



Manland Primary School Newsletter

Friday 6th June 2025



Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 9 th June 2025	Year 1 Phonics Screening check week
Tuesday 10 th June 2025	Year 3 Maths Challenge event (invite only)
Wednesday 11 th June 2025	Year 5 & 6 Harpenden District Rounders Tournament (invite only)
Thursday 12 th June 2025	School Photo Day (class, individual and siblings)
Tuesday 17 th June 2025	SJL PE transitional festival for Year 6 pre-SJL student
Friday 20 th June 2025	HSA "Break the rules" day

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to everyone for the last half term of the academic year. We hope you all had an enjoyable half term break.

Our Year 6 class departed for their week long residential trip to Conover Hall on Monday morning. They have had a fantastic time and we are looking forward to their return to school today. We cannot wait to hear all about their adventures!

Summer term is a busy term for our Year 6 class, who play an important role in our Year 5 & 6 performance, Sports Day and the Year 6 Leaver's Assembly. We know that they will rise to the occasion and we wish them lots of luck and happiness in their final few weeks at Manland! Go and make some amazing memories Year 6!

Best wishes,

Mrs. Wicks, Headteacher

Manland Values Award

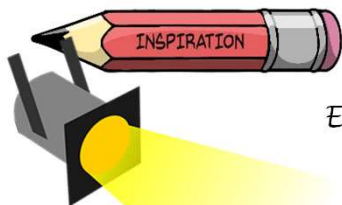


Clara comes to school every single day with the aim to give it her best. Whether it's a creative task, a tricky maths challenge or presenting her work to the class, she approaches everything with focus, enthusiasm, and determination to improve. She never settles for 'just okay' — she takes pride in doing her best and always looks for ways to take her work to the next level. Her work ethic is truly exceptional. She listens carefully to feedback, asks thoughtful questions, and takes time to correct and edit her work. She sets a fantastic example of what it means to be a motivated, reflective learner. Clara is an asset to the class. Her attitude, effort, and kindness help to create a positive learning environment for everyone around her. She may not always seek the spotlight, but she absolutely deserves it — and we're very lucky to have her as part of our school.

Manland Values Award



Nathaniel has been a joy to teach, and I am so proud of the progress he has made this year. He loves coming to school to see his friends, learn and play. Nathaniel listens attentively to the adults and peers and always responds with his 'habits for learning', by enthusiastically showing a thumbs up or crossing arms to tap shoulders if he agrees or putting his thumbs down to disagree. Nathaniel loves to challenge himself, he has a 'can do' attitude and always wants to do more. Nathaniel is a kind friend and he always praises his peers for their achievements. His smiles, 'well done', thumbs up and positivity mean a lot to the other members of our class. Nathaniel, you should be so proud of what you have achieved this year! You are ready for a more directed day in Year 1, and I can't wait to hear what you achieve as you continue on your learning journey.



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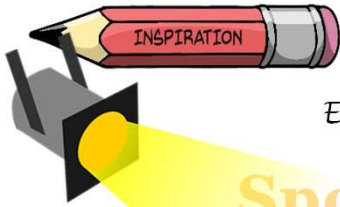
Spotlight on History

Year 1 recently took their history learning outside the classroom, with a fantastic visit to De Havilland Museum! The children learnt all about the life of Geoffrey de Havilland, how he became interested in flying machines and how he built his first aeroplane.

Then, Year 1 explored various aircrafts in the hangers, as well as learning about Geoffrey's important contribution during World War 1.

They finished off the day with a workshop in which they built their very own bi-planes – we think we have some budding engineers in our midst! Well done Year 1 and a big thank you to the parents and carers who accompanied them on this trip.





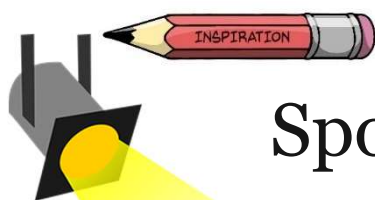
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Spotlight on WW2 Workshop

Year 6 have been learning about World War Two: some of the events that caused the outbreak of war, what life was like during the war and the effect of the war on society. To bring their learning to life, children took part in a WW2 workshop. Firstly, learning about life in the army, children found out about conditions for conscription and the fitness tests that applicants had to pass before even fighting in the war! Scrambling under nets helped children learn how to avoid the enemy, and this was followed by target practice. Children took part in activities to help understand what the Blitz was like and how rationing meant that nothing should go to waste. The class discussed the importance of communication, and the implications of doing so without the enemy finding out - decoding secret messages and concealing hidden objects about their person gave children a taste of life as a spy! A fantastic day was had by all!





