



Manland Primary School Newsletter

Friday 12th January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to all our families and welcome back to school. The children have made an excellent start to the new term and have settled back in to school routines.

On behalf of all the staff here at Manland, I would like to say a huge thank you to the parents and children for the incredibly generous gifts received at the end of term. We were really touched by all the kind wishes.

This term we welcome Mrs Himpfen to our support staff team. Mrs Himpfen will be working across year groups so many of our children will get to know her. I'm sure you will all join me in welcoming Mrs Himpfen to Manland.

A reminder that after school clubs will be commencing next week. If you requested a place at a club for your child at the end of last term, please check School Gateway and make payment as soon as possible.

Many thanks

Mrs. Wicks, Headteacher



Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 15 th January 2024	After school clubs commence (external club dates may be different – please check with them directly)
Wednesday 17 th January 2024	NHS Health Screening – Reception class
Thursday 18 th January 2024	Year 3 first swim for Spring Term
Thursday 25 th January 2024	Year 1 class assembly at 9am
Wednesday 31 st January 2024	Year 3 Ancient Egypt workshop



Attendance

Our whole school attendance for this week is **96.4%**. Well done to Year 5 who achieved 100% attendance!

StayWise – A Blue light initiative to save lives through education

StayWise is a library of educational resources created by emergency services and their partners to embed safety messaging into everyday learning, and to support teachers, organisations and families in delivering consistent national guidance. The range of resources covers multiple key stages, subjects and languages, including SEND provision.

Find out how to register to StayWise free of charge and visit the website to find resources, activities and more: <https://staywise.co.uk/public>





Spotlight on Attendance

On 8th January 2024, the Government launched a national campaign to remind parents and carers of the importance of school attendance.

Improving school attendance is everyone's business and, to tackle the challenge, schools and families need to work together.

The link between attendance and attainment is clear:

- In 2018/19, just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.

But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.

Per the Chief Medical Officer, "it is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above."

What can you do?

At Manland, we have clear expectations for parents and carers about what they need to do to support good attendance. Parents/carers are responsible for:

- ensuring that their children are punctual and know the importance of good attendance.
- instilling in their children an appreciation of the importance of attending school regularly.
- informing the school on any day of absence, **by 9.10 am** at the latest.
- providing the school with an explanation for the absence.
- working in partnership with the school to resolve issues and help the school to understand their child's barriers to attendance.
- booking any medical appointments before or after the school day, wherever possible.
- only requesting leave of absence in exceptional circumstances and doing so in advance.
- In the case of illness, referring to the NHS guidance "[Is my child too ill for school guidance](#)" and the Chief Medical Officer Chris Whitty's [letter on mild illness and school attendance](#).

Prolonged or regular periods of absence are likely to heighten a child's anxiety about attending school in the future.

What are we doing?

- Where your child's attendance is low, we will contact you to offer support to help raise your child's attendance
- We work hard to reduce the spread of infection in our school – pupils are regularly reminded of the importance of regular and effective handwashing. Spaces are well-ventilated and the school uses CO2 monitors to manage good ventilation.

"Every day of school is important, moments matter, attendance counts."

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Spotlight on British Values

Pupil Parliament



At the end of last term, we were once again been busy promoting British Values through our election of the new Pupil Parliament.

Pupil Parliament will replace School Council and will continue to enable pupils from all year groups to be actively involved in many ways across the school. This year, children will become a 'Minister' with special responsibilities for certain areas of the school.

Just like School Council, children were elected by their class after giving a short speech in which they outlined their leadership skills and explained why they were standing for election. Each year group elected two Members of Parliament to take on a 'ministerial role,' apart from Year 6, who elected four, two of whom were appointed as Prime Minister and Deputy Prime minister.

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and good luck to all our Ministers!



