

St John's School Weekly Newsletter

Issue 247



Quote of the week for me: Aiden 'That was just the best day ever!' after he and all of Year 5 had taken part in the World War II experience. All the boys were transported back in time with the activities including the sound of the air-raid sirens.

The boys have all really enjoyed this week's glorious weather in the St John's grounds and further afield. The Year 6 and 7 residential trips were a huge success as they explored the castles, Roman remains and sandy beaches in Northumbria. Year 5 visited Whipsnade Zoo to learn about animal conservation.

Meanwhile, the Year 8 boys have been competing for the annual Mark Jones Award which tests both physical and mental agility. I look forward to announcing the results soon.

I joined Year 3 for their Greek Olympics which included 'marathon', discus and javelin events. I hope you enjoy the photographs on p12.

It has also been great weather for cricket and I really enjoyed last weekend at the York House Super Sixes with the 1st team.

It was a pleasure to present Year 2 with their House ties this morning and many congratulations to Bailey who is the first this academic year to receive a Diamond Award for 200 House Points!

Have a super weekend.

World War II Day



The "Phoney War" was over. The Battle of Britain had taken place in July, and a second evacuation of children from cities was taking place. Year 5 took on the roles of evacuees who settled this Wednesday in our imaginary village of 'Combourwick, a.k.a. the Norman Hall. The boys learnt about war preparations, rationing and "old money", as well as other Second World War concerns.

The day began by marching in costume into a 1940s school room hosted by a rather strict teacher, Mr Wingham. It seemed to come naturally to Year 5 to raise their hands, stand up behind their chairs, without making a scraping noise on the floor, and say "If you please, Sir..." before asking a question. Left-handed writing was banned and real ink and blotting paper was juggled to great effect whilst filling out I.D. and rationing cards. It was lovely to see our mathematicians getting to grips with the old money and converting pennies into shillings. Practice air raids during the school morning just added to the realistic drama.

Unfortunately, Thomas C and Ali were rude to the vicar's wife, Mrs Peabody, calling her Mrs Busybody and Mrs Peabrain and had to be disciplined by the Headmaster!

In the afternoon, with the help of eight staff volunteers, our hall was transformed into the Combourwick High Street and boys took it in turns either to run shops or be shoppers, as well as take on the important roles of wardens, police officers and even spies.

One of the highlights of the afternoon had to be Mrs Marsden pumping the water hydrant and Mr Colgate squirting jets very high into the air much to the excitement of all of Year 5.

The boys learnt a lot through the fun medium of drama and their behaviour was exemplary. A fantastic day where 'history really was taken off the page' and brought to life. Unforgettable. *Mr Wilson–Spellward*



World War II Day cont...















Years 6 & 7 residential trip to Northumbria

After the cancellation of residential trips last year, it was great to get back onto the coach to Northumbria. The boys in both Year 6 and 7 really enjoyed the trip. Roshan in 6V has provided an overview of the week.

We were ecstatic on the trip up to Hexham and the time passed quickly with a few stops along the way including the Angel of the North. When arriving we were greeted by the staff of Kingswood and settled into our rooms before dinner and evening activities. On Tuesday, we went to Beamish and had the experience of seeing how people lived in the Victorian era. We had time to explore and look inside buildings like the

chocolate shop. During Wednesday we also went to Alnwick castle where we saw beautiful gardens and Bamburgh castle where we managed to go to the beach and had a little dip in the North Sea. On Thursday we went to Hadrian's wall. We went for a 6km walk which took us over at least ten mountains. It was very tiring! The food was also very nice and healthy. I enjoyed writing a diary every day because in the future I will remember this vividly. I was very sad to leave as I really liked Northumbria. I really hope I can come to Northumbria again!

Roshan T 6V









Northumbria trip cont...