Spotlight on Financial Support

We want all families at our school to get the support they are entitled to. We want to remind families that assistance is always available for families who are experiencing financial hardship – no matter how temporary the period of hardship may be. The benefits you and your family are entitled to, could be:

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

All children, nationally, in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 already receive a free lunch at school under the Universal Free School Meal (UFSM) scheme. However, if you qualify for financial support using the link below, your child's school is also provided with extra funding called '**Pupil Premium**' to pay for additional staff time, extra computers, books and trips for pupils.

Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6

If your child is in Year 3 – 6, your child is entitled to a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- Income Support,
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Universal Credit (with annual earned income of no more than £7,400 after tax and not including any benefits you get).



In addition, your child's school is also provided with extra funding called '**Pupil Premium**' to pay for additional staff time, extra computers, books and trips for pupils.

Did you know?

If you're eligible for free school meals, you can also receive:

- supermarket vouchers for school holidays
- [free holiday activity camp](#) booking codes.

You may also be able to get help from:

- [Food banks](#)
- [HertsHelp](#) – independent support, guidance and information
- [Money advice](#) offering debt and benefits advice.
- [Household Support Fund](#).



How to apply for the support you are entitled to:

Please apply by visiting

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals or contact the school office if you would like support with the application.



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The "Saddle Sore Survivors" are hitting the road for Manland Primary!

Get ready to laugh, wince, and most importantly, cheer on some truly magnificent (and slightly mad) Manland dads as they embark on an epic cycling quest! These brave souls are trading their comfy armchairs for bicycle saddles, all in the name of our brilliant Manland Primary pupils.

The Challenge: Coast to (Other) Coast - 171 Miles of Pure Mayhem!

Our fearless foursome, officially known as the "Saddle Sore Survivors", are gearing up for a gruelling **171-mile** bike ride. They'll be pedalling from Bridlington on the east coast all the way to Morecambe on the west. This isn't just a scenic jaunt, folks! They're facing down strong westerly winds (because apparently, they like a challenge) and tackling a whopping 2,000 meters of lung-busting ascents. Think less "leisurely cycle" and more "human-powered rollercoaster." It's going to be a true test of their quads, their resolve, and their ability to stay upright!

Meet the Saddle Sore Survivors

- **Damian, Dad to Jenson in Year 3:** Hopefully, Jenson's boundless energy will somehow transfer to his dad's legs!
- **Enrique, Dad to Eric in Year 4:** We're pretty sure Eric's got a secret stash of energy bars for his dad.
- **Peter, Dad to Henry in Year 4:** Let's hope Henry's drawing skills extend to mapping out the least hilly routes for Peter!
- **Mateusz, Dad to Otto in Year 2 and Ernest in Year 4:** This man is tackling double dad duty and double mileage. Give him ALL the snacks!



Why Are They Putting Themselves Through This?

Good question! Our dads are taking on this monumental challenge to raise essential funds for Manland Primary School pupils. Every single penny raised will go directly towards making school life even more fantastic. We're talking new equipment to spark curiosity, exciting educational trips that create lasting memories, and generally just making sure our kids have the best possible learning experience. Your support will truly make a difference to every single child at Manland.

How You Can Help (Before They Realize What They've Done):

Every single pedal stroke, every gritted tooth, every sigh of relief will be fuelled by your incredible generosity. Please, dig deep and consider donating to support our amazing dads. More importantly, your donation directly supports the future of our Manland Primary pupils. No matter how small, every contribution helps them reach their goal and provides our children with the best possible learning journey.

Let's show these dads some serious love (and send them some ibuprofen)!

You can find the fundraising page here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/manland>





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A message from Mrs Wicks to the Saddle Sore Survivors

I wanted to take a moment to celebrate and share a truly brilliant initiative from some of our Manland parents – the Coast to Coast cycle challenge!

Get ready to smile, wince, and cheer on a fantastic group of Manland dads as they take on a truly epic cycling challenge – all in support of our school and pupils!

