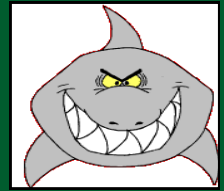


David Suzuki Public School  
45 Riverwalk Drive  
Markham, L6B 0L9  
(905) 209-0435

# SUZUKI SOURCE



[daidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca](http://daidsuzuki.ps.yrdsb.ca)

Volume 10 - June 2017



## ADMINISTRATORS' MESSAGE

David Suzuki is full of life as we embark on the last month of the school year! From academics, arts and athletics, the staff and students have been working hard at engaging in enriched learning opportunities. We thank families for their support throughout the school year, as you play an integral role in supporting the learning of our students.

On Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at the York Region District School Board meeting of trustees and senior administrators, decisions were made regarding some of the administrative assignments for the coming school year. At that time, it was decided that effective September 2017, the administrative team for David Suzuki P.S. will comprise of myself as Principal and Stephen Louca as Vice-Principal. I am thrilled to continue to work with the staff, students and community of David Suzuki P.S. Mr. Louca is very familiar with the David Suzuki community, as he once worked as a teacher here! He returns to us as an experienced Vice-Principal and we are excited about the leadership he will bring to the school.

At this time, I'd like to also wish a fond farewell to some teachers at our school as they embark on new opportunities within the YRDSB. Farewell to **Mrs. Fenwick, Ms. Ricketts, Mrs. Scott, Mr. Clarke, Ms. Agnihotri, Mrs. Veiga, Ms. Prasoulis, Ms. Puskar, and Ms. Keane**. We thank each of them for their work and dedication on behalf of our students. In September we look forward to welcoming **Ms. Armanious, Ms. Forrest, Ms. Keshavjee, and Mr. Sharma**. We know that they will be great assets to our David Suzuki family. We are also looking forward to welcoming back **Mr. Schaub and Ms. Krikorian!**

As with all schools at this time of the year, staffing and school organizations continue to be tentative. Please be reminded, that in keeping with past practice, students will learn who their teacher will be on the first day of school next September. We appreciate the input that parents have given us as we have begun the process of planning for class placements for next year.

Thank you for your continued support and encouragement. Together, our efforts will ensure David Suzuki P.S. remains a school of excellence!

*Sincerely,*

*Jennifer Cowley (Principal)    Cathy Hughes (Vice Principal)*

Principal  
Jennifer Cowley  
[Jennifer.cowley@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Jennifer.cowley@yrdsb.ca)

Vice-Principal  
Cathy Hughes  
[Cathy.hughes@yrdsb.ca](mailto:Cathy.hughes@yrdsb.ca)

Administrative Assistant  
Helen Olidis

Secretaries  
Meharaj Aklak  
Sunitha Krishnan

Superintendent  
Peter Tse

Trustee  
Juanita Nathan



# Character Matters—Courage

The character trait for the month of May'2017 was **Courage**.



*“We face challenges directly. We seek help from others when necessary. We do the right thing even when it may be unpopular. We are able to recognize risks and danger and do not take unwise risks to gain the approval of those around us”.*

## Congratulations to our winners.

Mrs. Hudspith/Mrs.Prasath	OFTJSA	Jhouvin R., Saisha A., Arujan S.
Ms. Agnihotri/ Ms. Elmi	OFTJSB	Sachin T., Morais F., Ronin D.
Ms. Orr/ Ms. Abreu	OFTJSC	Shahzil M., Justin C., Jeshye S.
Ms. Halliday/Ms. Donnan	OFTJSD	Zara A., Shapthany S., Sahib R.
Ms. Eng/ Ms.Wang	OFTJSE	Aaruthi S., Yousef S., Ajay J.
Ms. Llewellyn/Ms. Khalil	OFTJSF	Sophia C., Ethan T., Ariana J., Chloe L.
Mrs. Keane /Ms. Selvaratnam	OFTJSG	Ariyah I., Aayan S., Jade H., Rohan D.
Mrs. Gertsakis	GR1	Justin B., Abishan J.
Mrs. McMichael	GR1	Tony Z., Reanujan S.
Mrs. Kennedy	GR1	Ahmad S., Parashar T., Sherekahiny V.
Mrs. Veiga	GR1/2	Nikhil N., Telana K.
Mrs. Barovier	GR2	Aashia G., Nedi I.
Mrs. Cooper	GR2	Denai D., Arthi K.
Mr. Binner	GR2	Hishara R., Caaviyan M.
Mrs. Kilgour	GR3	Amina B., Logan C., Ethan C., Simran D., Neda H., Oviya K., Stepani K., Matthew LI., Nabiha N., Luxman P., Roheth R., Barleen R., Aksha R., Rochan R., Feroza R., Aaryan S., Menusha S., Darren W., Wei Bin Z.
Mrs. Clements	GR3	Evan L., Pranavi S.
Ms. Hall	GR3	Rayyan B., Kavan S., Kailesh S., Kartik V.
Ms. Nedelkovski	GR3	Matthew L., Madison F.

