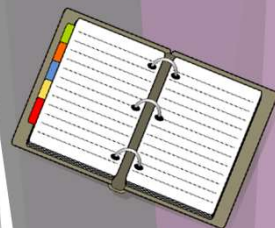




# Manland Primary School Newsletter

Empowering children to lead fulfilling lives

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

It was wonderful to welcome children back to school this week. We have loved hearing all about their time over the holiday period, and we are looking forward to an action packed Summer term!

Today our Pupil Parliament welcomed Harpenden & Hitchin MP, Bim Afolami, to school. Members of the Manland Parliament were fortunate to spend time with Bim, asking about his role and how they can aspire to reach a similar position. In terms of personal development, it was an incredible experience for our Manland Parliamentarians – well done all!

Also today, we had a grand re-opening of the Early Years Outdoor area. We are incredibly grateful to everyone at the HSA, whose fundraising efforts meant we could invest in re-developing this area. Thank you to everyone who came along to congratulate the HSA and thank them for all their support of the school.

Finally, good luck to all our pupils taking part in the Manland Olympic Marathon at school this weekend! Try your best and show everyone the good sportsmanship that Manland is famous for!

*Mrs. Wicks, Headteacher*

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## Diary Dates

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Friends Of Manland's "Manland Olympic Marathon" – 2 till 5pm.
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Reception class trip to Knebworth House
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 first swim back for Summer term
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Dress Like A Rock Star Day: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parent workshop (Year 2 – Year 4) 9:00-9:30</li><li>• Parent workshop (Year 5 – Year 6) 9:30-10:00</li></ul> Year 4 Maths Challenge event (invite only)
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 3 & Year 4 District Football Rally (invitation only)



## Attendance

Our whole school attendance for this week is 97.3 %





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## Spotlight on Friends of Manland – the Great Manland Makeover!



We are excited to announce this years FOM Campaign...

### **“The Great Manland Makeover”**

This year we aim to raise £7,000 to give a much needed facelift to the classrooms and staff room.

Our aim is to raise enough funds to replace the tired and damaged flooring in these areas, coupled with new lighting and new blinds for all of the windows.

*Did you know the blinds in the Year 6 classroom are the originals from when the school was built in the 1930s?!*

We hope to provide the pupils and staff with a fresh environment that will inspire learning, as well as continuing to attract new pupils to join our school community.

This first step in the Manland Makeover is a Herculean task in this Olympic year.

If phase 1 goes well, we hope to be able to focus our attention on phase 2 and 3 of the makeover plan in the years to come - refurbishing the school hall and the toilets.

To kick start the fundraising we invite all pupils to join us - sign-up those sponsors!



**ALL OLYMPIANS WILL RECEIVE  
A WINNERS MEDAL!**

- 2-2.45pm
- 2.45-3.30pm
- 3.30pm

Reception and Year 1  
Year 2 and Year 3  
Years 4, 5 & 6

Children will tackle 26 fun Olympic-style events to complete their marathon, whilst raising as much sponsorship as possible!

Link to the Just Giving page will be sent out this week via class WhatsApp groups

TIMINGS ARE A GUIDE ONLY, PLEASE TURN UP AND JOIN IN WHEN YOU CAN!

THIS IS NOT A DROP-OFF EVENT, PARENT SUPERVISION IS REQUIRED THROUGHOUT. FULL RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE TAKEN FOR THE WELFARE OF YOUR CHILDREN ON THE DAY, INCLUDING MEDICATION AND FIRST AID.

21ST APRIL 2024

2-5pm

Manland Primary  
School

Good luck to all the pupils taking part in the Manland Olympic Marathon this Sunday!





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## Spotlight on Personal Development – Year 5 Residential

What a fantastic residential trip Year 5 had to Walton Firs before the Easter holidays!