What an **absolutely incredible** thing you're doing! I honestly don't know whether to laugh, cheer, or stock up on ibuprofen in advance—but what I do know is how deeply grateful and moved I am by your commitment, humour, and sheer determination.

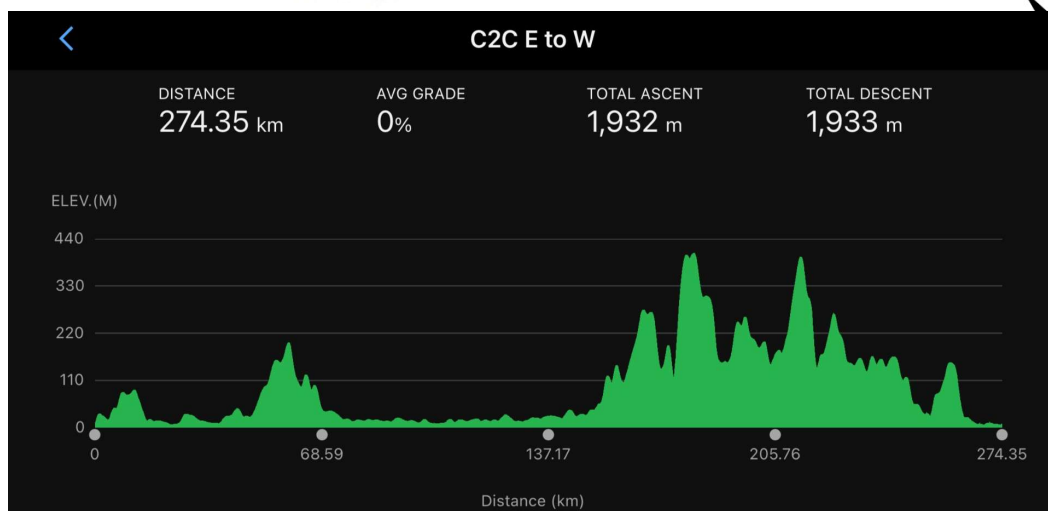
Taking on 171 miles of hills, headwinds, and heroic climbs is no small feat—and to do it all for the benefit of *our* Manland children is just extraordinary. You are the living, pedalling proof that community spirit is alive and well, and your kindness and drive will leave a lasting impact far beyond the blisters and sore muscles!

The fact that you're doing this not just with grit, but with warmth, wit, and an unwavering focus on making a difference for our pupils, speaks volumes. Every pound you raise will help open doors for our children—to experiences, opportunities, and resources that will shape their learning. It is thanks to people like you that our school continues to be such a vibrant and supported community.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you. You are inspiring role models—not just to your children, but to all of us. We'll be cheering you on every mile of the way (and yes, we'll have the ibuprofen ready at the finish line!).

With enormous admiration and appreciation,

Mrs Wicks





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**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Safeguarding

We have a **Safeguarding Team** in school.
If you ever have a concern about a child,
please speak to:
Mrs Wicks, Mr Comer or Mrs Kemp or
email them at
safeguarding@manland.herts.sch.uk



Attendance

Our whole school attendance for the
last two weeks is **97.3%**

Keep it up everyone!

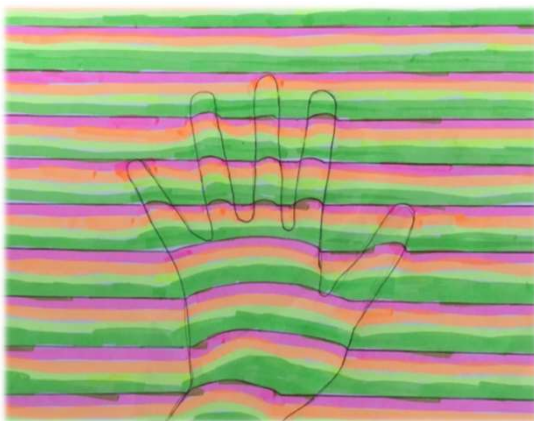
Manland hall for hire!

The hall at Manland School is
available for hire for family
birthday parties on weekends.
Please contact the school office if
you are interested.