The Character Trait for June is

## Perseverance

**We stick to a goal and work hard even in the face of obstacles and challenges. We complete all tasks and assignments.**

## Public Health Immunization

In the 2017/18 school year, York Region Public Health will visit all elementary schools to provide school immunization clinics to Grade 7 students. The clinics offer vaccines for Hepatitis B, Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and Meningococcal A, C, Y, W-135 at no cost.

Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act, meningococcal vaccine is required for school attendance, unless an exemption is filed with public health. Hepatitis B and HPV vaccines are recommended, but not required for school attendance.

Parents of students entering Grade 7 in fall 2017 will receive consent forms in the mail in June. Please complete the consent form and return it to York Region Public Health to allow your child to participate in the immunization clinics. Detailed instructions can be found on the forms and accompanying letter. If the consent form is not completed, your child will not be able to receive vaccines at the clinic.

Parents and guardians who do not consent should still complete the forms and return them, indicating that you do not authorize York Region Public Health to immunize your child.

Visit [www.york.ca/immunization](http://www.york.ca/immunization) and click on School Immunization Clinics for more information.

Did you know? If your child has missed a required vaccination on Ontario's routine immunization schedule, he/she can receive the vaccine at one of York Region Public Health's Community Immunization Clinics. These evening clinics are offered throughout the summer, giving students the opportunity to catch up before returning to school. Visit [york.ca/immunizations](http://york.ca/immunizations) and select Community Immunization Clinics to learn more.



## SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS



On Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> the York Region District School Board in association with the Markham Tamil Organization, Inclusive Schools and Community Services, and the Association of Sri Lankan Graduates of Canada held their annual awards of excellence ceremony to recognize the achievements of Tamil students in throughout York Region. At the ceremony, over 100 elementary students from across the Board were recognized for their achievements in the areas of citizenship, perseverance, academics, arts, and athletics. We would like to congratulate three Suzuki students who received awards at this

prestigious event.

Congratulations to **Nilany Sriranganathan** who was recognized for her achievements in Academics, Arts, and Citizenship; **Keila Balakaran** who was recognized for her achievements in Citizenship; and **Archana Karnan** for her achievements in the Arts. Your hard work and dedication to all that you do is commended.





## MORE SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

### Suzuki Students raise over \$10 000 for Jump Rope for Heart!!

On a very warm May 18th, students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 took part in Jump Rope and Hoops for Heart. They skipped, hula hooped and played basketball in support of a very good cause - to raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Supporting kids' health for more than 35 years, the Heart and Stroke Foundation encourages kids to get active while they collect pledges for heart disease and stroke research. Jump Rope for Heart ensures a fun, active Event Day and provides students with information that encourages healthy eating, daily physical activity and giving back to the community.

Here are just some of the ways the dollars you raised help:

- 8,000 life-saving automated external defibrillators (AEDs) were placed in communities across Canada.
- eTools (such as the Heart&Stroke Risk Assessment) were developed to empower all Canadians to lead healthier lives.
- The creation of [Stop Marketing to Kids](#) — a campaign protecting kids from unhealthy food and beverage advertising.

So how much money did the students of David Suzuki Public School raise?? Our students went over and above our fundraising goal of \$9700 and raised OVER \$10 000!! (the final amount will be announced later in June).