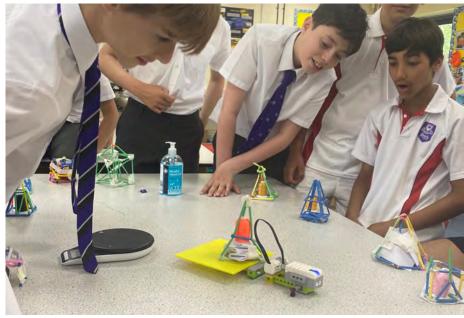
Mark Jones Award 2021

Mark Jones was a much respected sports coach who was in charge of sport at St John's for twenty-two years from the 1970s to the 1990s and was responsible for raising the standards of cricket and rugby here. He died suddenly at the age of 42 and his family donated the Mark Jones Memorial Award in his memory. (His father is in this photo with the first winner of the award.) The annual Award consists of a number of tests, throwing a cricket ball, memory tests, a bleep test, steeplechase and, this year, an earthquake modelling DT challenge. The Year 8 boys have been enjoying these activities

in the sun with Mr Russo, Mr Bleakley, Mr Pawson and Mr Vince this week and with Mrs McSween in DT. You can read more about "Quake Shakes" on page......

Mr Vince once again built the steeplechase course, with the help of the Year 8 boys and believes that it is this part of the challenge, in the woods, that "gets pulses racing and is when the lads can decide if they are a finisher, or a quitter." Ethan Pryce was carrying an injury so helped Mr Vince out by shooting a film during the event. Watch out Jack Cardiff!! Fastest time – Sam Pressinger 2m 10s









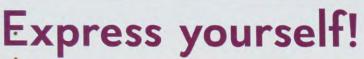
Year 5 trip to Whipsnade Zoo

Year 5 enjoyed a day in the sunshine at Whipsnade Zoo on Monday. They were extremely excited as this was their first school trip for over a year because of lockdown. They saw bison, the oryxes, rhinos, cheetah, lions, zebra and tigers and learnt that the Zoological Society of London is working hard to try to make sure that these species do not become extinct as they are all threatened to some extent. There was a special workshop about giraffes. Did you know that if an average size

seven or eight year old child stood next to a baby giraffe, he or she would only reach its knees. They also learned that giraffes sleep standing up, so it seems as if they are freeze framed. The day ended with a visit to the gift shop. As one of the boys said: "The day was fun, with many exciting, surprising and funny incidents. We learnt a lot about the animals and we hope that the ZSL conservation efforts succeed and that we can revisit the zoo soon."







Like us, lions use lots of facial expressions to communicate how they're feeling.

If you discover lions on your travels, use this handy guide to understand them.



"I'm just relaxing"



Close your eyes



"Don't even think about it!"



Keep your mouth closed, look your opponent in the eye and growl menacingly



"I'm about to attack"



Show your teeth, wrinkle your nose and snarl

VEEK

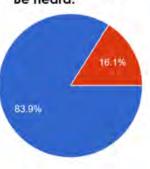


VOTESFORSCHOOLS









I think streaming is bad for the Industries because some less popular artists may struggle if they stream because for streaming, out of £10, you only get £1.20 and less popular artists will not make enough money. Also, not everybody will like music on streaming and some people may be like music on discs or on cassettes. Aarnay, Year 4

Streaming allows us to select music by our personal preference. However, it may limit exposure to different artists. We may just end up listening to the same songs over and over again. Streaming does not give artists the same fees compared to radio. We must be sensible and perhaps enjoy music both by streaming and traditional ways.

Iraj, Year 4

I think streaming is really bad for the music industry because musicians get less than a penny when their music is played on streaming services so only people who are rich to start with will be able to afford to be musicians. We wouldn't have bands like the Beatles if you needed lots of money to pay your rent when you were trying to start a band. Cato, Year 4

Some people think school uniforms make it harder for young people to express their personalities and what makes them unique. Others believe that school uniforms help bring us together and create a sense of community.

And next week's question...





Be informed.

Click the image to view the slides.









Year 2 join their Houses and receive their ties

Miss Morgan has had her sorting hat out and today came the news the Year 2 boys have all been waiting for – finding out which House they will join as they prepare to become Juniors. Mr Robinson presented the ties in assembly after explaining the significance of each House name; Churchill, Lawrence, Lincoln and Oates. The boys were especially pleased to learn that they can wear their new ties as of Monday.







The Circle of Life in the Lambs

The lambs had caterpillars delivered and we watched them grow bigger and bigger until they turned into cocoons. We waited two weeks and then out came some beautiful butterflies! Then we took them to the forest and let them go back to their natural habitat.









PRE-PREP SINCE 1920





Exploring in the Eagles

This week, the Eagles made the most of the glorious weather and went off exploring our wonderful grounds on a leaf hunt. Of course, after all that searching, we just HAD to stop for a rest under the cool shade of the oak tree!







