



Herries Preparatory School & Nursery

For boys & girls age 2 to 11



01 | Welcome

At Herries, we believe children thrive in an environment which celebrates their individual strengths and personalities.

We are a non-selective school and aim to instil in children a sense of self-worth and confidence by recognising and celebrating all achievement whether intellectual, creative or physical.

Small class sizes, an attractive location set in the heart of Cookham Dean, inspiring teaching all contribute towards a working environment which enables our pupils to achieve success. Our small class sizes allow staff to devote attention to individual children, differentiating their teaching to ensure great achievement across the ability spectrum. We ensure our children are happy and well cared for. They leave us well rounded, independent, confident individuals with a love of learning and high expectations for themselves, equipped with the social skills and self-motivation necessary to succeed in life.

Rob Grosse
Headteacher



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“EXCELLENT” in all areas

03 | Aims and Vision

Here at Herries we nurture and challenge our pupils, enabling them to develop confidence and high self esteem. Our broad and balanced curriculum is delivered by a team of highly professional and dedicated teachers, whose enthusiasm has inspired many young people to achieve excellence.

OUR AIMS

We provide an excellent all round education to pupils between the ages of 2-11.

Our children:

- Benefit from a challenging, broad academic education;
- Develop fully their creative, aesthetic, practical, physical, emotional and spiritual qualities and talents;
- Benefit from belonging to a nurturing community where each child is known and cared for;
- Develop respect, empathy, compassion and kindness;
- Develop as confident, well balanced individuals ready to become responsible citizens and leaders, and able to form strong and enduring relationships with others.



“The quality of the pupils’ personal development is excellent.”
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04

The content and engagement has been fantastic and has made such a HUGE difference to the kids’ confidence, their ability to focus on their work and to connect with yourselves and their classmates.

PARENT

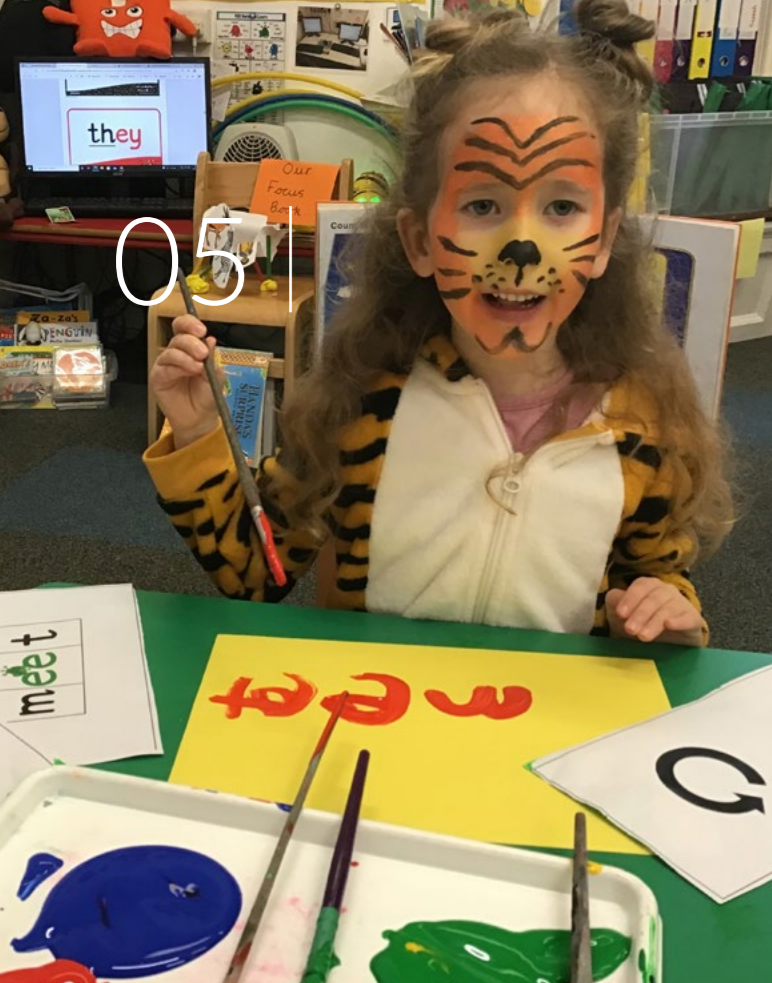
OUR VISION

We succeed by preparing each of our children for the next step of their education, supporting their entry to the secondary school best suited to their individual needs, talents and potential.