Amazing! You should be proud of yourselves, Suzuki Sharks!

To everyone who donated money and time towards this year's Jump Rope for Heart event - thank you.



## MORE SUZUKI SHOUT OUTS!

This year saw another successful season for the Suzuki Senior Badminton Team!

After a series of exhibition matches and competitive tournaments, Suzuki athletes capped off their season with a **2<sup>nd</sup> place overall finish at Area's** ... an incredible achievement given the tough competition in our Area.

Special recognition goes out to the following pairs who had outstanding performances at the Area tournament in their respective divisions of 22 teams each:

- Timothy & Karanveer for finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in the boys division;
- Alyssa & Justin for finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in the mixed division;
- Thardchi & Ishani for finishing 4<sup>th</sup> in the girls division; and
- Hasna & Tyler for finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the mixed division.

For finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the mixed division at Area's, Hasna & Tyler qualified for the Regional tournament where they competed against the best of the best from across the Board. The pair had an incredible day and **finished 8<sup>th</sup> in all of York Region!**

Congratulations to all team members for their incredible dedication, hard work, sportsmanship, and team spirit.

Special thanks also goes out to all of the staff and students who came out to support the team throughout the season.



**Hasna & Tyler competing at the YRDSB Regional tournament.**

## CURRICULUM CORNER

### Developing Mathematical Thinking



Solving word problems require more than just math. It is more than just reading the words. Students must learn to “read between the lines” and understand what they are expected to do mathematically.

The Ministry document What Works? Research into Practice: Word Problems explains to teachers and parents how to approach word problems with our students.

Below are a few suggestions from the document to support students’ understanding of word problems.

- 1. Encourage students to compare two problems with different scenarios/situations but the same math concept.**
- 2. Discuss the language used in the problems and how it relates to the math task.**
- 3. Encourage students to edit word problems given to make it more understandable or more realistic.**
- 4. Ask students to create and solve word problems relating to events in their lives.**

For the last two suggestions, it is important to have some discussion of how the students’ word problems are created and which parts of the students’ experience and/or curriculum are important when solving these problems.

[http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/WW\\_Word\\_Problems.pdf](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/WW_Word_Problems.pdf)

### David Suzuki School Council News

The School Council would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the community for your support with all of our initiatives this school year. We were happy see everyone out at Fun Fair as our community building event. Our fundraising initiatives were successful!



Together you helped us raise a total of **\$3548.93** from the cookie, popcorn and ice cream sales. With this money we were able to give back to our students and school by supporting the following:

- Provided snacks & juice for the Welcome to Kindergarten Night.
- Provided water for the Grade 8 Graduation.
- Purchased outdoor equipment for all grade levels to use.
- Supported the Scientist in the School Program by donating money to lower the individual cost for each participating student.

With the remaining funds, we are looking forward to contributing to technology purchases for the upcoming school year. All this would have not been possible without your support, so again thank you very much.

Wishing all of our community a safe and enjoyable summer! We look forward to welcoming new members to School Council next Fall!

Kindest Regards,  
**The School Council of David Suzuki**



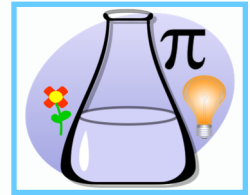
## GRADE 8 GRADUATION TRIP



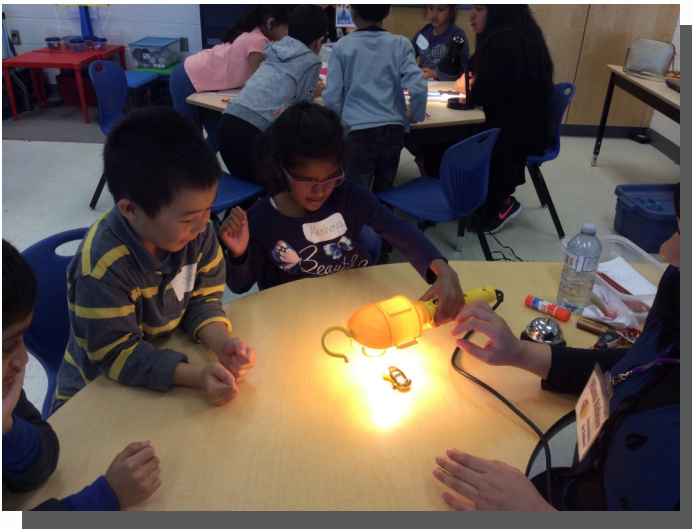
On May 10th the Grade 8 students went out on their grad trip. All the students had an amazing time as some of the highlights included: exploring and trying new foods at the St. Lawrence Market, indulging in a buffet on our very own cruise ship, enjoying a breathtaking view of Toronto's skyline and cheering on the Jays at the Rogers Center.