Keeping cool this week in the Badgers

The Badgers borrowed a set of thermometers and did some experiments measuring the temperature of water from the fridge, ice and boiling water. The boys loved watching the red liquid zoom up the thermometer when it was put in the boiling water. We were also very relieved when their own body temperature results were within the normal range!







Terrific Taekwondo success

Well done to Dillan & Deven who passed their Taekwando grading exams this week. They achieved junior grade yellow belts (8th Kup) and on track to reach the intermediate level soon (only 2 belts behind their brother Krish!).





Year 3 Ancient Greek Olympics

In their history lessons this week, the Year 3 boys took a trip back in time to 776BC when the first Olympic Games took place. Thanks to the glorious weather, Mrs Wagemaker and Mrs Luke were able to take the learning outside and set up some of the sports that would have taken place in the Ancient Greek

Olympic games. These consisted of a running race, long jump, javelin and discus throwing. Gold medals and trophies were not awarded to the winners but instead, a crown of laurel leaves. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon as did Mr Robinson who was able to pay a visit.











Year 4 in perfect harmony

It's not every day one can describe Year 4 as being pitch perfect but there was a great deal of enthusiasm as we learned about sound in our science lessons this week. Combining vibration, drum banging, tuning fork and a smattering of Robert Boyle really captured the imagination of the boys on one of the hottest days of the year. Fortunately the syllabus does not require the extensive beating of a drum as a homework so all the fun can remain at school.









Feel the buzz in the Nature Club

Nature Trail club were given an extra special treat this week when Mr Lawrence took time out from his busy schedule to talk to the boys about bees. They learned all about the bee hives, which are kept at St John's and the life of a honey bee. They were also able to wear protective clothing and take a close up look at the hives. This was a wonderful learning experience for Nature Trail club. Thank you Mr Lawrence.













Feel the buzz cont...





Double Lamda success

Svanik and Sanav were both awarded with a distinction in their recent Lamda examination which was held online. Svanik's award is for Speaking Verse and Prose Entry level and Sanav's is for Introductory Solo Stage 1. Both boys are preparing for the next level examination on 4th July.



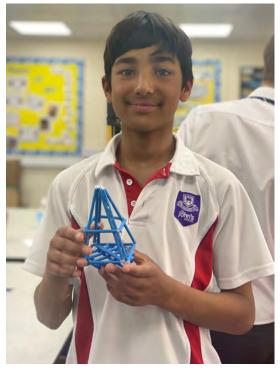




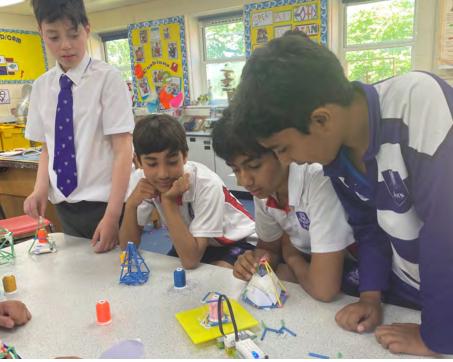
Shaken to destruction in Year 8

Engineers plan and design for when the worst case scenario happens. For Year 8 this week, the challenge was to design with an Earthquake in mind. Using our Lego 'shake simulator' for testing, the boys were challenged to make a framework structure to withstand the strong forces of nature. All data was strictly recorded and put forward to find the worthy champion of the prestigious Mark Jones Award which will be announced in the final weeks of term. Well done Year 8 for all your hard work.











Pop Art, Dreamtime, Junk and Mosaics

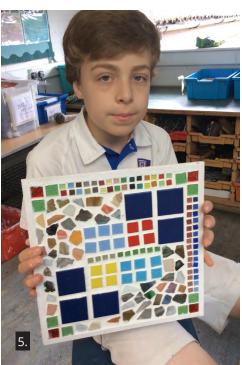
Year 3, $\overline{4}$, 5 and 8 boys have been busy in the art room this week. 1. Year 3 are learning about Pop Art. They have been busy working on self-portraits. Watch this space Andy Warhol. 2. Year 4 have been learning about Aboriginal Dreamtime Art. Tanay and Laksh are pictured with their work. 3. Aary in Year 4 is using a pencil, upside-down, to create the dots on his Aboriginal art. 4. Year 5 has enjoyed collecting junk for their junk bird creations. Anay and Matthew will be ready to paint theirs next week. 5. Some Year 8 boys have completed their mosaic trivets. Rodrigo is pictured with his. 6. Zreh has also finished his trivet.















