

Marland Primary School Newsletter

Friday 20th November 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have had a busy week learning about a range of topics for Anti bullying week. The children enjoyed taking part in lots of different activities and hopefully this will help them to continue to be thoughtful and kind as well as knowing who to talk to if they experience unkind behaviour themselves. It was lovely to see the children and our adults with their many varieties of odd socks!

I would like to say a huge thank you to those of you that donated coats last week for the Hygiene Bank as part of Children in Need Day. We collected 92 coats in total which I'm sure you will agree is a fantastic amount for a very worthy cause. Hygiene Bank Harpenden have asked that we pass on their thanks to you too.

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Wicks, Headteacher



Covid-19

As a reminder, parents and carers are only allowed in the school building if they have obtained prior permission from Mrs Wicks, Mrs Waller or Mr Comer. This is a key part of our Covid-19 risk assessment and is important to mitigate the risk of spreading Coronavirus within our school community.

Messages for the office can be emailed or phoned in at any point during the day. Forms, medicines etc can be dropped off in the post box which is on the KS2 playground in the mornings.

If you need to pick something up from the office, please email beforehand to arrange a suitable time. In emergencies, please wait outside the front door and press the intercom button to alert office staff you are there.

For the safety of yourselves and staff, please refrain from having conversations with staff on the playground or at the door. If you need to pass on a message, please do so via email or telephone.



Term dates

Autumn Term:

*Occasional Day: Monday 23rd November 2020 (**NB: Cancelled, children in school**)
End of Autumn term: Friday 18th December 2020 (1.15pm finish)

Spring Term:

InSeT day for staff: Monday 4th January 2021

Tuesday 5th January: Term starts for children.
Friday 15th January: Admission deadline for Primary schools



Dates for Diary

Thursday 10th December – Flu vaccinations (for any absent children)

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper day

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas lunch



Attendance

Our school attendance this week has been recorded as 97.4%. Well done everyone!



Safeguarding

With Christmas approaching and some parents considering a games console as a gift this year, it is important for parents to make an informed choice about what they will purchase.

The internet and smart toys have changed the world of gaming. As well as being able to play against people in other locations, today's consoles enable you to do a multitude of online activities as well as use toys to interact and unlock the game's levels.

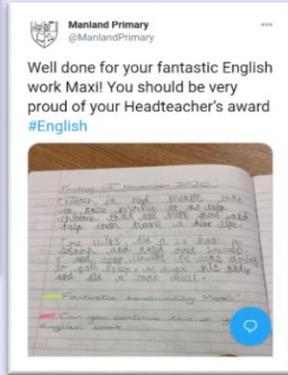
When choosing a console to purchase, it's important to think about who in the family will be using it, where it will be used, what it offers over existing technology you already have and the type of content you're happy for your children to have access to.

Please also check the PEGI rating of any games that you may want to buy before your child plays with it. The PEGI rating appears on the box or in the online store to ensure a game is suitable for your child. You can get more information about this at: askaboutgames.com.



Twitter

Please follow us on [@ManlandPrimary](https://twitter.com/ManlandPrimary). Our Tweets will help you gain an understanding of children's experiences and learning across all of the subjects in our curriculum. We hope you enjoy sharing the children's learning with us!



Library Opening

Whilst the country has entered its second lockdown, the Government has recognised that library services are essential for local communities and for the health and wellbeing of individuals. From Thursday 5th November until the national lockdown is lifted, library buildings will be closed to visitors except for pre-booked computer usage, however, they will also be reintroducing their Ready Reads offer from their larger libraries.

'Ready reads' allows customers to collect a pre-selected book pack to read at home. The packs are requested online and customers are notified when their books are ready for collection from the library while observing social distancing guidelines. Further information about Hertfordshire libraries can be found at:

<http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries>



Under 11's School Admissions

The application process for places at primary, junior and middle schools for September 2021 opened on Monday 2nd November 2020.

This process is for children currently in nursery, year 2 (infant schools) and year 4 (in first schools). The deadline for application is the 15th January 2021. We have attached the leaflet from Admissions at Hertfordshire County Council which gives further information.



Christmas Jumper Day

Christmas Jumper Day will take place on Friday 11th December. Children will still need to be in school uniform but with the addition of a Christmas jumper if they wish to wear one.

We would appreciate any donations to be put towards some worthy charities at Christmas, as well as the Save the Children Charity. Children can bring their donations into school where they will be collected in their classes.



Christmas Dinner

The children will be able to have a Christmas lunch on Wednesday 16th December. Please find attached the Christmas menu for this day in order for you to decide with your child if they wish to have the Christmas lunch.



Snack policy

Please can we remind all parents and carers to ensure that your child has a healthy snack to eat at break time. Please do not send in chocolate bars or sweets and remember our no nuts policy.



E-Scooters

Hertfordshire Police have issued a warning to any parent who may be considering purchasing an E-Scooters and the laws regarding them. Please see the attached letter with further information.