## SCIENTISTS IN SCHOOLS



Scientists in the School visited our Grade 1 classes in May and brought with them a hands-on educational experience called "Energy Makes It Happen." This program sparked our students' interest and love of science. Students had the opportunity to explore the impact energy had on our daily lives and investigate thermal energy by making a bubble grow. They used a real thermometer to explore the effect of color on heat absorption and built a pinwheel that used renewable energy. This day was enjoyed by students and teachers.



## SCIENTISTS IN SCHOOLS

by HARRISON

On Tuesday, May 22, Mrs. Gertsakis's Grade 1 class had scientists in the school. We learned about solar energy. At one of the centres we had to shine a light on cars and bugs that had solar panels to make them move. At that centre we even had to connect wires to a solar panel and the other side was connected to a spinner, a radio, and a light. Then we had to shine a light on the solar panel to make the things work. At another centre we had to find ways to save electricity. We even played a game called power out. In power out the volunteer has to take a card. The card has a question and the volunteer has to read it out loud. The card might say for example: the power is out what are you going to do to entertain yourself? Then we have to answer it. At another centre we had to see which shirt keeps you warmer the black or the white. The black one keeps you warmer. Next we made bubbles. At the next centre we made pinwheels out of straws, beads, paper, and a pin. Then we did a fishing activity. Each fish had something on it and we had to sort them. The square basket was for renewable things and the circle basket was for non-renewable things. At the last centre we made a sun survival chain and learned about UV rays. At the end we got bracelets with beads that capture UV rays and if UV rays hit it will change color. We learned a lot. We had fun.

### Our Inquiry on Chicks and Ducks



During the months of April and May our Kindergarten students had the wonderful opportunity to raise and care for chicks and ducks. The students engaged in rich conversations amongst their peers by utilizing the processes of an inquiry stance which included questioning, observing and investigating the animals.

Raising the farm animals allowed students to expand their learning in many aspects. They developed the important life skills of turn taking, cooperation and caring for living things. Students also learned about the life cycle and engaged in conversations about the growth and changes they observed over the past several weeks. Students particularly enjoyed observing how the chicks and ducks used their egg tooth and bodies to break out of their shells. Students loved feeding, holding and watching the animals use their physical characteristics (e.g., webbed feet, wings) to adapt to their new surroundings.

Thank you again to all the parents that supported us through purchasing Kindergarten Concert tickets and DVDs. You made this amazing experience happen not only for the Kindergartens but the whole school!

Here are some of our memorable moments:





# **FUN FAIR**

## **Suzuki's Annual Fun Fair was a Success!**

On May 25th, the David Suzuki School Council held their Annual Fun Fair at the school. Despite the weather, it was a good time had by all. Families got to enjoy delicious food, tasty treats, fun games, face painting, balloon art and more! It was so nice to see so many of you at the Fun Fair enjoying yourselves! The Fun Fair is a wonderful event that brings our school community together. Thank you so much first of all to our School Council parents who organized this great event! Thank you also to all the volunteers that made this evening possible! Last, but certainly not least, thank you to all the parents that brought their kids to the Fun Fair!

