responding to tantrums and difficult feelings in children.
- Developing a strong parent/child relationship now and for the future.

#### TALKING ANXIETY

6. weekly sessions for parents and carers of children 11-19, supporting you to:
Understand why young people and

- adults get anxious.
- Develop strategies to handle anxiety in yourself and others within your family.
- Recognise the early signs of anxiety.
- Reduce stress and tension.
- Encourage resilient behaviour.

#### TALKING DADS

weekly sessions for dads & male carers of children 0:19, sharing information on:

- Improved listening and communication skills
- · A healthy dad-child relationship now and for the future.
- Effective strategies for dealing with anger and conflict.
- How to enforce boundaries.
- Being the dad, you want to be.

Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm 17<sup>th</sup> Sep – 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct Online Course ID 774

Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15am 4th Nov - 9th Dec Online Course ID 772

Tuesdays 8.00 - 9.30pm 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – 9<sup>th</sup> Dec Online Course ID 773

#### in TEENS



Tuesdays 7.45 - 9.30pm 16th Sep – 21st Oct Online Course ID 776



Wednesday h Sep – 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct Online Course: ID 779 Wednesdays 7.45 - 9.15pm

5<sup>th</sup> Nov - 10<sup>th</sup> Dec Online Course: ID 780

Booking essential, Please Quote the Course ID

07512 709556 or bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk ation taken on booking will be used to process your booking, check your eligibility, identify any a needs and will be stored in accordance with our GDPR policy which is available on request









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# **Home-Start Literary Lunch**

We're delighted to invite you to a very special literary afternoon hosted by Home-Start Royston, Buntingford & South Cambridgeshire – the Home-Start Literary Lunch featuring bestselling author Freya North, in conversation with Jude Simpson.

Date: Tuesday, 14th October 2025, 12.15pm Venue: The Old Bull Inn, Royston, SG8 9AW

Freya North is the celebrated author of 16 bestselling novels, including the Richard and Judy Book Club pick Little Wing and her latest release The Unfinished Business of Eadie Browne. Her work has been translated into multiple languages, and she is a passionate advocate for literacy and women in writing.

Tickets are still available - to book your ticket:

https://buytickets.at/homestartroystonbuntingfordandsouthcambridgeshire/1686508

# Help us to raise money for our school



#### Weblinks that can help you

NSPCC - Online safety.

Smartphone Free Childhood

Angels Support (ASD & ADHD)

Herts CC Relationship advice

Families Feeling Safe

NESSIE - Positive Mental Health - Lots of talks and courses to help you and your child with their mental health.

Supporting Family Links - Promoting Strong Family Relationships with children up to the age of 12, lots of online courses to help.

Herts CC Cost of living resources - cost-of-living-flashcard (thegrid.org.uk)

North Herts Family Support Services - www.hertsfamilycentres.org

www.supportinglinks.co.uk - Workshops/training courses for parents/carers of children (up to age 25).

BeeZee Bodies - www.beezeebodies.com

North Herts Special Provision updates - look here for SEN and Behaviour support

Free School Meals

**Neurodiversity Support Hub** 

Lumi Nova - Fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety - https://luminova.app/

Mind Hertfordshire Network - https://www.withyouth.org/