



Manland Primary School Newsletter

Friday 7th November 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's great to see that everyone has settled back in to the second half term so well; children are working incredibly hard and there is lots of great learning going on! I know that Year 5 are excited to share everything they have been doing in the first class assembly next week.

It has been great to see some of you in school recently for our parent workshops, and, along with the upcoming class assemblies, there are lots of opportunities on the horizon for the whole school community to come together, as we begin to edge towards the festive period.

Our first prospective parent morning was a great success this week, with our Year 6 children once again acting as incredible ambassadors for our school. Well done Year 6!

Best wishes, *Mr Comer, Headteacher*

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Wednesday 12 th November 2025	Rec – Year 4 Sex Education Workshop 9.00 am
Thursday 13 th November 2025	Year 5 Class Assembly 9.00 am
Wednesday 19 th November 2025	Year 3 Class Assembly 9.00 am
Thursday 20 th November 2025	Prospective Parent Morning 10.00 am
Monday 24 th November 2025	Occasional Day – School Closed

Manland Values Award



Since the start of term, Ysabeau has entered the classroom each day with a smile and a positive attitude to start the day! She is consistently aspirational in her learning behaviours by engaging and remaining focused in all learning across all subjects. Ysabeau communicates extremely well with her learning partners and is always ready to share her learning with the class. Ysabeau's learning behaviours are reliably inspirational by always showing she is ready to learn. She takes responsibility for her own learning and is a positive role model to everyone in her class. Bobo shows kindness and consideration to her peers and has enjoyed a fantastic half term. Well done Ysabeau!

Manland Values Award



AJ has shown immense effort in all aspects of school life, never shying away from a challenge. He demonstrates remarkable resilience, always bouncing back from setbacks and facing new tasks with courage. AJ embraces the importance of learning from mistakes, turning challenges into valuable lessons. They embody the value of responsibility, always coming to school with a smile on their face and ready to learn. What truly sets this AJ apart is the respect he shows for others. He is a kind and caring friend, always ready to lend a helping hand or a listening ear. Not only helping their classmates they are constantly supporting and helping adults in the school. Most admirable is his willingness to put others first, ensuring everyone feels included and valued. AJ is a perfect candidate for the Manland Cup, demonstrating qualities that inspire us all!



Spotlight on House Learning Day

On Friday, 24th October, we held a highly successful House Learning Day, a highlight of our school calendar designed to foster teamwork and collaboration among our students. It was delightful to witness the children proudly donning their house colours, a vibrant display of community spirit and camaraderie.

During this engaging day, pupils were organised into Key Stage 1, Lower Key Stage 2, and Upper Key Stage 2 groups, where they had the opportunity to work alongside peers from their respective houses. The children rotated through three stimulating activities that were designed to promote essential skills in problem-solving, sportsmanship, and team building.





Spotlight on House Learning Day

The activities included boat building, where students applied their creativity and engineering skills; the construction of a protective box for a water balloon, enabling them to experiment with design and functionality; and an exhilarating sports competition that encouraged friendly rivalry and cooperation. Reception worked in their house teams going on a woodland walk and then creating a picture from the leaves that they collected.

It was encouraging to see students support one another, embodying the values of respect, resilience, and teamwork. Overall, the day was a resounding success, and we look forward to many more events like this that enrich our students' learning experiences.

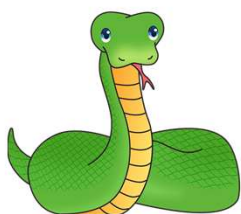




Spotlight on Reception

In Reception this week we were excited to have had a visit from Animal Workshop where the children got to meet and touch a variety of animals. As we have been learning all about The Gruffalo in class they were really excited to meet a snake in real life!

The children behaved wonderfully and really enjoyed the experience.



Kai "Snake skin is really smooth."

Kleio "I really liked meeting the meercats as they were really cute."



Alice "The tortoise was really smooth and I liked its bumpy shell."



Ted "The millipede felt really tickly."





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Safeguarding

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



MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance for the
last two weeks is **97.6%**

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.



Reception 2026 Open Events

We will be holding two more open events for the September 2026 intake. These will take place on **20th November and 4th December**.

If you have a child that is due to start Reception next September and would like to come along, please feel free to join us at one of the events. A sign up link is available on the school website.