From den making, climbing and roasting marshmallows, to archery, fire lighting and identifying local flora and fauna, Year 5 had a fantastic time on their trip. They took their learning outside the classroom, made memories and developed their teamwork and communication skills. Well done Year 5, and a big thank you to Mrs Barker, Miss Jackson and Mrs Talley who took time away from their families to accompany the children on this amazing trip!

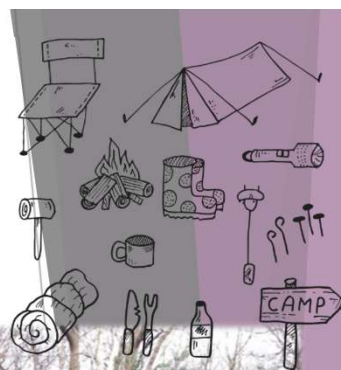






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## Spotlight on Personal Development – Year 5 Residential







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## Spotlight on Safeguarding – chat apps and social media



- Do you know who your child is chatting to online?
- Do you know what settings they have on their apps?
- Are you confident that your child is not sharing personal information online?
- Is your child being kind to others when using their mobile phone?

Messaging and chat apps are a great way for a child to stay in touch with their friends and family but it's important that both you, and your child, are comfortable with who they're talking to and how they are interacting with people.

- Talk to your child about who they're chatting to and how they know them.
- Remind them to be conscious of who they're sharing personal information with and not to share information with people they haven't met before. This includes information like their name, location, email, phone number and school name.

Even with friends, your child might see something that upsets them. Explore each app to see if there are reporting and blocking features. Show your child how to use these features and talk about situations when they might want to report or block.

### Safety settings

A risk for children and young people using chat apps is being added to group chats where they don't know the other people in the group.

Many of the chat apps have different privacy settings to help restrict who can contact you. If your child is using a chat app, we'd recommend looking at the privacy settings to see what's most appropriate. If there aren't any options to restrict contact then we'd recommend that your child doesn't use the app.

**Keeping children safe is everyone's responsibility**



### WhatsApp safety settings: Age rating 13+

To prevent children being added to groups by people they don't know in WhatsApp, change the group chat settings from 'Everyone' to 'My Contacts Except...' and using the tick icon to select all contacts. The 'My Contacts Except...' option means only your child's phone contacts, except those you exclude, can add your child to groups. But by selecting all contacts, it means that nobody should be able to add your child to a group chat without first sending them an invitation.

### Kik safety settings: Age rating 13+

In Kik's privacy settings there's a 'Let Friends Find Me' option, which allows users who already have your contact details to connect with you. This option is turned on by default so make sure to switch this off.

We recommend that parents/carers have regular, open conversations with children to help keep them safe whilst using chat apps and social media, and this may include reviewing your child's phone together and discussing any messages or posts of concern.



The recommended age rating for the following apps is **13+**:

**Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Tiktok, Twitter, WhatsApp, Wink**

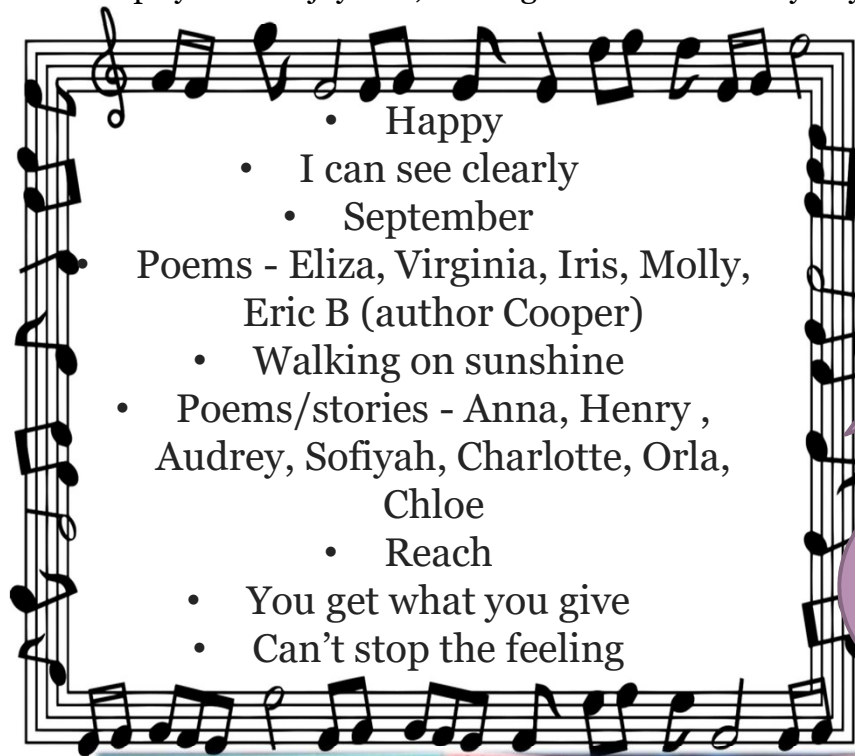
- For further information, please go to:  
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
- <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/online-safety-guide-6-10-year-olds/>
- <https://safetynet.skipseducational.org/parent-guides/>



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## Spotlight on the Music – the Year 3 and 4 Spring Concert

Congratulations to all of the children in Year 3 and 4 who performed in their Spring Concert before the Easter break. They worked so hard to learn their songs, poems and performances and delivered them with such confidence! Thank you to Mr Brittin and Mr Jones for working so hard to support the children in putting the concert together. We hope you all enjoyed it; it was great to see so many of you!



- Happy
- I can see clearly
- September
- Poems - Eliza, Virginia, Iris, Molly, Eric B (author Cooper)
- Walking on sunshine
- Poems/stories - Anna, Henry, Audrey, Sofiyah, Charlotte, Orla, Chloe
- Reach
- You get what you give
- Can't stop the feeling

"I wasn't nervous leading up to the show, but on the morning I got a little nervous. But it went so well!" –Virginia, Year 4

"I had an extra line to learn as one of my classmates was not in school today, but I did it!" – Mattie, Year 4



"I loved it! And I saw my family in the audience!" – Cali, Year 3





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Last term, Mr Comer and I met with your Parent Forum Representatives. These are always useful and thoughtful discussions. We wanted to share with you some of the actions that have happened (or will be happening) as a result of Parent Voice.

Re-launch of TT Rockstars to encourage children to engage in practising their timetables at home

TT Rockstars day has been planned by Mr Spendlove and will take place on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April

Information about the Year 2 school trip

Year 2 enjoyed their trip to Bletchley park in the spring term and will be having a local trip to Harpenden this term

Discussions were held about parents wanting to support the school to increase pupil numbers for Reception 2024

School leaders invested a lot of time into communications, parent tours and meeting families. We are delighted to be full for September 2024 and have over 10 families on our waiting list

Reminders regarding school gateway – especially for new parents into reception, who may not access this much in the first year

Payment reminders are regularly made via the newsletter, Classlist, email and phonecalls

Discussion about homework expectations

Teachers were reminded about the importance of ensuring all homework in red books is looked at and a reminder to parents about expectations was put in the newsletter. Senior leaders will spot check this for consistency.







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Any sporting events to be added to term dates in advance so that parents

All dates have been added to the summer term 'Dates for your diary' section of the newsletter and website

Information about English, Maths and Foundation subjects to be shared via email/classlist at the start of every year/term

Parents received a classlist this week with an overview of what children will be learning this term

Review of gate opening times and dismissal from clubs. Gates to open at 4:15pm for parents to enter site to collect children

Gate opening times have been reviewed and changed to make picking up after a club easier for parents

We believe having a Parent Forum at Manland is incredibly important:

**1.Community Engagement:** Parent Forum provides a platform for parents to engage with the school, fostering a sense of belonging and inclusion. It encourages collaboration between parents and staff.