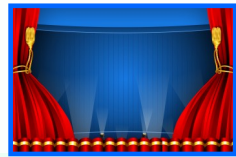


*This event could not have happened with out your support. Thank You.*





## INTERMEDIATE DRAMA NIGHT



### An Insight towards the production of “The Ringing Bell”

Lights! Camera! Action! Except that there wasn't much camera on the eve of May 24<sup>th</sup> 2017 as David Suzuki held its Annual Intermediate Drama Night, but more action and let us express what a phenomenal blast it was! Just by tremendous effort, team work, dedication and some worthwhile feed back, we were able to bring an inspiring and sensational picture book to life! As our intermediate drama team presented their version of a story book titled “The Ringing Bell”, they had brought the fictional tale to life through outstanding movements, actions, transitioning and choreography. We are happy to announce that our presentation was a success bringing joy to the viewers faces and satisfaction to the performers. The cooperation of our staff and students was vital to bring such a performance to life!

The outstanding talent present in our intermediates, the continued support given by our awesome backstage crew and ushers was enough for us to find endorsement in the hearts of our school wide community- our teachers, our staff and faculty, our parents...we couldn't have been more thankful and appreciative. Lead Cast, Choreography, DSPS Dance Team, Backstage crew, Ushers, Working groups and everyone involved in the the production of “The Ringing Bell” we are truly, very proud and delighted by your continued effort and perseverance when facing challenges, when figuring out tricky lines and act gestures, you have made us boast about our performance many times! With all the praise bestowed, our core, our very essence to success-our beloved and very appreciated Mrs. Scott, who wrote and organized our play. The hard work in your willpower is truly awe-inspiring. It leaves us the hope of making big things possible in a small amount of time, the reason being dedication. Working with you has been more than a pleasure, a wonderful experience of peaks and valleys, a wonderful sensation of a job truly well done. Shout out to all the teachers ( Ms. Arumugam, Mr. Bansal, Ms.Simmons, Mr. Lowrie, Ms.Tsiampouris, Ms. Ming, Ms. Kilgour, Ms.Hall, Ms. Cowley and Ms. Hughes etc) for your continued help, support and dedication. We couldn't have done it without you! We would also like to send a special thank you to our parents for adjusting their schedules for our before and after school practices. Your cooperation contributed to the amazing outcome of the play.

As our Drama production has ended, we will forever remember the powerful tale of a girl standing up against all odds to prove her opinion for the safety and well being of her people. It reminds us to be confident with who we are and what morale to have towards difficult situations and lastly, to be brave when challenges come our way, because that's what life is. Our drama production was a wonderful experience that we hope to continue to do so in the future. “Challenges are what make life interesting but overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.”

~ “Courage is the ladder upon which all other virtues mount!”

**Written by: Faseeha. F and Ugbat. H in GR 8—Bansal**

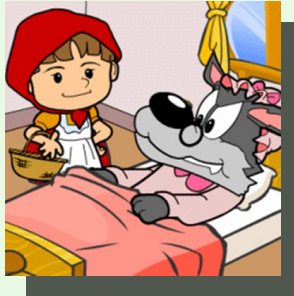


## PRIMARY CONCERT NIGHT AND DUFFLE BAG THEATRE



Lights, camera, action. On Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> the grade 1-3 students dazzled the audience as they performed songs and dances inspired by Musicals. Performances included the Grade 1's in Mrs. Kennedy's, Mrs. McMichaels' and Mrs. Gertsakis' classes performing "Be Our Guest" from Beauty and the Beast. Mrs. Nedelkovski's grade 3 class teamed up with Mr. Binner's grade 2 class to provide you with a smash hit from the musical The Lion King "Circle of Life". Ms. Veiga's grade 1/2 class performed "Can't Take My Eyes Off of You" from the Jersey Boys. Ms. Clements grade 3 class performed an interpretation of "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" from the musical Mary Poppins. Ms. Kilgour's grade 3 put a smile on our face by performing "Singing in the Rain". Ms. Cooper's grade 2 class sang and performed "A Hard Knock Life" from the musical Annie. A job well done primary teachers and students.

The Duffle Bag Theatre cheerfully made their way to David Suzuki P.S. on Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> to perform Little Red Riding Hood. The primary classes from Kindergarten to Grade 3 enjoyed an interactive performance. The students were enchanted by the clever stagecraft and were thrilled to see some of their peers become part of the performance.