Even if you do not have a child due to start school in September 2026, please help us to promote the school.

If you have access to any local newsletters or noticeboards, and would be willing to share the attached poster, we would be really grateful. If you need school to print any copies of the poster please just ask in the office. Thank you for your support

Reception 2026

We would like to get an idea of sibling numbers for our September 2026 Reception intake. If you have a sibling who is hoping to join us in September 2026, we should be grateful if you could email us on admin@manland.Herts.sch.uk.

Thank you!





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Safeguarding



Photo Consent and GDPR

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been made aware that images of children at school events have been shared by parents/carers on social media. We want to remind all parents and carers that if they take any images of children at school events, that these must not be shared on social media, including any WhatsApp groups (including any class or parent/carer WhatsApp groups). Please also reinforce this message with any wider family members/friends who attend school events.

There are many reasons a parent and carer may not provide consent for their child's image to be shared. In some cases, sharing an image of a child can affect their safety. Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone in the school community and a child's safety can be compromised if you share images of them on social media.

In addition to safeguarding concerns, the UK General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) can apply in unofficial WhatsApp groups. The parents who administer the WhatsApp groups may be considered data controllers under UK GDPR if they decide what personal data is collected and how it's used. The sharing images of children without parental consent may breach GDPR, especially if the images are identifiable and shared beyond personal use (e.g. public WhatsApp groups or forwarded widely).

What can you do - Advice from ICO

Whilst the school has no oversight, or responsibility to monitor WhatsApp groups, the ICO (Information Commissioner's Office) advises that if someone posts a photo of your child online without consent, you can request its removal. If refused, you can escalate to the ICO. If you do notice that an image of your child has been shared on a WhatsApp group, please, in the first instance, contact the "owner" administrator of the group to request the removal of the image. If you remain concerned, the next step you can take is to make contact with the ICO: [Contact us | ICO](#)





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**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

The Importance of Regular School Attendance

At Hertfordshire County Council, we are committed to ensuring every child receives a high-quality education.

A key part of this is regular school attendance, which plays a vital role in your child's academic progress, personal development, and future opportunities. While we understand that children may occasionally be unable to attend due to illness, frequent absences can lead to them falling behind their peers—both academically and socially.

Why Attendance Matters

Attending school regularly helps children to:

- Achieve stronger academic outcomes
- Build friendships and develop social skills
- Strengthen emotional wellbeing and resilience
- Establish positive habits for future education and employment
- Engage fully in school life and activities

Our Commitment to You

In Hertfordshire, we are dedicated to working with families to remove barriers to regular attendance wherever possible. We recognise that challenges may arise, and we are here to support you and your child.

Key Expectations

We ask that all families support the following expectations:

- Children attend school every day it is open, unless they are unwell or have a valid statutory reason
- Children arrive on time and ready to learn
- Families follow the school's attendance policy
- Parents/carers notify the school promptly when their child is absent unexpectedly
- Medical appointments are scheduled outside of school hours where possible
- Requests for leave of absence are made in advance and only in exceptional circumstances

How You Can Help

You play a crucial role in supporting your child's attendance. You can help by:

- Encouraging daily, punctual attendance
- Communicating with the school about any concerns or barriers
- Engaging with any support offered to avoid the need for more formal interventions

If you have any concerns or need support, please contact your child's school in the first instance. Schools are here to work with families to ensure every child can thrive.

For further resources and support, please visit:

Families First

Hertfordshire SEND Local Offer

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.



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Tag Rugby

A mixture of year 5&6 girls and boys recently attended Harpenden Rugby club for a mixed rugby tournament. The children spent the afternoon playing 12 short games against different schools. They had a great afternoon, displaying some great tag rugby, all working together and displaying some great teamwork. Well done to all.



Girls Netball

A group of year 5&6 girls visited Roundwood school last week for their first game against Roundwood School. The girls all worked really hard against a strong Roundwood team. some great netball on display, well done to all the girls who worked so hard and showed great determination and team spirit throughout the game.

A special well done to Audrey who was voted player of the match by the opposing team.

Girls Football

The year 5&6 girls have now completed their league games for this year. On Thursday they played their last two games against Crabtree and Sauncey Wood. A close game with Crabtree ending in a 0-0 draw followed by some very impressive football against Sauncey Wood resulting in the girls winning 3-0! A special well done to Cali who played amazingly scoring some fantastic goals.