**2.Parental Involvement:** By participating in Parent Forum, parents can actively contribute to decision-making processes related to school policies, programs, and initiatives. This involvement empowers parents – it gives you a voice in your child's education and overall school environment.

**3.Communication and Transparency:** The forum facilitates open communication between parents and staff. It allows parents to raise concerns, ask questions, and provide feedback directly to the school. This transparency builds trust and strengthens our Manland community.

**4.Supporting Pupil Success:** Parent forum provides opportunities for discussions on topics related to learning, academic achievement, and extracurricular activities. Through these discussions, parents can share ideas for supporting our pupils with their academic and personal development.

**5.Problem-Solving and Collaboration:** Parent Forum allows staff and parents to work together when faced with challenges or issues within the school community. Parents and staff can work collaboratively to identify solutions and implement changes that benefit our pupils.

Overall, a parent forum promotes a culture of collaboration, communication, and partnership between parents and schools, ultimately contributing to the success and well-being of our pupils.

Thank you to all our Parent Forum reps, past and present. If you are unsure who your class Parent Forum representative is, please contact the office. In the meantime, look out for more news from Parent Forum in future newsletters.





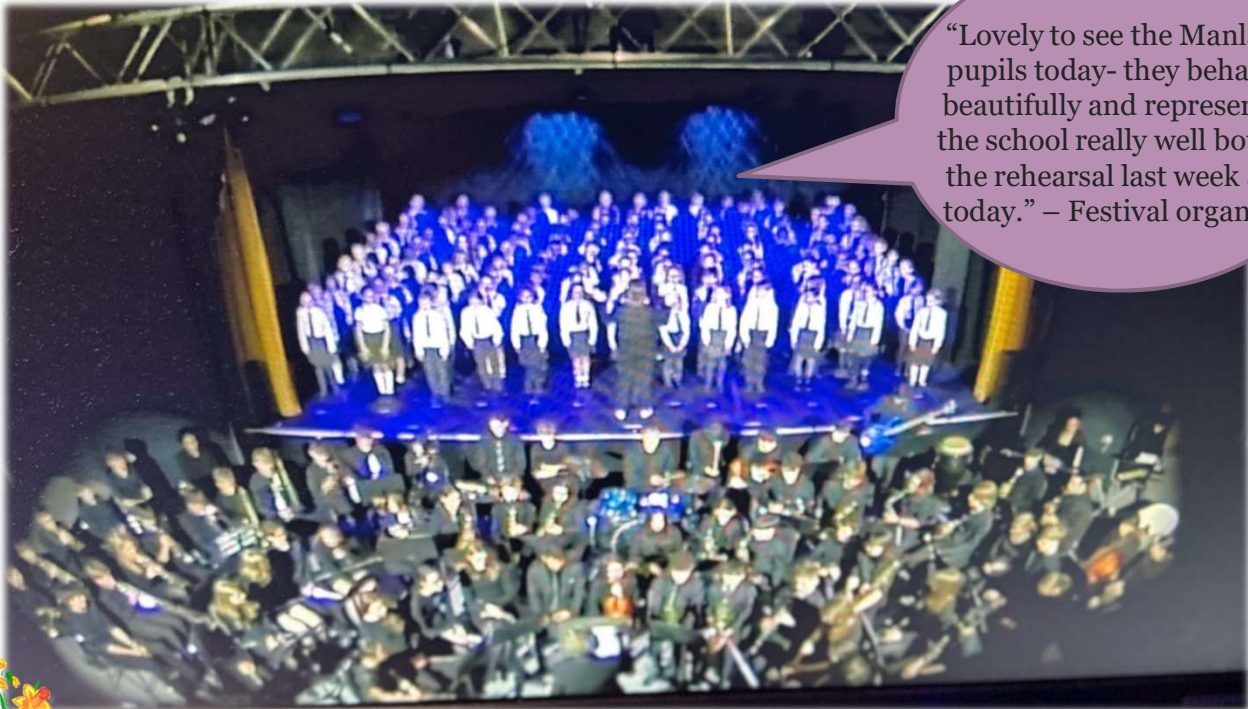


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## Harpenden Spring Festival