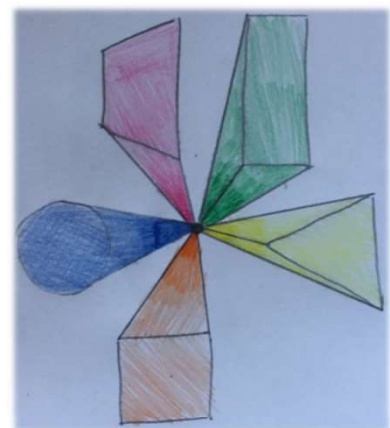


Super Curricula activities

Super curricula activities are an important part of a child's personal development. Not only do they enhance skills and knowledge, but they allow a child to demonstrate passion and motivation, whilst developing soft skills, such as teamwork, critical thinking and leadership skills.

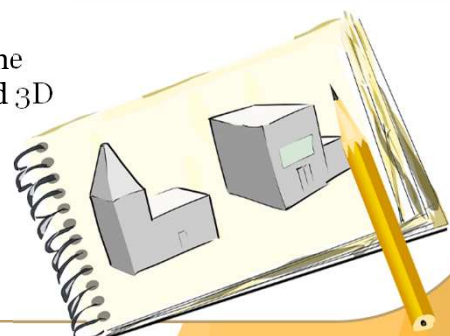


There are a wide range
of super curricula clubs
available to pupils this
term and we wanted to
share with you some of
the fantastic work
children have been
engaging in during
Sketching club this
term!



The children in sketching club have been learning how to use
different drawing techniques and, so far, have learnt about one
point perspective shapes, using numbers to draw animals and 3D
hand drawings.

In the coming weeks the children will try their
hands at Keith Haring figures, pop art, optical
illusions and portraits. What fantastic artwork!





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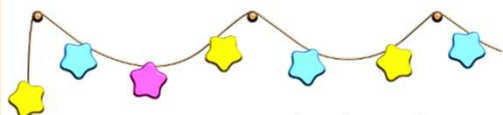
Wheathampstead 2k & 10k



A host of families from Manland took part in the Wheathampstead 2k and 10k cross country race two weekends ago! There was a good turnout from Manland and Mrs Kemp reported that all the children were inspirational in their efforts and behaviour at the event. Well done to all participants!



Name	Time	Catergory	Category Position
Harrison W	00:07:18	Under 11	3
Ernest F	00:08:15	Under 11	8
Charlie M	00:08:22	Under 13	13
Otto F	00:08:56	Under 10	8
Henry G	00:09:05	Under 10	11
Oscar W	00:09:54	Under 10	21
Enzo M	00:10:05	Under 11	23
Clifford H	00:10:18	Under 13	11
Edward G	00:10:21	Under 11	24
Ori M	00:10:22	Under 10	8
Lewis H	00:13:38	Under 11	29
George S	00:10:41	Under 9	5
Emma P	00:11:02	Under 10	13



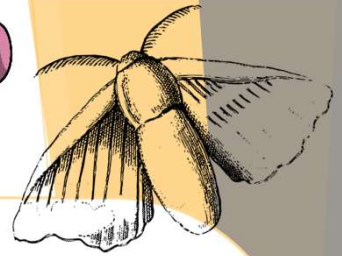
It was not just Manland pupils who impressed us with their fantastic running.

A huge congratulations to all the family members and staff who also took part – we are full of admiration for you!

Name	Category Position
Mrs Kemp (10k)	32
Ms Shorthouse (10k)	6
A Steele	2
Mrs S Steele	3
Mrs S Parkin	7
Ms H Flanagan	16
Mr O Steele	10
Mrs A Heineike	23
Dr B Heineike	8



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Health and Safety News: Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)

The health and safety team at Herts County Council have asked us to distribute information to our school community on **Oak Processionary Moth (OPM)**.

OPM caterpillars and nests can affect the health of people and animals, as they contain hairs which can cause itchy rashes, eye and throat irritations and occasionally breathing difficulties.

Identifying OPM

- They live almost exclusively in oak trees, which are identifiable by their distinctive leaves.
- They move in nose-to-tail processions, in oak trees or on the ground, hence their name.
- They often cluster together.
- They build white, silken webbing trails and nests – usually dome or teardrop-shaped – on oak trunks and branches (not among the leaves).
- The nests soon become discoloured.



If you suspect you have found an OPM nest or caterpillars, report them via the Forestry commissions system [Tree Alert](#)

For full details, please see the information sheet attached to the newsletter.



Pupil News

Charlie in Year 2 recently took part in the Elliswick Junior VE Tournament and came 3rd!