“Pupils make outstanding contributions to the lives of others within the school and the wider community.”

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Foundation - ages 2-5

LAYING FOUNDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

The emotional well-being of our children at Herries is very important to our school ethos. We lay foundations for literacy and numeracy through play based activities focusing on a different topic each term. The children have music and French lessons with our teaching specialists from further up the school. We have a wonderful outdoor learning area and the children use this daily and our local wild woods for their forest school activities.

FAMILY ACTION

We have found overwhelming evidence that children's life chances are most heavily predicated on their development in the first five years of life. It is family background, parental education, good parenting and the opportunities for learning and development in those crucial years that together matter more to children in determining whether their potential is realised in adult life."



"I get a glimpse of Mrs Ballinger's lessons every day and I am absolutely blown away by her patience, she has such young kids in her live lessons and is unbelievably patient and ensures all kids are given work appropriate for their abilities keeping everyone included.

PARENT, DURING ONLINE LEARNING



"Children in the EYFS are highly articulate and speak confidently and knowledgeably to a range of audiences."

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07 | Junior Years 1-2

In pre prep, schemes of work follow the National Curriculum though our aim is to teach beyond the levels set for each age group.

In Literacy, words underpin everything we do and pupils are taught to express themselves confidently both orally and in writing. Lively texts and stories, backed up with imaginative teaching methods, give the children the confidence to be creative while at the same time broadening and developing their comprehension skills. One of the most striking impressions that Herries makes on visitors is that the children are happy, open, friendly and confident in conversation.

In Numeracy sessions, Years 1 and 2 build on the early mathematical concepts learnt at the Foundation Stage. Children learn and develop at different speeds so we plan the activities accordingly and give plenty of encouragement and praise. We see the understanding and enjoyment of mathematics as being central to the success of our pupils.

In Science, the emphasis on practical and investigative activities continues, as children are encouraged to develop their thinking skills, working individually and in groups. They build on their knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts learning to collect and evaluate evidence.

History, Geography and Religious Studies are taught through topic work so that the Humanities are given a context in which children can better understand the world in which we live.

“Pupils display excellent social development and collaborative skills which increase as they go through the school.”

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“Herries has the best create club!”