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2024, the Year 6 school choir performed at the Eric Morecombe Centre in the annual Harpenden Schools Spring Festival. Working alongside other Harpenden schools, the school choir sung their hearts out and performed exceptionally well. Many hours of practice went into this inspirational and uplifting performance and we want to congratulate all the Year 6 choir members: **Aimee, April, Ella, Evie, Linus, Maia, Matilda, Phoebe, Sienna and Tay!**



“Lovely to see the Manland pupils today- they behaved beautifully and represented the school really well both at the rehearsal last week and today.” – Festival organiser



### Reading corner



Thank you for all the wonderful entries in to our “Get Caught Reading” competition – we cannot wait to share the results with you!

In the meantime, please find below a link to the Book Trust’s recommended reading list for April 2024. We hope you find something of interest to read: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/best-new-books/>

As a reminder, Harpenden Library on Harpenden High Street is free to use – for more information, go to: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/library-opening-hours/harpenden-library.aspx>



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## Pupil News

Congratulations to Henry (Year 3), Olivia (Year 1) and Francesca (Reception) who have won awards for their entries into the Harpenden & District Local History Society's 'My Harpenden' competition!

Henry, Olivia and Francesca have all been invited to attend an award ceremony which will be taking place during the Harpenden Local History Day on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024 at the Eric Morecombe Centre. Congratulations Henry, Olivia and Francesca!

Entry to the Harpenden Local History Day this Saturday is free – see details attached to the newsletter.



## Pupil News

Comgratulations to Amar for passing his Karate grading before Easter! Well done!



## 'Dress Like a Rock Star' Day – 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Knowing your times tables is an important part of getting better at Maths. Much of the maths children do in Years 5 and beyond relies on them being fluent in their times tables up to 12 x 12.

One of the ways we promote times tables at Manland is through the online learning platform, TTRockstars. To promote TTRockstars and times tables more generally, we are going to hold a 'Dress Like a Rock Star' day **on Monday 29th April**.

We would like to invite your children to **dress up as their avatar, or any rock star of their choosing for the day**. As part of this day, there will be a parent workshop for you and your child, taking you through the different modes on TTRockstars and some other methods for practising times tables at home.

Children will also have some extra time in class to focus on times tables during the day.

Thanks in advance for your support,  
Mr Spendlove  
Maths Lead







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## Special Education Needs – Local Offer Webinar

The Local Offer website lets parents, young people and professionals know what special educational needs and disabilities services are available in Hertfordshire, and who can access them. The team are putting on a webinar for parents/carers to walk you through the website and how you can use it to find the right services and support.

The webinar is taking place on Thursday 25 April, 8pm – 9pm

If you would like to join the webinar, please email [localoffer@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:localoffer@hertfordshire.gov.uk) for a joining link.

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer)

## Twitter / X

Don't forget to follow us on Twitter/X for more school news!



**Manland Primary** @ManlandPrimary · 24s

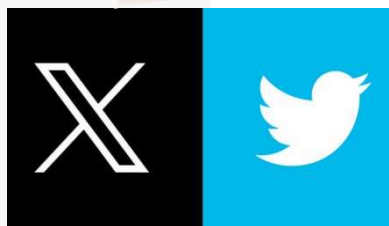
Our first day back and pupils are already impressing us with the inspirational and responsible behaviour. Today, two pupils from wanted to take care of our the environment and offered to do a Thank you! #Inspiration #Responsibility #Behaviour



## School Clubs

Thank you to parents/carers who signed their child up to Summer term clubs. If your child has been allocated a space, the club will now appear in your Payment Items in School Gateway.

Please can parents/carers make your club contributions as soon as possible via School Gateway.



<https://twitter.com/manlandprimary>