What a fantastic achievement Charlie! Your family are so proud of you and all the hard work and practice you have put in to your tennis.

Well done Charlie!





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Manland Primary School are recruiting!

We are looking for Teaching Assistants to join our team!

No experience or qualifications is required, full training will be provided. These roles are term time only (with pay being split evenly over 12 months).

If you are looking to make a difference, why not consider one of the roles below? Or, if you know someone who might suit this work, we'd be grateful if you could pass this information on to them:

Teaching assistant

We are looking for an enthusiastic and adaptable Teaching Assistant, to join our team on a part time or full time basis, with the following options of hours:

- Monday to Friday- 8.50am-3.20pm
- Monday to Friday - 8.50am-1.00pm
- Monday - Friday - 12.00pm-3.20pm

You could be providing general classroom support, pupil support and lunchtime support.

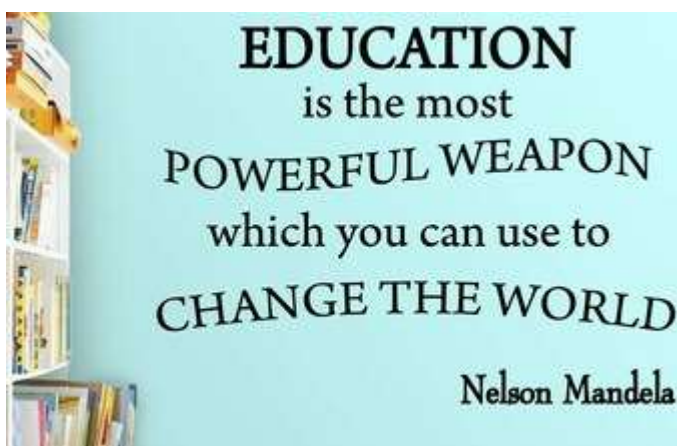
For full details, and to apply, please go to Teach in

Herts: https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,teaching-assistant_104428.htm



Early Years Teaching Assistant

Are you a caring, enthusiastic and proactive individual who loves working with children? We are looking for a Full-Time Teaching Assistant to join our wonderful Early Years team, supporting our Reception class. Hours are Monday to Friday, 8.30 - 3.20pm, term time only.



As a key member of our EYFS team, you will:

- support high-quality teaching and learning in the Reception classroom.
- Work with small groups and individual children, including those with additional needs.
- Help to create a nurturing, playful and engaging environment.
- Assist with day-to-day classroom organisation and outdoor provision.
- Promote children's personal, social and emotional development

For full details, and to apply, please go to Teach in

Herts: https://www.teachinherts.com/find-a-job/view,early-years-teaching-assistant_104464.htm

If you have any questions regarding either role, don't hesitate to make contact with the office - we would love to hear from you.



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Herts Dyslexia Association

Hertfordshire Dyslexia Association is affiliated to the British Dyslexia Association. If you live or work in Hertfordshire, the HDA is your Local Association. They aim to provide:

Support: Meetings provide a good opportunity to share experiences for all dyslexics and for those who have an interest in dyslexia.

Information: The HDA can tell you where to go to get further advice on assessment and tuition and provide you with literature and information on dyslexia.

For further information, or to buy tickets, please go to:

[Herts Dyslexia Charity | Hertfordshire Dyslexia Association](#)

HERTS DYSLEXIA ASSOCIATION *presents* **NAVIGATING SENIOR SCHOOL**

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE ARE HOSTING AN ADVICE
EVENING FOR PARENTS OF DYSLEXIC CHILDREN WHO ARE
NAVIGATING SECONDARY SCHOOL!
WITH HELP ON TOPICS SUCH AS WHERE TO FIND SUPPORT AND
ASSISTED TECH COME JOIN US FOR THIS INFORMATIVE EVENT



When: 16/06/25
Where: Online
Price: FREE for HDA
members
£5 for non-members





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FREE

SCHOOL AVOIDANCE SUPPORT GROUP

GET INVOLVED, MAKE CONNECTIONS & STEP FORWARD!

**Wednesdays 1 - 3pm
The Pioneer Club, St Albans**

FREE TO ATTEND

DROP-IN SESSION

NO NEED TO BOOK

FREE REFRESHMENTS

ARTS & GAMES ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

A collaboration between

Vista
Support Services

**The
Pioneer
Club**

Registered charity number 302455