



Manland Primary School Newsletter

Friday 15th December 2023



Diary Dates

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very festive week in school, thanks to the two nativity performances held this week. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 entertained us thoroughly with their wonderful acting and singing during their play 'It's a Miracle.'

We also held our final prospective parent information morning for Reception 2024 this week. Thank you to Mrs Barcock for giving an insight into what it is like to be a parent at Manland and also to the HSA for providing refreshments during the event. A huge congratulations to Year 6 for their fantastic work showing people around school – yet again you did so well and we are incredibly proud of you.

As many of you well know, one of my Deputy Headteachers, Mrs Waller, is on maternity leave. Mrs Waller has decided to stay at home with her young family and therefore will not return. Mrs Waller has been with us at Manland for almost 10 years and, in that time, has taught hundreds of Manland children and helped drive forward the strategic vision of the school. We are going to miss her terribly but we know that Oscar and Amelie will love having their mummy at home. Thank you, Mrs Waller, for everything you have done for Manland.

As this is final newsletter of the term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and restful break.

With best wishes,

Mrs Wicks, Headteacher



Date	Event
Mon 18 th December 2023	Christingle Service in Hall at 9.15am – parents welcome Christmas Jumper Day
Tues 19 th December 2023	Christmas Panto whole school trip
Wed 20 th December 2023	Class Parties and Christmas Lunch End of Term, 1.15pm finish
Thurs 4 th January 2024	InSeT Day – school closed to children
Fri 5 th January 2024	Children return to school

Attendance

Our whole school attendance for this week is **95%**. This is lower than our aim of **96%**. Congratulations to Year 3 who did achieve over 96% attendance.

Manland Values



Manland Values Award

This week's recipient of the Manland Values Award is Teddy from Year 1! Teddy is a joy to teach and always approaches everything she does with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Teddy takes responsibility for her own learning, listening carefully and responding to instructions sensibly and at the same time encouraging others around her to do the same. Teddy is a kind and thoughtful pupil and friend, helping others around her if they are upset, hurt or if they need help with their work. Teddy is always an aspirational learner, producing work of a high standard in all subjects and happily taking on challenges with determination. Teddy is a shining star and we are very proud that she is part of Year 1.



Spotlight on RE

JUMP!
BRINGING
CHRISTIANITY
TO LIFE

During the past two weeks we have welcomed volunteers from the local Christian group 'Jump!' into school. The children in each class have taken part in an engaging session all about Christmas, which complements our current R.E learning across the school.

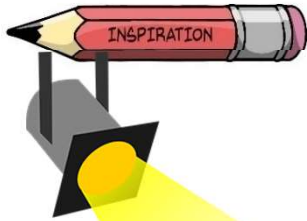
In Year 1 the children used Makaton to retell the Christmas story and looked at symbols that represent Christmas. They enjoyed building an advent wreath together using candles.



The Christmas story was brought to life in Year 4 by the children smelling Frankincense and Myrrh. They discussed the importance of meaningful gifts at Christmas.

Year 6 were thinking about the meaning of Christmas to Christians and discussing the meaning of vocabulary such as sacred, incarnation and annunciation.





Spotlight on Nativity

Wow! What talented actors and singers we have at Manland!

This week, we were treated to 2 performances of the annual nativity performance, which this year was 'It's a Miracle.'

Getting up on stage in front of lots of people can be a scary experience and we are so proud of our youngest pupils, who gave it their all and smashed it! Well done everyone!

A big thank you also to parents and carers for their work in the background, helping the children learn their lines and for providing their amazing costumes.

We hope you enjoyed the performance as much as the children did!



"I loved the performance!
I can't wait to do it again!" –
Isabelle Year 1



In It's a Miracle, Archie the angel is working hard to prepare everyone for the birth of Jesus. The angels are rushed off their feet as they get everything ready for Mary and Joseph. 3 wise men make their way to Bethlehem, reassuring Caspar's wife Delilah that they won't be too long.

A group of shepherds are shocked when they see the angels. Their sheep finally get them on their way to Bethlehem. At last everyone joins together to celebrate the birth of Jesus with songs and presents.



Spotlight on Amazon Wishlist



The Manland Wish List

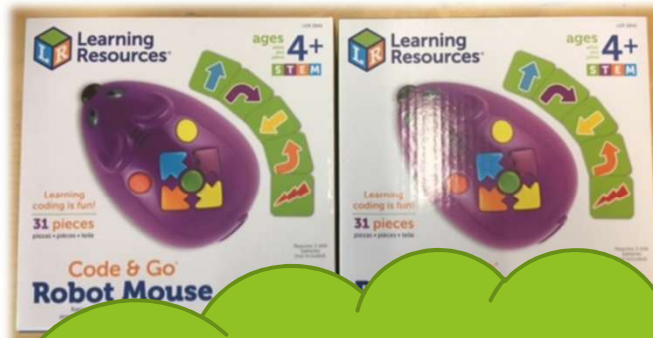
Thank you to the parents and carers who have bought our pupils a Christmas present from our wish list – this week it felt like Father Christmas had made a delivery! We received resources for Science, Maths, English, Computing, PE and D&T, as well as general resources such as pencils, felt tip pens and tissues – we were overwhelmed with your generosity!