MILLIE, YEAR 1



08 | Senior Years 3-6

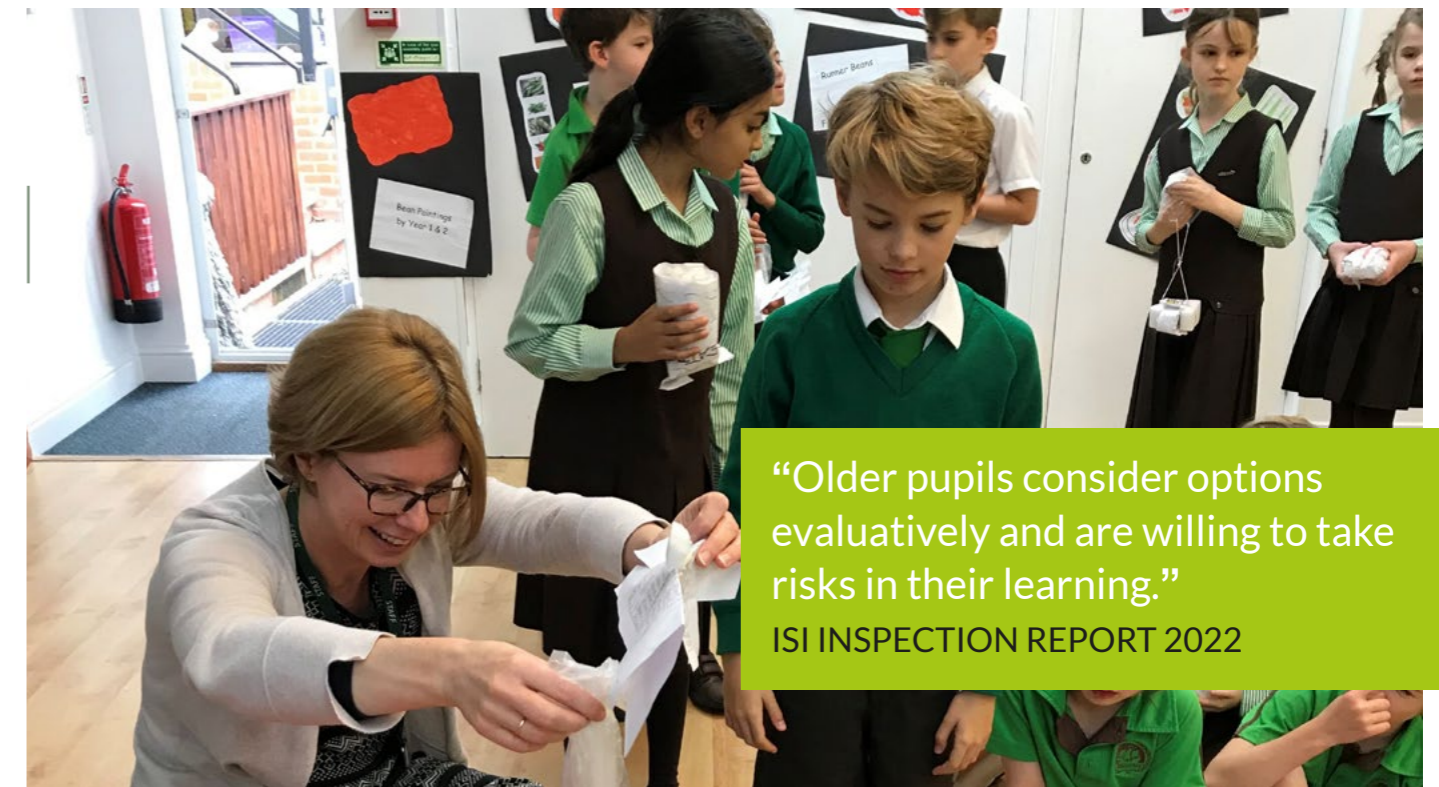
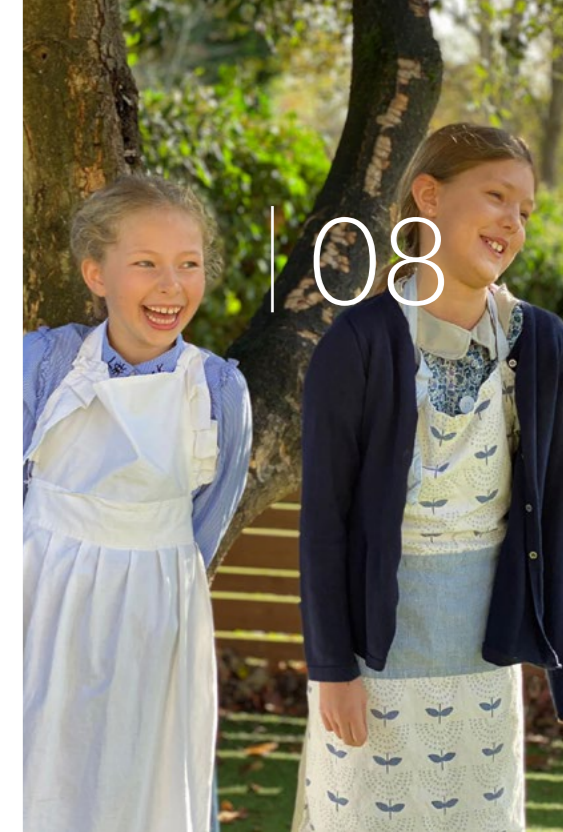
From Years 3 to 6, children continue to have a form teacher but are taught by specialist subject teachers.

