



Manland Primary School

Sauncey Avenue, Harpenden, Hertfordshire, AL5 4QW

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Headteacher: Mrs Wicks

Friday 31st January 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We are extremely proud and excited to let you know that a new Woodland Nursery from Fingertips will be operating from the Manland site in 2020.

Fingertips are an established childcare provider and have run the OFSTED rated Outstanding Creative Arts Pre-school in Harpenden for the past 9 years. Many of you will already know Jenny and Sean Herbaut who run Fingertips; in fact many of our pupils have attended their nursery and holiday forest schools.

The new Woodland Nursery will be based in the single mobile and wildlife area and access will be through a separate gate off Sauncey Avenue, through the wildlife area. Both Manland and Fingertips are committed to safeguarding of our children and staff and appropriate gates and fencing are being installed to ensure pupils and staff of both organisations are safe at all times.

I want to reassure you that our pupils will still have access to the wildlife area and will continue to use the area to deliver our learning outside the classroom curriculum. Fingertips have even offered to provide our pupils with forest school sessions!

The decision to hire the area to a third party came about for two reasons; firstly following requests from the parent community for a nursery age setting on site. Many of our current pupils have younger siblings and we recognise that the logistics of getting children to and from different education establishments can be tricky.

Secondly, as a Herts County Council School, we are required to generate income from our assets. Recent cuts to education funding have hit our small primary school hard; we cannot achieve the same efficiencies that other, larger schools can, and therefore need to look for other ways to generate income.

The decision to hire the site to Fingertips was carefully considered. We met with a number of interested parties; it was important to us that whoever we decided to work with have the same ethos and values as Manland. The Governing body were involved in negotiations and the decision making process. We are really excited about working with Fingertips.

If you would like further information about how to obtain a space in Fingertips for your pre-school children, please contact them on enquiries@fingertipspreschool.co.uk

Kind regards

Mrs Wicks

Headteacher