Year 1

Olivia and
Oisin



Year 2

Lia and
Thomas



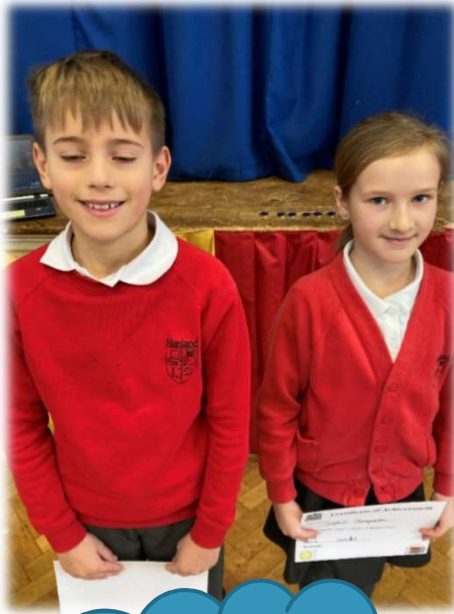
Year 3

Edward
and Chloe



Year 4

Eliza and
Sammy



Year 5

Noah and
Sophie



Year 6

Maxi, Elliot, Matilda and
Linus





Spotlight on Safeguarding

Safeguarding is our number 1 priority at Manland Primary. Every child has the right to be safe from harm and danger. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure every child is free from worry and able to learn and develop in a safe and secure environment.

Lanyard System

We wanted to remind parents and carers of the lanyard system which we have at Manland. This is an important part of our safeguarding procedures and is enforced at all times.

All visitors to our site must sign in at the office and obtain a lanyard. **No person can be in the school building without a lanyard under any circumstances, no matter how short a period.** The type of lanyard you receive will depend on the safeguarding checks in place for you.

Grey



- Staff Lanyard
- All staff recruitment checks in place, including enhanced DBS
- Can be unsupervised whilst on site

Red



- Governor Lanyard
- All Governor recruitment checks in place, including enhanced DBS
- Can be unsupervised whilst on site

Green



- Volunteer Lanyard
- All volunteer checks in place, including enhanced DBS
- Can be unsupervised whilst on site

Blue



- Visitor Lanyard
- **Must be accompanied by a member of staff at all times whilst on site**

Safeguarding Team

At Manland we have a Safeguarding Team who work with our pupils, families and outside agencies. They also support all of the staff in ensuring we provide the best care for our pupils.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead at Manland is Mrs Wicks. There are two deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Mr Comer and Mrs Kemp. Mrs Wicks and Mr Comer are also trained in Safer Recruitment.

Our Safeguarding Governor is Mr Wardle who monitors that the school meets all statutory requirements in regard to Safeguarding. Our deputy Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Montgomery.

All of the adults in our school help to keep children safe.

Child Protection Policy

Our child protection policy is always available on our school website and can be located:

<https://manland.herts.sch.uk/download/child-protection-policy/>



Crossing Patrol – Ox Lane

We know there is still concern about the lack of a crossing patrol on Ox Lane at school drop off and pick up. This is a service provided by Herts County Council, and despite, regular advertising, we understand that they have not been able to recruit someone for this role.

It was recently suggested at Parent Forum that parents/carers may wish to make contact with the Council to suggest that, if it is not possible to recruit a new crossing patrol person, that perhaps they could consider a permanent solution e.g. traffic lights, to enable children to cross safely.

If you would like to make contact with a councillor on this matter, please contact Councillor Paul De Kort on paul.dekort@hertfordshire.gov.uk

The Manland Wish List

We are so grateful to all the families who were able to donate resources from our Amazon Wish List.

A big thank you to the following for our deliveries of Science, PE and Computing resources this week – we were over the moon to receive them!

- The Tromans Family
- The Booth Family
- Anonymous donor – animal and human xrays
- Anonymous donor – BeeBot computing device



And finally, a massive thank you to the H.S.A, who, this week, generously offered to purchase the remaining Science, PE, Computing and EYFS resources from our Amazon Wish List!

We can't explain how grateful we are for this generous donation! We work very hard to reuse resources as much as possible so that we can protect the school budget. It is rare that we have new resources in school, so to receive so many brand new resources from our parents and the H.S.A has been amazing. Please be assured we will look after these resources very well and they will be used by Manland pupils for many years to come.

On behalf of all the pupils and staff at Manland, thank you to everyone involved in the H.S.A, everyone who has supported or contributed to a H.S.A and all the families who were able to buy us resources from our Wish List – we are so grateful.





Sporting Achievement

Congratulations to Cali from Year 3 who was awarded Harrier of the Week for her football team last weekend! Cali worked really hard throughout the game and her coach commended her on her control and ball skills as well as her determination during the game! Well done Cali – we are very proud of your inspirational behaviour!

We know that lots of our pupils achieve success out of school and we are always really keen to celebrate them in our school newsletter. If you have any news about your child that you are happy to be shared in the school newsletter, please email us on admin@manland.herts.sch.uk with details of their achievement and a photo (if possible).