## GRADE 4 TRIP TO TORONTO BOTANICAL GARDENS

The students had a wonderful time at Toronto Botanical Gardens, exploring the gardens and being one with nature. They were able to build bird nests, find their own rock and test its properties, and participated in many team building activities. It was a great day spent outdoors!



## Thursday, June 29, 2017 Early Dismissal in Elementary Schools

All schools in the York Region District School Board are committed to improving student achievement and well-being. On **Thursday, June 29, 2017**, an early release day will take place to allow elementary teachers and support staff to take part in meetings during the afternoon of that day. These meetings will allow for school staff to engage in culminating activities regarding the review and revision of the School's Improvement Plan as well as year-end and transition activities that support student success.



As has been our practice in the past, students will attend school during the morning of Thursday, June 29, 2017 only. Students will be dismissed early that day at **12:05pm**. Arrangements will be made to ensure that students who are normally bused to and from school will receive transportation at this time. Parents/guardians whose children attend after school child care should make appropriate arrangements to address this change in schedule.

### Dress Code – Reminders

We have a dress code in effect with regards to appropriate wear during the warmer weeks. We ask that students refrain from wearing clothing that shows bare midriffs, low cut tops or short shorts/skirts. Students dressed inappropriately for a school environment will be asked to call home for appropriate clothing. If no one is available to bring appropriate clothing, we will provide replacement clothing that meets the dress code standards. We also encourage you to consider safety when selecting summer footwear (e.g. flip flops can prove to be hazardous when running and playing). We appreciate your support in helping us maintain a respectful and safe learning environment for all of our students.



## Are you planning on moving?

Each year at this time we begin to plan for the upcoming school year. It is important for us to know how many students to expect for the fall term. If your child (ren) in JK – Grade 7 will not be returning to Suzuki in the fall, please inform the office as soon as possible.



*Thank you*

### Library

The year is winding down so we would like to begin collecting library books from the students. All books must be returned to the library **by Friday JUNE 16th.**

*Thank you.*

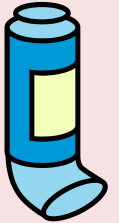


*Reminder!*

### Student Medication Pick Up

If your child has a supply of **medication** or an **EpiPen** at school in the office, please arrange to pick it up on the last day of school.

*Thank you!*



### Message from our Trustee

As we near the end of the school year, I want to thank you for all that you do to strengthen our schools and communities. This is a good time to celebrate your child's achievements over the past year.

One of our goals in the [Trustees' Multi-Year Plan](#) is to "continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture and caring and learning." That includes a culture that emphasizes engagement and positive relationships among all the members of the school community – students, staff members, families and community members.

You, as parents/guardians, are our most important partners when it comes to education. The support you have provided to your child throughout this past school year will help to strengthen our schools and make a difference to your child's learning.

I encourage you to continue engaging your child in learning throughout the summer, and to help them to see the connections between what they are learning in school and the world around them. There are so many opportunities to do this over the summer, whether that's planning a budget with your child, enjoying the natural beauty in York Region, reading a book or visiting local sites. Whatever your plans are this summer, I wish you all a successful end to the school year, and a safe and enjoyable summer.





<b><u>Mark your calendar!!</u></b>	
June 5	School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm
June 6	Firefighter's visit for Grade 3's
June 7	Grade 7 Scientists In Schools
June 8	Spirit Days: Spring/Summer/Beach day
June 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Area Track &amp; Field</li><li>• Firefighter visit Gr1- Gr 3</li></ul>
June 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◆ Spirit Days: Sports Day</li><li>◆ Rain date: Area Track &amp; Field</li></ul>
June 21	Regional Track & Field
June 22	Spirit Days: Cultural Day/Formal Day
June 26	Eid-UI-Fitr (Religious Holiday)
June 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Report cards go home</li><li>• Grade 8 graduation ceremony</li></ul>
June 29	Last Day of School - <i>Early dismissal at 12:05pm</i>
June 30	PA Day for Staff

### **Report Cards and Early Dismissal Reminder**

Students will receive their report cards on **Wednesday, June 28th**.

A reminder that the last day of school for students is Thursday June 29th. **The students will be dismissed at 12:05 pm** on that day so please make appropriate ar-

rangements.

*Thank you.*