The U10s were up against Davenies

U10B vs Davenies, Friday 11 June, Away

Our game against Davenies was our first game as an U10 side this season. It was a fine afternoon and St John's elected to bat first in this pairs hardball game. We had a couple of setbacks at first, losing early wickets along with some low-scoring overs. The boys battled back with some excellent hitting towards the end of the innings, notably from Matthew and Bailey helping St John's to an impressive total of 244 runs.

The bowlers then set about the task of both reducing the home side's scoring rate whilst taking wickets. Neel and Leo were the pick of the bunch with two wickets from their overs. Freddie and Matthew also chipped in with a wicket apiece. The rest of the bowlers were very economical and Davenies were only able to reach a total of 209 runs, giving St John's a much deserved win. Very well done to all of the team. *Mr Colgate*



U10C vs Davenies Friday, 11 June, Home

The sun shone for us on Friday when we hosted a game for our U10Cs on the first XI pitch. We won the toss and chose to bat first. A special mention to Ebi and Thomas M who opened and had a partnership of 27 runs with 6 boundaries. We finished our innings on 71 runs for 3 wickets. We had an unlucky start with the bowling and the opposition scored many runs. Ebi and Otto both bowled exceptionally well giving away very few runs. Joshua managed to get one of the opposing team's best batsman out and Leo dismissed another batsman in the next over. Davenies finished on 59 runs for 2 wickets but had one less pair than us so we decided to call it a tie. Overall, it was a fun match with outstanding effort from all boys. *Mr Smith*

U10D vs Davenies Friday, 11 June, Home

The St John's boys batted first with Alexander making a strong opening and two sixes. Quick running and good communication from several pairs pushed us to 63 runs after ten overs of eight balls each. There were fewer boundaries than in the St Paul's fixture but noticeable improvements particularly general hand/eye coordination. Davenies scored well and despite some good bowling just pipped us and got to 67 runs. Well done to all of the boys for their efforts. *Mr Horrocks*





Orley Farm Ten10 Cricket Tournament

We took part in the Orley Farm Ten10 cricket festival with three other schools, Orley Farm, St Martin's and Westminster. The first match against St Martin's was always going to be close and so it proved. St John's started strong with two run outs from the first two overs, piling early pressure. St John's batting rate was slow in the first five overs but the boys started to pick it up. In the end Ahaan and Kabir needed 10 runs off the last over to see this through. They were composed and really went for the target in the final over, winning with 2 balls to spare.

Against the hosts the boys batted well amassing a slightly higher score than the first match. St John's looked set for a second victory but two expensive overs allowed Orley Farm back into the game. Promising batting from two of our younger Colts in this game, Hrishi and Ali.

All to play for in match 3. With three teams having won 2 matches we knew the ultimate winners would be decided on batting run rate, so the boys had to go for big innings against Westminster. Kush and Mithil did the opening honours and put together an amazing partnership of 54 runs off 48 balls. In the other game St Martin's put together a very convincing performance in their 3rd and final match.

The presentation at the end was nervy with no one sure of the result. St Martin's had a batting run rate of 0.99 runs per ball pushing St John's into second with a batting run rate of 0.97 runs per ball. Spectacular effort! Huge thanks to Orley Farm for organising this tournament and for the big turnout from our Year 5 & 6 parents. It was a great Saturday, cricket played in such a nice spirit and atmosphere!! *Mr Kruger*



York House Super Sixes

The 1st team played four matches in the York House tournament. In this short form of the game (six overs per team) there was no time to play yourself in and so the the batsmen had to go for it from the off. Arian and Nishil set the tone with a sixty partnership, setting Merchant Taylors' Prep a target of 70 in the opener. We pinned them back in the first two overs before they scored 36 in the powerplay over, where runs off the bat were doubled! Arian took a fine caught and bowled but



MTP reached their target with a few balls to spare.

St Martin's were next in another good match. Zac batted superbly well for 36 runs and Arian took a fantastic catch on the boundary. St John's finished 18 runs short of the 83 total we were set.

