



Manland Primary School Newsletter

Empowering children to lead fulfilling lives

Friday 26th January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we had our first assembly of the Spring term, courtesy of Year 1. More details can be found later in the newsletter, however I also wanted to use this opportunity to congratulate Year 1 on their bravery and hard work – you spoke so well about your learning and we were incredibly proud of you.

This week we also launched our school vision – *Empowering Children to Lead Fulfilling Lives*. We are passionate about giving all our children the best start in life and we should be grateful for your support in communicating and demonstrating our vision to all our children.

This week, we also have a special edition on the importance of school attendance and the Government's campaign "Moments Matter, Attendance Count." Attendance at Manland has also dropped since the pandemic and we would appreciate your support in helping raise attendance. Many thanks

Mrs. Wicks, Headteacher

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Diary Dates

Date	Event
Wed 31 st January 2024	Year 3 Ancient Egypt workshop
Tuesday 6 th February 2024	Tag Rugby Tournament (Yr 5 & 6) – invite only
Tuesday 13 th February 2024	Year 6 Parent SATS meeting at 9.00am
Wednesday 14 th February 2024	Year 2 class assembly at 9am
Thursday 15 th February 2024	SEND Coffee morning at 9am



Attendance

Our whole school attendance for this week is **96%**.



Manland Values Award

This week's recipient of the Manland Values Award is Benjamin from Year 2!

Benjamin has been working so hard this year to challenge himself in all areas of the curriculum. Since returning after Christmas, Benjamin has been really focusing on his reading and writing and setting himself high aspirations.

In reading, Benjamin is quickly working his way through the book bands and is becoming a confident and passionate reader. In writing, Benjamin's work has been informative, and included features from our success criteria as well as correct punctuation!

We are so proud of all of Benjamin's fantastic work and we can't wait to see how his aspiration and determination continue and grow for the rest of the year. Well done Benjamin!



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Spotlight on Phonics

We received a wonderful letter from the Department for Education, congratulating Manland Primary on achieving a 100% pass rate in the 2023 Phonics check.

This put Manland in the top 1% of schools for Phonics!

We are incredibly proud of this achievement and the hard work put in by pupils, staff and parents/carers.



Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP
Minister for Schools

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/contactus/dfe

Mrs Claire Wicks
Manland Primary School
Hertfordshire
Sauncey Avenue
Harpenden
AL5 4QW

08 January 2024

D. Mr. Wicks,

I am writing to congratulate you on your school's outstanding achievement in the 2023 Phonics Screening Check.

We want to ensure every child develops a firm grasp of phonics as the basis on which to improve standards of reading. As such I was delighted to see your results.

With 100 per cent of pupils in Year 1 at Manland Primary School meeting the expected standard in the check, your school is in the top 1 per cent of all primary schools in the country.

The latest figures show that 83 per cent of pupils who met the expected standard in the check went on to achieve at least the expected standard in reading at key stage 2 in 2023, which underlines the importance of developing the ability to decode words effectively at an early age.

Your particular success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading.

I would like to thank you for your commitment and success in this *vital area of a child's early education* and congratulate you, your staff and pupils again on all you have achieved.

Yours sincerely,

D. Hinds

Damian Hinds
Minister for Schools

100%

GOOD NEWS



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Spotlight on Year 1 Class Assembly



Congratulations to Year 1 who held their class assembly this week. The children worked very hard learning their lines and developing their presentation skills and they were extremely excited to show everyone their learning. They did a fantastic job and we were so impressed with the wide range of subjects covered: English, Maths, Science, History, Computing and Music! Great work Year 1! Keep it up!

Rose - I liked matching the words, numbers and pictures in math



Charlie C - I liked computing and showing my digital art work

Brodie - I enjoyed talking about History and Christopher Columbus

Freddie T - I enjoyed listening to my friends talking about all the subjects

Teddy - I enjoyed performing the actions to our music 'happy and you know it' song





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Science at home: 26th – 28th January 2024



The world's largest garden wildlife survey is taking place this weekend from 26th January to 28th January 2024 and you and your children can take part!

What is Big Garden Birdwatch?

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

How to take part

- 1 Get your free guide and stock up on supplies, with 15% off and free delivery on food and feeders at the RSPB shop.
- 2 Spend an hour watching the birds in your patch, between 26 and 28 January, and record the birds that land.
- 3 Tell us what you saw (even if that's nothing at all)! You can submit your results online or by post.



Choose an hour
between 26 and 28
January



Only record the birds
that land in your patch



Record the highest number
of each bird species you
see at any one time

[Big Garden Birdwatch FAQs →](#)

Activate Windows
Go to Settings to activate Window

How to sign up:

Visit: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch/register>

Happy counting!



Job Vacancy: School Crossing Patrol

The Active Safer Travel Team at Herts County Council have asked us to share their job advert for a school crossing patrol on Ox Lane. Part of this role, will be helping pupils at Manland Primary School cross to, and from, school.

The pay is £11.59 per hour (excluding enhancements). Job shares are available and full training and support are provided.

If you are interested, or would like further information, please call the Active and Safer Travel Team on

01992 556816/01992 556803

Or email : scp.enquiries@hertfordshire.gov.uk

The Active and Safer Travel Team would like to remind residents that it is parental responsibility to get your child(ren) to and from school safely



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It felt a little bit like Christmas again this week, as the HSA kindly agreed to buy our pupils the rest of the EYFS, Science and Computing resources from our Amazon Wish List!

These curriculum resources are incredibly important and will help the school provide our pupil with learning experiences that will really make an impact.

Time and time again, we are in awe of the generosity and support of our school HSA. The time, energy and dedication our HSA give to the school is truly inspiring and we thank each and everyone of you who helps out at the HSA.

The HSA has lots more exciting plans coming up for the school, from hot chocolates sales to fence repair work. If you think you have some time or expertise that you could offer the HSA, please get in touch with your class HSA rep or get contact with the school office.





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National guidance: Measles outbreaks

There have been recent localised outbreaks of measles centred around the West Midlands. There is a risk of further outbreaks in other areas unless urgent action is taken to increase Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccination take up in areas with low MMR vaccine rates.

Measles spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated, especially in nurseries and schools. The best protection against measles for children and adults is to get both doses of the MMR vaccine.

Children should have the first dose of the MMR vaccine at 1 year, and the second at 3 years and 4 months.

It is never too late to have these vaccinations – please contact your GP surgery if your child is missing either of these 2 doses.

For further information on measles, including symptoms, please follow the link below:

• [Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Healthy Eating - Eat Them to Defeat Them 19th February – 28th March 2024

Eat Them to Defeat Them is returning and, once again, Manland pupils will be taking part in the battle! Eat Them to Defeat Them is a campaign created by Veg Power and ITV to encourage children to eat more vegetables.

After February half term, all pupils at Manland will be provided with a reward chart and a sticker each day they eat vegetables as part of their lunchtime meal.

If you are worried about your child's mood, behaviour and learning, a good place to start is their diet.

Studies have shown that the best diet for good mood, behaviour and learning is one that includes a regular eating pattern and a variety of food with 2-3 handfuls of vegetables per day.

Further information on this year's campaign, the Big Chomp, can be found attached to the newsletter.