Herries pupils work in an atmosphere that encourages achievement in the classroom and beyond. Our aim is to develop the ability to work independently and to this end we set regular homework tasks, appropriate to the age of the child and their abilities and interests.

The core subjects of English and Mathematics are taught on a daily basis and Science twice weekly. In small classes, the children have weekly sessions of French, Geography, History and Religious Education, PSHE, Music, Art, Design Technology and ICT, PE and Sport.

“Small places can do big things”

JOANNA, YEAR 5



“Older pupils consider options evaluatively and are willing to take risks in their learning.”

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09 |



“Pupils care for each other and provide support and encouragement in abundance.”

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Happiness
Enthusiasm
Resilience
Respect
Independence
Excellence
Sincerity



“Pupils have a strong moral awareness and are deeply caring and respectful of one another and the school community.”
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Competition and Co-operation

We believe that a healthy body encourages a healthy mind and so sport and exercise form a crucial part of the children's day to day life at Herries.

We encourage all children to regularly compete in teams promoting development of all abilities, not just the most able. Learning to be competitive, to encourage each other and to work as part of a team are equally as important as the obvious benefits to physical health.

There is an extensive Games programme scheduled within school hours and beyond. We have a partnership with the National Sports Centre at Bisham and use their facilities weekly for Hockey and Football. Tag Rugby, Netball and Gymnastics take place within the Herries grounds, whilst we travel locally for Swimming, Tennis and Athletics.

"Herries supportive family atmosphere enables pupils to thrive and achieve their full potential"

YEAR 6 PARENT



"From an early age, pupils learn to work and play collaboratively."
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Music and Drama



MUSIC

Music is a very important part of the curriculum at Herries; each class, including Nursery, has a weekly music lesson with a music specialist. The music room is equipped with a wide range of instruments and equipment including keyboards and percussion instruments. The curriculum is designed for continuity and progression.

We believe that every child should be encouraged to enjoy and appreciate all aspects of music through performing, composing and listening. It should be a creative and enjoyable activity and we provide opportunities for all children to compose, perform and appraise music, to develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of music. Practical activities, with an enquiry based approach, allow pupils to make decisions for themselves and direct their learning and the outcomes of their composition and performance work.

DRAMA

The dramatic arts are central to life at Herries and we are firm believers in the importance of Drama on the school curriculum and beyond.

Our drama classes provide pupils with an outlet for emotions, thoughts and creativity that they might not otherwise have ways to express. Through taking on another role pupils can experiment with personal choices and solutions through problems faced by characters in literature or historical figures.

Drama classes are on the curriculum from Nursery through to Year 6. All children take part in school performances from Nativities to musicals. There is also a popular after school Drama club which leads to The London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA) exams. The success of these, with the majority of our pupils achieving merit and distinction grades, is indicative of our excellence in this area. We also enter inter school poetry competitions.

We enjoy regular visits from theatre companies and Perform4schools who organise lively workshops for pre-prep children in particular.



After School Clubs

After the school academic day finishes there is an opportunity for pupils from Reception to Year 6 to join an after school activity.