Homework grids

Following the last parent forum meeting, we wanted to get in contact with parents and carers regarding our approach to homework grids and marking expectations.

At Manland, pupils are encouraged to continue their learning at home. They do this in a wide variety of ways.

Every day, pupils in Reception and Year 1 take home a phonics book from our Little Wandle Scheme. They are also encouraged to read a sharing book and a library book with their adults at home.

From Year 1 onwards, homework is set weekly and consists of:

- Daily Reading
- Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Core Skills Workbook
- Weekly Spelling patterns with wordlists
- Maths Core Skills Workbook
- Homework grid with suggested activities for each area of the curriculum

Our pupils are encouraged to choose a topic homework task and present this in a way which is personal to them. We are often blown away with the children's creativity and inspirational approach to this!

We appreciate that not all families have the time, resources and/or knowledge to undertake work at home with their children. As this work is optional, no formal marking is undertaken, however children may receive verbal feedback from their teacher and/or a reward from our school reward system.

To locate the homework grid for your child, please go to Classlist or check our website and navigate to your child's class page: <https://manland.herts.sch.uk/pupils/classes/>



Winter 2023/4 Cost of Living Resources

This winter, Hertfordshire County Council wants to make sure that advice and support is available to help every resident deal with the rising cost of living.

Practical help is available for those who need it most. To check what financial and practical support is available, go to Hertfordshire County Council's 'Cost of Living' webpage:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/winterhelp

Dedicated advice and services are available for anyone who needs them this winter. Visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/winterhelp to find out more.

HertsHelp



Local advice, information and support to make life easier

If you need help and don't know where to turn, contact HertsHelp – trained advisors are here to offer free, confidential assistance. They can put you in touch with relevant services and local support.

0300 123 4044
info@hertshelp.net
www.hertshelp.net

Help for households



Find out more: gov.uk/HelpForHouseholds

Central government is offering support with energy bills, transport, childcare and household costs. Includes:

- [discounts and offers](#).
- [broadband and phone packages](#)
- [Cost of Living Payments](#)

[See what you're eligible for](#)

Citizens advice



- Crisis intervention including energy advice.
- Welfare benefit appeals.
- Debt advice.
- Universal Credit support.
- 1 to 1 budgeting advice.
- Employment advice.
- British Sign Language advice.

[Contact Citizens Advice in Hertfordshire](#)

Support from your district or borough council

Enter a postcode

e.g. SG13 8DQ

Cost of Living SUPPORT



St Albans Musical Voices - Find Your Musical Voice!

St Albans Musical Voices is an opportunity for children in Years 2 - 5 to find their musical voice.

They specialise in offering a safe space where children can come and sing whatever their ability. They create a friendly nurturing environment where each child can develop their own unique voice. The children will learn all aspects of singing, whilst singing enjoyable music, and having lots of fun. No previous experience necessary. Workshops with visiting specialists, performance opportunities and progression routes all part of the fun.

Please note this activity takes place **outside school, at St Albans Music School – Thursdays 4:30 – 5:30pm.**

For more information and to sign up, please visit <https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/st-albans-music-school>, and scroll to 'Something for Everyone'.



School Finances

The children really enjoyed the whole school visit to see Beauty and the Beast in December. As it currently stands, the school has made a **loss of £625** on the trip due to non payment of the voluntary contribution. These funds will have to come out of the school budget. We will not be able to continue trips such as this with this level of loss.

The payment item for the Pantomime is still available in School Gateway. If you have not contributed so far, and are able to contribute towards the cost of this trip, we would be most grateful.

£625 buys the school:

- English homework books for all pupils for the academic year
- 60 bags of grit to keep the safe site
- 1250 glue sticks!

The House Captains collected in the House Point boxes this week and are pleased to announce the house point totals so far this academic year.



House	Total house points
Dragons	3019
Griffins	2969
Unicorns	3197
Phoenix	3220



Congratulations to everyone for all your hard work earning House Points – keep going!

Monitors wanted!

We are on the look out for a handful of monitors for PCs. We have a small number of PCs in school and some of the monitors have seen better days!

If you, or your workplace, are investing in new monitors and have any working monitors available, we would love to receive them at the school office. Many thanks in advance!



Twitter / X

Please remember to follow us on X (formerly known as Twitter) to find out more about the children's learning and achievements in school.
[@ManlandPrimary](#)