



Wee Jasper Public School

The Bugle

Term 3, Week 5 & 10 2024 | Principal - Michelle Andrews



Students addressing the crowd on Saturday 31st August 2024.

125th Celebration

Thank you to the Wee Jasper Community for coming together and helping our school celebrate 125 years of education.

What a fantastic weekend!



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We acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Wiradjuri and Ngunnawal nations, and pay our respect to Elders past, present and future • Proud member of the Binit Binit Learning Community

Term 4, 2024 Calendar

WEEK 1 OCTOBER	MON 14 First day back of Term 4 <i>Ms. Andrews & Mr Stewart on leave</i> <i>Weeks 1 - 4</i>	TUES 15	WED 16 STEM PLC Dalton PS	THURS 17	FRI 18 Arabin Cup Binalong
WEEK 2 OCTOBER	MON 21	TUES 22	WED 23	THURS 24	FRI 25 8am P&C meeting
WEEK 3 OCT/NOV	MON 28	TUES 29	WED 30	THURS 31	FRI 1
WEEK 4 NOVEMBER	MON 4	TUES 5	WED 6	THURS 7	FRI 8 Small Schools Chess Competition Yr. 3
WEEK 5 NOVEMBER	MON 11 Mr. & Mrs. Stewart return	TUES 12	WED 13 STEM PLC - Wee Jasper Phil Roberts visit P&C - CAR RALLY Fundraiser	THURS 14	FRI 15
WEEK 6 NOVEMBER	MON 18 Small Schools Camp - Yr. 3 Jindabyne	TUES 19 Small Schools Camp - Yr. 3 Jindabyne	WED 20 Small Schools Camp - Yr. 3 Jindabyne	THURS 21	FRI 22

KEY DATES THIS YEAR

UPCOMING KEY DATES

End of Year Concert

Friday 13 December

Last Days of Term 4 2024

18 December - students

19 December - Staff Development Day (Berinba - CPR)

20 December - Staff Development Day (last day for staff)



staff weekly schedule

Monday

- Relieving Teaching Principal - Kim Rowling (teaching)
- School Administration Manager - Wendy Griffiths

Tuesday

- Relieving Teaching Principal - Kim Rowling (teaching)
- School Administration Manager - Wendy Griffiths
- School Learning Support Officer/School Administration Officer - Helen Cathles

Wednesday

- Relieving Teaching Principal - Kim Rowling (teaching)
- School Administration Manager - Wendy Griffiths
- School Learning Support Officer/School Administration Officer - Helen Cathles
- General Assistant - Cameron Kellett

Thursday

- Relieving Teaching Principal - Kim Rowling (Learning & Support)
- Relieving Assistant Principal Curriculum & Instruction - Sharlee Cassidy
- Teacher - Kim Morrison
- School Administration Manager - Wendy Griffiths (Week 1, 3, 5, 7, 9)

Friday

- Relieving Teaching Principal - Kim Rowling (principal admin)
- Teacher - Kim Morrison
- School Learning Support Officer/School Administration Officer - Mary Goulding

Additional

Casual Teachers & SASS

- Sharlee Cassidy
- Kim Morrison
- Elizabeth Young

Swimming Instructor

- Helen Cathles

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Principal's message

THANK YOU, WEE JASPER COMMUNITY

We thoroughly enjoyed sharing our 125-Year Anniversary Events with our community. To see so many current and past students, staff and community members catching up to share stories, great company and good cheer was fabulous. As we wrap up, we I want to thank in particular

- Our fabulous students (Matilda, Abigail, Charlotte & Ava-May) who compared Friday/Saturday and performed both days
- Our 125 Committee (Wendy, Neil, Tim, Janet & Nicola + their partners) So many tasks were planned and executed by this fabulous team!
- Our hard-working staff for all their planning, execution and cleaning up
- The fabulous P&C members who worked HARD throughout the day.