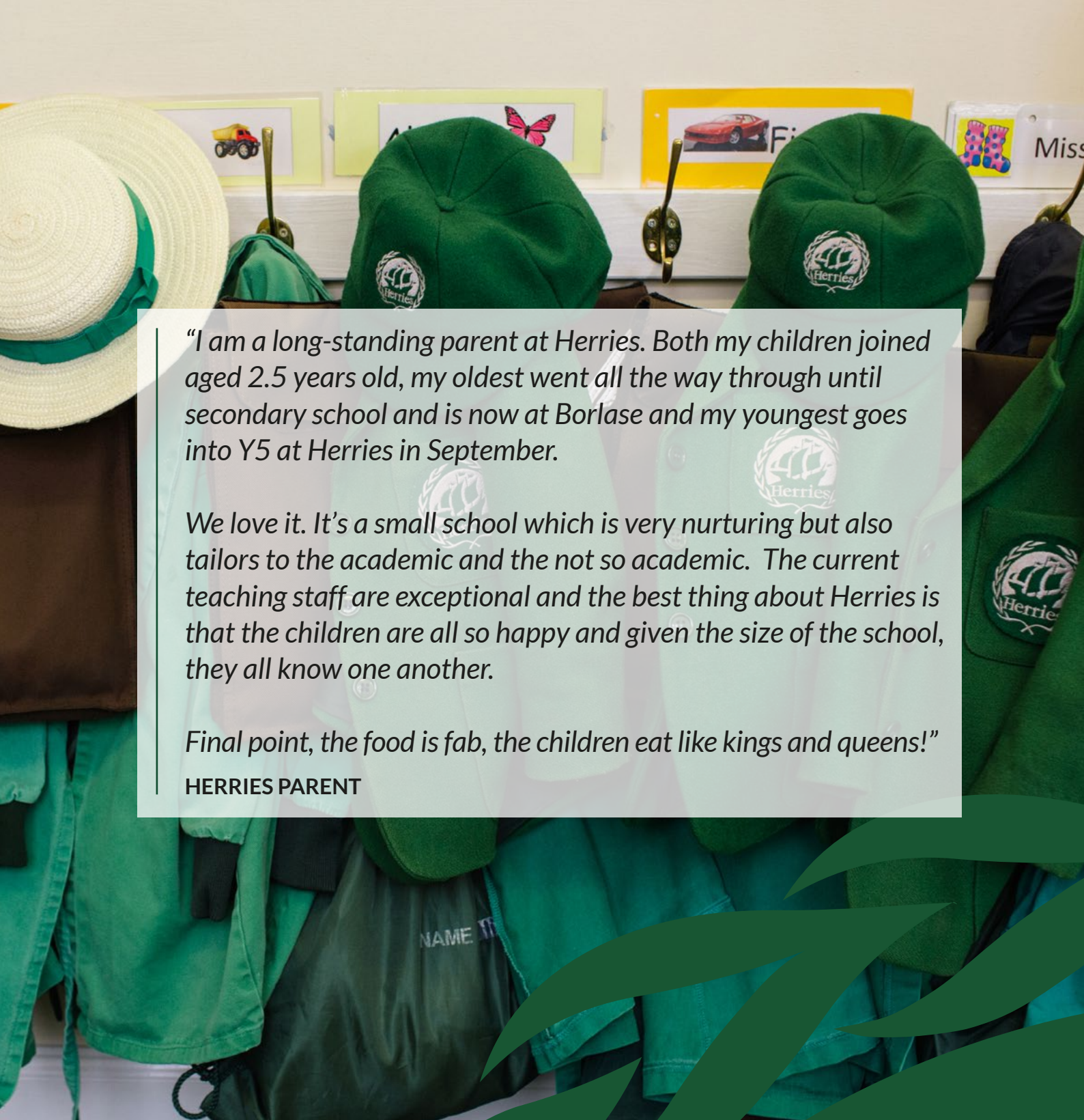
It's a great chance for our pupils to take part in something new, or something that complements the academic and sporting curriculum in a safe, familiar environment.

The activities change from term to term, but below is a list of some of the clubs we run:

- Cookery Club
- Create Club
- STEM Club
- Homework Club
- Fencing
- Tennis
- Multi-sports
- Running
- Street Dance
- Dance
- Cross Country
- Football
- Cricket
- Athletics

“Pupils display excellent social development and collaborative skills which increase as they go through the school.”
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"I am a long-standing parent at Herries. Both my children joined aged 2.5 years old, my oldest went all the way through until secondary school and is now at Borlase and my youngest goes into Y5 at Herries in September.

We love it. It's a small school which is very nurturing but also tailors to the academic and the not so academic. The current teaching staff are exceptional and the best thing about Herries is that the children are all so happy and given the size of the school, they all know one another.

Final point, the food is fab, the children eat like kings and queens!"

HERRIES PARENT

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"EXCELLENT" in all areas

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