Anti Bullying week

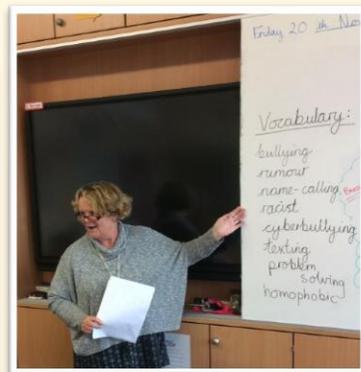
This week, we have been promoting Anti-bullying week. The theme for this year was United Against Bullying and the children celebrated 'What Makes Us Different.' All of our classes celebrated the week in different ways. Reception class have done some activities where they sorted friendly and unfriendly behaviours, and talked about what we should do if someone is unkind to us. They also thought about who they can go to if they needed help.

Year 1 made pictures of their friends on iPads and Year 2 designed their own odd socks and talked about what made them special in their class assembly today.

Further up the school, Year 4 discussed how it may feel to be bullied, what they can do if they are bullied, what they can do if they know someone else is being bullied and why people may bully others. In year 3, the children devised an anti-bully slogan with posters and took turns acting out bullying scenarios and what to look out for.

As part of their topic on 'Celebrating Difference', Year 5 have been understanding how rumour-spreading and name-calling can be bullying behaviour and investigated a range of strategies to manage feelings in bullying situations and problem-solving when they're part of one.

Year 6 have discussed the impact of bullying and ways that they can all support someone who is going through it. They worked in pairs to produce information posters to share their tips for others to follow.





Dear all

Thank you to everyone who attended last night's wine tasting. It was a great night! Details of the next tasting nights are further below. Otherwise, we are well into our Christmas countdown! Do watch out for details of our Christmas Extravaganza, coming next week.

LOCKDOWN ACTIVITIES

This weekend we will be holding class bingo games - tickets are £1 each and available on Classlist. Sweets / chocolate prizes to be won! Next weekend there will be an Elf Trail around the local area - look out for details on Classlist soon!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

Christmas Extravaganza - 11 - 13th December - Save the Date

Details and tickets to follow on Classlist very soon - watch this space!

Donations Week

Donations week will continue for next week. Thank you to everybody who has donated so far.

We would be very grateful for any further donations of bagged / individually wrapped sweets (nut free), for the Class Bubble Christmas Parties on 11 Dec. There will be a plastic crate in the playground at drop off every morning next week. In place of donations of cuddly toys, prizes and gifts, we are kindly asking for voluntary cash donations via Classlist. There will be no set amount. In the spirit of Christmas and in view of the hardships faced by so many at this time, we will be splitting all donations with the Crisis Christmas Appeal.

Raffle Prizes

We will still be holding our usual Christmas Raffle, and so are making our usual call for raffle prizes! We would be grateful for any donations of prizes, large or small. So, if you know of any businesses that are able to help, have anything unwanted at home that would make a suitable prize, or are just willing to buy an extra gift this year, please do let us know!

Christmas Trees

Harpenden Academy are selling their fabulous Christmas trees again this year! Please follow the link below to pre order yours for collection or Delivery from 4th Dec. <https://www.foha.co.uk/fohashop/p/christmastrees> Please remember to click on Manland primary when choosing your school as every tree ordered will raise £10 for our school. These trees are amazing quality - fresh Nordmann Fir all grown locally and cut in early December, they come in 3 different sizes and will last all throughout the Christmas period!

OTHER EVENTS:

Wine Tasting Evenings hosted by MUST Wines

Tickets are still available for the next tasting evenings on Thurs 26 November and Thurs 3 December. Tickets are £60 per household for 3 bottles of wine. MUST will donate £5 per ticket to the HSA and will enter all attendees into a Manland prize draw to win a pair of tickets to a future wine tasting event of your choice. It is also open to friends and family of Manland Parents so feel free to extend the invitation! MUST Wines are also able to ship UK wide for an additional £9.99 on top of the ticket price. Tickets can be bought via the Event Page on Classlist.

Eager Entrepreneurs - closes today

If you have an entry for this, please do send us details via Classlist by the end of today.

SCHOOL FUNDING SCHEMES

Affinity Water

To encourage households in the local area to save water, Affinity Water have launched the GetWaterFit scheme at <https://www.getwaterfit.co.uk/#/>, Households can sign up online for a water saving questionnaire/kit and elect a school/charity - for every 50,000 litres saved by signatories collectively Affinity Water will donate £1000 to the school PTA. Further details to follow on Classlist but please do join - good for the planet and for our school!

Easyfundraising

Now that thoughts are turning to Christmas shopping and Black Friday deals, please do remember to sign up to EasyFundraising for all your online shopping: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/manlandhsa The school receives money when you shop online, at no extra cost to you!

Have a great weekend and thank you to everyone for all of your support!

Manland HSA