Community members

- who attended and enjoyed the event
- who helped over the numerous working bees
- who collected & returned furniture, set up the marquees/gazebos, set up the lights, planned cleaned & prepared
- The Dragon Dreaming crew who donated the use of the marquee (which saved us \$10-15K) and set it up with the numerous community volunteers, including the RFS with the water weights & Reflections sending their crew to help.
- who cleaned up the hall/tennis courts Sunday morning (brave souls)
- Nathan Kellett & his fabulous heritage carpentry team. They donated all materials, staff, expertise, cleaned up the horse paddock and helped out in so many ways, donated the sales of products to the school and left an incredible post and rail structure at the front of our school for a sculpture of a horse to be added in 2025.
- I also want to thank Yass Valley Council for the loan of 7 gazebos, bollards and connecting with Bango Windfarm.

Donations

- Thank you to the volunteers who worked at Dragon Dreaming over the past 3 festivals who agreed for the WJ Community Association to donate \$6,000. This money, as promised provided a great community event.
- Thank you to the RFS who donated \$2,000 towards the printing of the history book, 'A Collection of Stories'. This allowed us to reduce the cost of this book to \$40.
- Thank you to P&C for your generous donation of \$4,000 towards the purchase of memorabilia.
- Thank you to everyone who baked for the P&C stall
- Bango Windfarm (Squadron Energy) for their donation of \$2,000. These funds were used to fund the bus from Yass, which provided free travel and the entertainment during the Saturday day event.
- Nathan Kellett contributions and donation of sales
- Thank you to individuals who made purchases along the way and would not accept payment for their purchases.
- Shannon for providing drinks & coffees during working bees. Also, for creating the limited edition of gin, available for purchase at the distillery.
- Loaned equipment including mushroom heaters, furniture etc

P&C 2024

Dear Wee Jasper Community,

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered for Dragon Dreaming.

We have a full roster and are excited to be serving the dreamers again this year.

Also, a huge thank you to everyone who helped out at our recent Bunnings d BBQ. We raised over \$1500. Thanks once again.
Bridgette

Our next P&C meeting will be held on Friday 25 October at 8am at the school.

Wee Jasper Public School's vision

Our school will remain the heart of our small rural community. Here, core values will be learned and lived, as every learner is fully engaged and challenged, in preparation to making their contribution to our complex and dynamic society. Every student will be known, valued and cared for and experience a secure sense of belonging and connection to this school, community and land. All students will be literate, numerate and curious. We will continue to see the diversity of our community as a pedagogical strength and draw upon our diverse human and natural resources to sustain learning. In this way, we will counter the potential disadvantage of living in a small, remote community.



Principal's message

MEMORABILIA

We still have memorabilia available to purchase. It is available for purchase at Dragon Dreaming. You are also welcome to purchase from our school office next term.

- \$40 - History book - "A Collection of Stories"
- \$30 - Cook Book
- \$60 - Book Combo (Cookbook & history)
- \$20 - Tea Towels (2 types: coloured and blue/white)
- \$20 - Mugs: 8 styles to choose from (echidna, school, bridge, kangaroo, wombat, kookaburra, blue-banded bee & trout)

Gregory Doherty *ex-principal 1958 - 1963*

I had the absolute pleasure to meet ex-principal Gregory Doherty and his family last Wednesday. Greg was principal at Wee Jasper PS between 1958 - 1963. His family decided they wanted their 88-year-old father to revisit a special place that was dear to his heart. When they booked David Swan's cottage, they learnt that they had just missed our 125-year anniversary.

We provided a tour and talked about our special event. We were able to show some of the artefacts, including the student roll which he signed, school reports from his director and the famous punishment book, which proved he caned several students during his five years at WJPS.

Greg had many fond memories of teaching at our school and living in the teacher's residence and socialising with our community. It was such a shame they missed our events and that he did not get to share his stories in our history book. We had a lovely afternoon sharing stories and we hope Greg comes back soon to Wee Jasper to visit again.

End of Term 3

And just like that, we have reached the end of Term 3. What a massive term we have all had! I know the students, staff and parents are looking forward to some relaxation during the holidays. I hope you all enjoy life at a slower pace and catch up on all the activities you enjoy doing. A massive thank you to everyone for the role you played in celebrating our community and our students over this past term. This term has been the most rewarding term I have ever experienced. I am eternally grateful to live and work in this amazing place.

Mr. Stewart and I are very excited to marry on the last weekend of the October holidays. We are taking four weeks leave to enjoy our honeymoon and will return in Week 5.