We recorded our first win against the hosts York House. Arian (41) and Aaryan (16) were the pick of our batters setting a challenging target of 78. Aaryan bowled two fine overs including the powerplay over only going for 6 and yielding a wicket as well.

In the final game we set St Anthony's 76, Hamza scoring a superb 35, well supported by Aaryan, Ruben and Nayan. St Anthony's were pegged back by Freddie's overs and finished nine runs short. Hamza bowled three consecutive dot balls at a crucial time working well with Ruben behind the stumps and Nayan's spin caused the batsmen problems.

Overall, we finished third out of five with two wins. Arian was our star all-rounder receiving a medal for his performances. Nishil was the top fielder making many crucial stops and getting the ball in quickly. Aaryan was the pick of the bowlers. Zac kept with authority and encouraged his teammates. *Mr Robinson*



The U8s versus St Martin's

U8A vs St Martin's School, Thursday, 17 June, Away

There was high excitement on the Year 3 boys' faces at their first ever cricket fixture for the School. St John's won the toss and elected to field. Every boy bowled an 8 ball over and rotated in the field. Some good bowling from all the boys restricted St Martin's to a score of 273, Ayan, Dylann and Yash bowled especially well.

In reply the batting was solid although boundaries were elusive. The boys rotated the strike and ran well between the wickets. Calling and backing up was very good. Yash struck some lovely 4s and nearly hit the first 6 of the game. It wasn't enough to reach the St Martin's total, falling just short on 259. The boys' behaviour and attitude was brilliant. Well done! *Mr O'Brien*



U8D vs St Martin's, Thursday, 17 June, Home

A very exciting day as the team participated in their first fixture against St Martin's School. The boys played a game of diamond cricket, where the batting team had batters on each of the 4 sets of stumps surrounding the bowler. This format was fast paced and engaging keeping everyone on their toes and involved.

St John's were able to show off, displaying some excellent batting and bowling skills. Most notably from Aren, who smashed the ball all over the place when batting, and Jay with some very impressive fielding as he took two catches and stopped countless runs!

Overall, the St John's squad put on a performance to be proud of and did so with smiles on their faces. A delightful game to watch. *Mr Colgate*



U8B vs St Martin's, Thursday, 17 June, Away

We arrived very excited about the match against St Martin's. St John's fielded first against a good batting side. We bowled some good deliveries but too often pitched the ball short allowing the opposition to hit fours and two sixes. When we pitched the ball up to the batsman we took 2 wickets. The pick of the bowlers were Alexander, Eliot and Hari. In the field Alexander, Kian and Dev made some great stops. St Martin's set a total of 283 runs.

St John's were immediately under pressure at the crease with St Martin's taking 4 quick wickets. We played some good shots but still need to work for every run. The pick of our batters were Alexander and Christopher scoring a superb 30. Our last pair, Sebastian and Kian ran well between the stumps and this helped our score to tick along. In the end we scored 257 which was a good effort.

Mr Pawson





U13s vs St Paul's and York House U9 Festival

U13A vs St Paul's School, Wednesday, 16 June, Home A tough day for the U13A boys against some of the strongest opposition we will face. A St Paul's team with numerous county representatives batted first in scorching heat and started strongly. Freddie bowled well with the new ball but it was difficult to contain the free flowing opening batsman. The break-through finally came when Arian clean bowled the in-form boy with a score 92 off 7.2 overs. We picked up vital wickets and slowed the rate. St Paul's finally finished on 185/8

off 20 overs. Arian and Vishwadrik both got 2 wickets each. In reply St John's started well with Arian and Rayaan progressing the score to 29 in the 4th over before Arian was caught for 13. Wickets continued to fall and after a great catch on the boundary dismissed Rayaan for 11, the target was always a stretch too far. Aaryan showed some resilience with 12 but we finished on 72 all out. A hard fixture but the boys showed quality in parts and their attitude was fantastic and everyone tried until the end. *Mr O'Brien*



U13B vs St Paul's, Wednesday, 16 June, Home

St Paul's batted first and their openers played a number of very good shots to score runs around the pitch. Our bowling was solid and the batsmen had to work at scoring the runs. Edward, Zreh, Noah, Hilkesh and Alex all bowled some good spells to put the batsman under pressure. But it was in the field that we let things slip and the opposition scored many runs from our missed fielding. Zreh took the only wicket and it was a peach of a ball taking the bails from the stumps in spectacular manner. St Paul's continued to put on the runs and after 20 overs with the loss of only one wicket they scored 208 runs.