There is still plenty of time to buy something if you would like to.

Our wish list can be found by clicking the link below:

<https://amzn.eu/2WkudYM>

As always, we recognise the current financial challenges that many of our families are facing and we do not want anyone to feel obliged to purchase a gift.



A big thank you to the families who have been able to contribute to our resources this week:

- The Yallop Family
- The Vardy Family
- The Trebilco Family
- Many, many anonymous donors!





St Albans Musical Voices – a Brand New Regional Choir!

We specialise in offering a safe space where children can come and sing whatever their ability. We 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.

Please note, this activity takes place outside school, at St Albans Music School (AL3 6DR), starting on Thursday 11th January (4:30 – 5:15pm). For more information and to sign up, please visit www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/st-albans-music-school and scroll down to 'St Albans Musical Voices'.



Royal British Legion Poppy appeal

Thank you to everyone in the school community for helping us to raise **£355.34** this year for the Royal British Legion Poppy appeal! This is a fantastic amount – thank you to the House Captains for all their hard work selling the poppies.

Over the years, the Manland community has raised £26,400 for the British Legion which is an amazing achievement! We are incredibly proud to support this charity and thank everyone who has donated over the years.

Dental appointments

Please can we remind parents/carers to schedule routine dental appointments outside of school hours. Children leaving for appointments during the day can be disruptive for the whole class and should only take place in an emergency. Thank you for your consideration.



Uniform Reminder

We are starting to see non permissible clothing in school such as: leggings, long sleeve black tops under T-shirts, colourful headbands and lots of trainers.

Please note, unless it has been agreed with school, all children should only be wearing school uniform. Please could all parents/carers remind themselves of our uniform policy by visiting the policy on our website here:

<https://manland.herts.sch.uk/download/uniform-personal-appearance-policy/>





Christmas Diary Dates

Monday 18th December 2023: Christingle Service at school and Christmas Jumper Day (normal school uniform, with a Christmas jumper, if you would like). Please contact admin@manland.Herts.sch.uk if you would not like your child to take place in the Christingle performance.

Tuesday 19th December 2023: Whole school trip to the Pantomime 'Beauty and the Beast' (normal school uniform)

Wednesday 20th December 2023: Class Christmas parties and Christmas Lunch for children (normal school uniform). **End of term at 1.15pm**

Alumni News

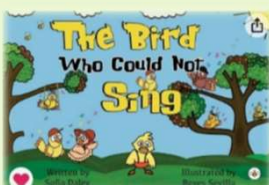
This week we heard some exciting news about a previous pupil of Manland Primary! Sofia Daley, who attended Manland Primary school, has had a children's book published. It is called *The Bird Who Could Not Sing*.

It's written in verse and, through a little bird who cannot sing, conveys the message that it's ok to be different.

The book is available in a WHSmith, Amazon, Olympia publishers and other bookstores.

Sofia, now 23, and her sister Natalia (creative lead in the book) remember going to Manland as a very happy time in their lives!

We have high aspirations for all our pupils – maybe there is another future author currently at our school?



Goodbye!

Next week, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Castellani who will be leaving our support staff team at the end of term. We wish Mrs Castellani all the best for the future and want to thank her for all her hard work over the 6 years she has been with us. We will miss you!



Manland are Recruiting!

We are looking for support staff to join our team!

- **Teaching Assistant** (full or part time)

Although previous experience of working in a school is desirable, it is not essential and full training can be provided.

For further information, please get in contact with the school office. All applications should be made via the Teach in Herts website:

https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,teaching-assistant_89735.htm



Teach in Herts
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Nativity Trail - Journey through St Albans

We have heard of a free nativity trail through St Albans which we thought some of our parents and carers would be interested in hearing about. Along the trail, you will hear from nativity characters who will be there to greet you throughout the day. At each stop on the trail, you will get a stamp. Bring your fully stamped trail to the Cathedral to see the nativity scene brought to life like never before.

Trails can be collected for free on the day only from St Peter's Church.

Where:

St Albans Cathedral, Sumpter Yard, St Albans, AL1 1BY

When:

Start: 16th December, 2023 at 12:00pm

End: 16th December, 2023 at 3:00pm