Mrs. Kim Rowling will be relieving principal for the first four weeks of Term 4. Kim Morrison will teach part-time on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs. Sharlee Cassidy will relieve as APCI each Thursday. Wendy Griffiths, Helen Cathles, Mary Golding and Cameron Kellett return to their usual roles.

The students of Wee Jasper PS are in great hands next term!!

Michelle Andrews
Teaching Principal



Gregory Doherty principal 1958-1963



125th year Celebration



Classroom Mural

Artist Simon Sewell, Wendy Griffiths and current student Tilly Cathles together officially opened the classroom mural on Friday 30th August 2024.

Pictured in front of the mural are previous students Adrian Carey, Jo Murphy, Peter Cathles, Nancy Weingarth & Ian Cathles whose images are portrayed in the mural.

Megan Cassidy took the original photo of 2024 students and staff, which Simon painted onto our mural. Both artists are very proud of their masterpiece.



125th year Celebration



Celebration of Cakes!

Mrs Wendy Griffiths spent many hours cooking and decorating not 1 but 2 days worth of cakes for the school celebration!! An enormous amount of time has gone into these beautiful and delicious cakes. A very big thank you to Mrs G for her amazing contribution.

Pictured here is Wendy and Charlotte cutting cake on the Friday and Jo Murphy with Ava on the Saturday.

125th year Celebration



Photo Competition

Open Category

1st - Helen L Cathles \$200

2nd - Sally Townsend \$100

3rd - Trent Williams \$50

People's Choice

Sharlee Cassidy \$75

The school was blown away with how many entries we ended up with for our photography competition. It was a fantastic display in the classroom. Congratulations to all entries. The photographs definitely captured a range of beautiful images across the Yass valley.

Junior Category

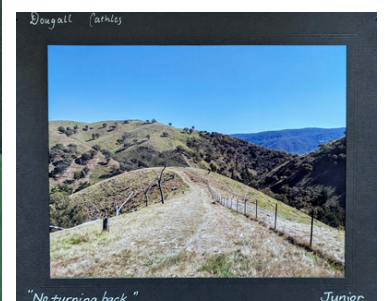
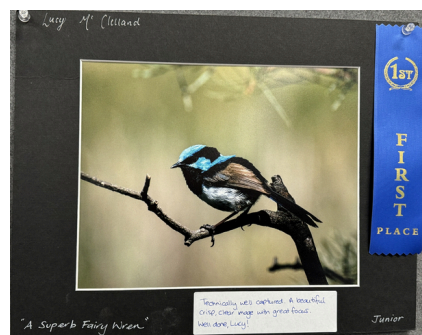
1st - Lucy McClelland \$200

2nd - Lydia Mc Donald \$100

3rd - Ava Power \$50

People's Choice

Dougal Cathles \$75



125th year Celebration



Murals



The original photo of the students and staff for 2024, was taken by Megan Cassidy in May. Simon recreated it onto our mural with outstanding results.

Both artists are proud of what they created and that it has been captured as part of our 125 Year Anniversary celebration.

Students and staff are also thrilled to be acknowledged as the lucky ones who were a part of this monumental occasion.



The tank mural pictured above was painted by artist Simon Sewell as part of the 125 celebration of the school and is a wonderful addition to the school grounds.



125th year Celebration



Time Capsule Opening & Closing

Tim Cathles and his team of helpers opened the time capsule on Saturday. The contents were laid out for people to view and at the end of the day it was repacked with new and the old items and closed again. Thank you, Tim for your assistance.

We hope many of us return in 2049 to celebrate the 150-year anniversary of Wee Jasper Public School.



125th year Celebration



125th year Celebration



Clockwork Circus Were AMAZING!

Thank you to Nicole, Hamish, Finlay, Jade & Kerrin.

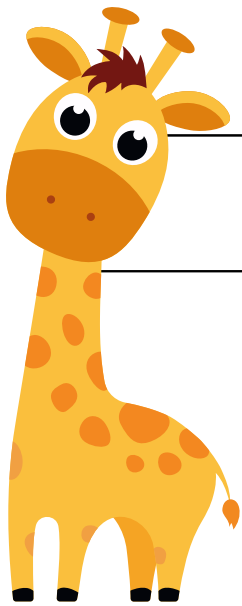


*Markets, Cars & the Circus
came to town!*

Janet Smith did an amazing job of coordinating all the market stalls for the 125 and spent many hours planning and contacting stall holders. Thank you so much Janet for all your hard work.