A fantastic U9 festival run by York House on Monday 15 June, with the emphasis on fast dynamic cricket. The result was not important. We played 3 short 6 over matches and every boy batted and bowled at some stage in the tournament. The teams also involved were York House, St Martin's and Chesham Prep.

Our standard of bowling and fielding was very good and Neer took a brilliant catch to win a game vs Chesham. He was St John's went into bat and we lost two early wickets in the first over followed by two more wickets in the second over. We never really got going but Edward played sensibly and managed to score two 4's against a very good bowling attack. He remained not out on 11 runs. However, wickets started to tumble and we were not able to keep out the numerous good balls on the stumps. Eventually, the last wicket went when the opposition took a brilliant catch. We scored 39 in total against a very strong bowling attack. *Mr Pawson*

awarded with a fielding medal in the presentation afterwards. The batting as a whole was inconsistent and the boys will learn from the experience. This was the main factor in our losing 2 close games against St Martins and York House. Zac and Neer played a couple of nice innings. Aarush won a medal for his attitude and sportsmanship which he should be very proud of. Keep it up! Well done boys. *Mr O'Brien*

QUTLOOK



Calendar & important dates Contact details

Monday 21st June: 3+ Information evening (7.00pm) Online

Tuesday 22nd June: Inter-School DT Challenge (Year 5) All day

4+ Information evening (6.00pm) Online

Wednesday 23rd June: Open Morning for Prospective Parents postponed until September 29th

Cricket v St John's Beaumont: U13 A, B, (a) U12 A, B (h)

Paddle Boarding Club – Year 8 (4.00pm-6.00pm)

7+ Information Evening (7.00pm) Online **Thursday 24th June:** York House Year 3 Cricket Festival

Summer Concert streamed on the St John's YouTube channel from 7.00pm

Friday 25th June: Cricket v St John's Beaumont: Colts C & (a) U10 E & F (h) Cricket v Merchant Taylors' Prep: Colts A and B (a)

Sunday 27th June: St John's Association Summer Fun Day (cancelled)

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Updates: Please continue to visit www.st-johns.org.uk for all the latest information on sports fixtures and results. The website will have announcements in case of emergency.



You can also follow us on twitter @stjsnorthwood and our sports department @StJohnsNwSport

Mailings: If you have received The Lamb from someone else and would like to be sent your own copy direct each week, please email: Lamb Editor. Let us know your contact details and you will be added to the list.

Photographs: We cannot always be on hand every event with a camera and rely on photographs from parents and supporters. Do please continue to send in pictures to lambeditor@st-johns.org.uk for inclusion in The Lamb. Many thanks.

Photo of the week: Congratulations to Bailey in Year 5 who became the first boy this academic year to receive his Diamond Award for gaining 200 House Points.

Notices and reminders

Summer Concert recording: We are making a video of the Summer Concert on Thursday morning 24th June to stream on St John's YouTube channel later that evening. All musicians in the ensembles and choirs and all soloists should come to school in smart school uniform.

Kruger Sports Camps are back - Five exciting sports camps will run at St John's during the summer holidays with specialist days in cricket, football and court sports. Keeping active and having a break from technology is so important. Come and play, socialise and be sporty! For more information go to www.krugercamps.co.uk

House Points: 1st, Churchill 124.24, 2nd, Lincoln 122.15, 3rd, Lawrence 118.27, 4th, Oates 117.98

Year 8 Business Enterprise Sale: Hot News! The Year 8 Business Enterprise Course is coming to an end now and the boys are ready to sell their products to you. Boris' announcement earlier in the week means we have to change tack a little and we look forward to sharing an online buying platform with you as soon as possible. Look out for an email from us and a website link in next week's Lamb.

Votes for schools: see page 7

Exciting StemDen news - Extra dates added! The summer 2021 programme aims to educate and inspire young people from the age of 5 to 13, we have 'Hands On! Mind's On!' activities for all. Visit: www.stemden.co.uk

Have a lovely weekend