The Yass Valley Cruisers' car club provided an impressive range of magnificent vehicles. Face painting, Clockwork Circus and many other stalls were enjoyed by all who came along on the day.





School news

Life Education

The lovable giraffe, Healthy Harold, has visited our lovely school again to inform our students about safe and healthy choices in topics relating to drugs and alcohol, personal safety, cybersafety, food and nutrition, physical activity, social and emotional wellbeing and the human body.



Golf

Our students have learnt the ropes of playing golf and had lots of fun. Their golf coach set up a golf course on our school grounds. They all scored as many points as they could along the way. We are proud of their progress!



Tennis anyone?

We are happy to share great news, that our school purchased a tennis net for one of our local tennis courts. Now that the tennis courts have been cleaned up and the net installed, community members might like to play tennis. We will leave the net permanently installed. It is expected to last approximately ten years. Thank you to Craig Barnard for installing on the last day of term.

School news

STEM

Dalton and Breadalbane Public Schools joined us for a fun STEM Day at Wee Jasper School last week. Students dressed in Book Week costumes and had a wonderful day together.

The students were shown some of the wonderful historical items that are going to be on display at the 125-year celebration this weekend.

And of course, had lots of discussions about their current favourite book!



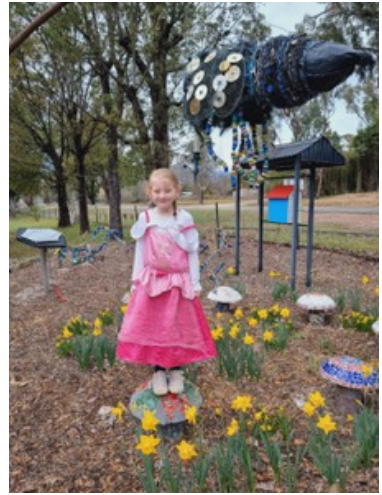
Mural Painting

The students had a very creative time recently. The girls were invited to help paint part of the classroom mural recently with Simon Sawell. They took great delight in being part of this historical part of our upcoming 125-year celebration.

If you have a close look, you might be able to see their names!



Out and about



Book Week Parade

We started the parade at Yass Public School, where we walked with Yass Public School, Binalong Public School, Bowning Public School students and preschool kids in the area. We walked along Comur Street towards the cafe, Kaffeine and then walked back to Yass Public School. It was a fun walk, and it was lovely to see all the people working, stop and come out of their businesses to see us walk and take photos of us all.

It was a great time and a memory I won't forget. - **Abi**



Out and about



Yass Public Author Talk

Last Friday we visited Yass Public School for an author talk with Barbie Robinson and illustrator Sara Phemister.

Barbie has written a beautiful story about Nettie and her guard dogs Molly and Maple.

Rehearsing for 2024 State Dance Festival

Our butterflies are working hard to get their choreography for "Metamorphosis" down pat and are enjoying every minute.

We all are looking forward to their performance on

Thursday 19 September.

Thank you, Kathryn Fisher, for all the support, choreography and your time in supporting our students.



Out and about

Class of 1899

The students had a fabulous evening in Goulburn presenting their drama 'Class of 1899' at the Southern Tablelands Drama Festival. Thank you to Mr. Stewart and Mrs. Rowling for co-writing the drama piece of what school life might have been like in 1899 with Miss Loughlin. The support the teachers gave the students greatly helped them produce a very polished piece which thoroughly entertained the audience. The girls were complimented on their incredible voice projection and how well they maintained their character roles throughout the drama.

Well done everyone!



Out and about

State Dance Festival in Sydney

Congratulations to our fabulous students who continue to show how confident and capable they are on the big stage. The four girls were outstanding in Sydney and really brought the house down with their quality dancing and cuteness. Every staff member at the festival was astonished by how confidently the girls communicate and worked with new dance teachers. The students had the pleasure of meeting Murat Dizdar, the Secretary, NSW Department of Education before the show. They had great delight in sharing with him that their teachers' snore. Murat shared this information with the entire audience in his opening speech. The girls thought they were hilarious! Murat also highlighted the strength of small schools and how inclusive they are. We believe we represented small schools brilliantly.



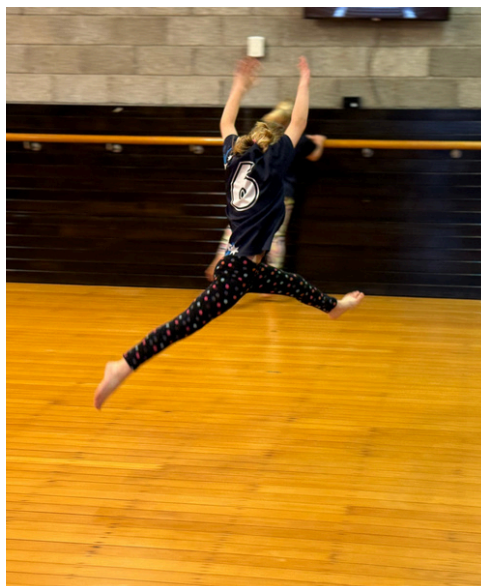
Out and about

State Dance Festival in Sydney



Out and about

State Dance Festival in Sydney



State Dance Festival - Student Recounts

Are you a famous dancer? I am a famous dancer! I have performed in Sydney on a big stage.

It started when Miss Fisher from Karabar High School taught us the dance of The Little Hungry Caterpillar. First, we danced at the Southern Tablelands Dance Festival in Goulburn. We were fabulous! We were then invited to perform in Sydney at the NSW Public Schools State Dance Festival last week.

Thursday was our performance day. We had really delicious crepes for breakfast and then we had a rehearsal at the Seymour Centre. There was fog coming out of the lights on the stage which was cool. After the rehearsal we went back to the hotel, got dressed into our swimmers and went to the pool which was near the hotel elevators. In the spa the water felt so warm. We couldn't put our heads under water in it and we had to just relax.

Then it was time to go back and have a shower and get dressed and put on our makeup. Ms Andrews and Mrs Rowling did our makeup. We had mascara, eyeliner, foundation, blush, glitter and lipstick. It made me feel happy!

We took a taxi to the Seymour Centre and soon we were on the big stage. The lights were bright and I could see the audience. I could see Mummy, Daddy and Granddad because the orange light was flashing on them. The stage manager told us that we had to keep smiling otherwise the light would turn off! When I walked onto the stage I was feeling excited and a little bit nervous. We danced really good and when we pulled out our wings the crowd cheered really loudly and was really excited. I felt proud. There was a blue light which told us when to bring our wings down and leave the stage. Ms Andrews was standing at Number 2 curtain and she quietly said, "Wee Jasper" to get us to come to her. We had our photo taken with Murat Dizdar, the Secretary, NSW Department of Education. He asked us who was the loudest snorer and we all pointed to Ms Andrews!

Our trip to Sydney was really fun. I feel that dancing has made me stop being scared of performing for big audiences. I loved it!

Charlotte

I love to dance, and I am a dance star!

It all began when our class learned the dance, Metamorphosis. It's about The Hungry Caterpillar. The best part is when we pull out our wings and they are beautiful. First, we danced in Goulburn at the Southern Tablelands Dance Festival. We were great! We danced lots of times at the Wee Jasper 125 years celebrations and then it was time to dance in Sydney.

Last Thursday was dancing day. First, we had flat pancakes for breakfast. They were delicious! I had syrup and banana on mine.

Next, we did a quick rehearsal and then we got ready. We put on our costumes which were a green t-shirt, black pants and butterfly wings. We had makeup too. We had foundation, lipstick, mascara, glitter and eyeliner. I looked beautiful.

We took a taxi to the Seymour Centre. There wasn't much life out of the taxi window. I think there were too many buildings. It's not like home. We waited backstage until it was our turn. On the stage it was completely black. While I was waiting for the music to start, I was feeling relaxed. Our dancing was purrrrrfection! The best part was when we pulled out our wings and the crowd went wild!

After the dance we met Murat Dizdar, the Secretary, NSW Department of Education. We took a big photo with him.

I felt proud and now it is easier for me to get up in front of crowds. Dancing has taught me to not be afraid.

Ava

State Dance Festival - Student Recounts

Have you ever performed on a big stage in Sydney? Well, I have! It all started when my school learned the dance Metamorphosis which tells the story of The Hungry Caterpillar. It is a little bit tricky but Miss Fisher from Karabar High School helped us learn the dance.

We first performed at the Southern Tablelands Dance Festival in Goulburn. We were so good that we were invited to the NSW Public Schools State Dance Festival in Sydney.

We arrived in Sydney last Wednesday, ready to perform on Thursday. Thursday was a big busy day for us. First, we had breakfast and then we had dress rehearsals. When I first saw the stage I thought it was really big. I did not know that fog came out of the lights until I saw it.

After the rehearsal we swam in the pool at the hotel. It felt relaxing and we could get all of the worries out of our bellies. It was then time to have a shower and get ready for our performance. We needed to get our black pants on and we had a different shirt on while we were doing our makeup so that it didn't get on our green shirts. When I had my makeup on I looked like a professional dancer.

During the taxi ride to the Seymour Centre, I was thinking about what the crowd would be like and the steps I learned.

When we walked onto the stage, the crowd was clapping. I was feeling a little bit scared and a little bit excited. There were pretty lights and fog came out. The dance went really good. We all remembered our parts. My favourite moment was when the crowd went wild and we posed at the end with our wings out. I was feeling relieved and excited.

Afterwards we met Murat Dizdar, Secretary, NSW Department of Education. He said that our dance was really good. Dancing has made me feel confident, happy, excited and proud of myself and I love it!

Abi

Have you gone to Sydney and performed on a big stage in front of a huge crowd? Well, I have! It all started when my school, Wee Jasper Public School, learned how to dance Metamorphosis which tells the story of a caterpillar's life from a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly.

Wednesday was the day we got to Sydney and Thursday was the day we performed. On Thursday morning we went to a French restaurant and had delicious crepes. I had ice cream and strawberries on mine and Charlotte didn't want her ice cream, so I got it too! It was tasty!

We took a taxi to the Seymour Centre and did a quick rehearsal. When I first saw the stage I thought, wow! That is big! After the rehearsal we got a taxi back to the hotel and relaxed in the pool. The water felt great. We also went into the spa which made me feel relaxed and ready to dance!

Then it was time to get ready for our performance. First, we got dressed into our pants and a different t-shirt so we didn't get makeup on it. When my makeup was done I looked completely different than what I look like. I had foundation on and you couldn't actually see any of my real skin.

Next, we caught another taxi to the Seymour Centre and then it was time to put on our green t-shirt. We had to put more makeup on because taking our t-shirt off took some of the makeup off.

When we went onto the stage, they put blue lights on so that we weren't in full darkness because otherwise we wouldn't be able to see where we had to go. When the music started I felt excited and little bit scared. Our dancing was great. My favourite moment was the butterfly part, with our ginormous rainbow wings out. The audience claps were huge and there were some cheers too. I felt proud of myself.

We met Murat Dizdar before and then after our dance. He said, "You guys were awesome."

Dancing has made me feel more confident and I love it!

Tilly

Out and about

Visit from University of Canberra academics & International PdD students



On Tuesday 24 September, we had a visit from Philip Roberts, Professor of Curriculum Inquiry & Rural Education from the University of Canberra. Ms. Andrews first met Phil while she was studying a rural education subject for her Master of Education. Phil brought two colleagues plus a team of academics who are also researching rural education internationally. One colleague was from Sweden, and another was a PhD student from Ghana.

Our students asked lots of questions about both Sweden and Ghana. They were amazed about the long and short days of Sweden and the approximation to Santa at the North Pole. Ghana being very close to the Equator was also of interest as their rainfall was significantly higher than Wee Jasper.



Our students showcased what learning at Wee Jasper PS was like and demonstrated a usual math lesson. They performed their dance one last time and enjoyed giving our visitors a tour of our school. Once we had shared our school with our guests, we boarded the bus to show some of Wee Jasper's highlights. We went straight to Micalong Creek and showed our valley's gorgeous water hole. Being one of the first particularly hot days, on the way back, we could not help but stop to visit Jenny and Paul at Reflections for an ice cream.

Phil will be return in November 13, to share some of his research about other small schools internationally with our students and staff. It will be very interesting to learn about other small schools and the students have already suggested an excursion to Sweden or Ghana.





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