Well done to all the girls who have played in the games this term, they have each done brilliantly. Some of the girls now have some tournament football to look forward to.



Girls Netball

This week both the A&B girl's netball teams were visited by players from The Lea, Both teams played some great netball, showing great teamwork and determination. All the girls worked really hard on what was only the second game for the A team and first for the B team. After four 8-minute quarters the A team game ended with a close 12-12 draw and the B team ended in a fantastic 9-0 win!

Well done to all girls involved. An extra well done to Iris in year 5 who was voted player of the match by the opposing team in the B team game and Sofiyah in Year 6 in the A team.



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BE BRIGHT BE SEEN CAMPAIGN

As summer fades and the days grow shorter, darker mornings and evenings can make it harder for pedestrians and cyclist to be seen by drivers. That's why the Be Bright Be Seen campaign is so important—especially during the Autumn and Winter months – to the whole school community.

For pedestrians and cyclists

- Wear bright and reflective clothing:
- Wear fluorescent or neon colours during the day and reflective gear at night.
- Use lights:
- Ensure your bicycle has a white front light and a red rear light, and use them in the dark.
- Be aware:
- Walk in well-lit areas and stay alert to other road users.
- Use proper crossing points:
- Cross roads at designated crossings.



Friendship Boxes for Children in Ukraine

Once again Manland is supporting Rotary in Harpenden for their annual Friendship Box appeal for 2025, supporting families in Ukraine.

We will have a box for children to leave their donations in front of the office hatch

If you can, please drop off donations of:

- coloured pencils, crayons, colouring books, puzzles and reading books
- small toys used or new, teddy bears etc
- Other items that will interest and stimulate children's minds
- **BUT PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE** food, liquids, powders, batteries, sharp objects or religious artefacts

Collection of boxes will be made at the **beginning of November**.



New lights!

On behalf of all of us at Manland, we wanted to say a big thank you to FOM and all their donors in contributing to our new lights in all our classrooms and the girls and boys toilets.

The replacement lights have made a huge difference and we really are very grateful.

Thank you!



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Thank you!

Manland Primary School

For your incredible donations collected during Harvest Festival. The total collected was 177.4 kg which is the equivalent of 422 meals.

Your dedication and support have made a huge difference to the lives of people living in poverty.

Thank you from
All the Foodbank Team

www.stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

☎ 01727 613019

✉ info@stalbansdistrict.foodbank.org.uk

Registered charity number 1158917.
Registered in England and Wales.

Supporting St Albans
and the surrounding
villages



@StAlbansDistrictFB



@st_a_and_dist_foodbank

Order Your Christmas Tree & Support Our School!

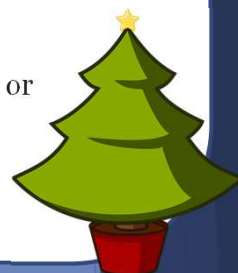
We're partnering with Friends of Harpenden Academy to offer freshly cut, locally grown Nordmann Fir Christmas trees in 3 sizes— all top quality and long-lasting.

For every tree sold £10 will be donated to the Manland HSA!

Order at <https://www.foha.co.uk/fohashop/p/christmastrees> and don't forget to list Manland under 'additional information' when you checkout!

Order by: Monday 1st December 2025 at 12 noon

Free collection from Harpenden Academy, or Delivery (Charges Apply), Friday 5th or Saturday 6th December.





Achievement at Manland



At Manland, we are proud of the high academic progress and achievement of our pupils. Children at Manland consistently achieve well above national and local levels.



Early Years 24/25

	Manland	National
Pupils who achieved GLD	90%	68%



Phonics 24/25

	Manland	National
Pupils who passed	95%	80%

Multiplication Times Table Check Year 4 24/25

Subject	Manland average	National average
MTC	24 out of 25	21 out of 25

KS2 Data: Percentage of pupils in Year 6 who achieved the Expected Standard 24-25

Subject	Manland	National
English reading	94%	75%
Mathematics	94%	74%
English writing *	91%	72%

* Teacher assessment



KS2 Data: Percentage of pupils in Year 6 who achieved Greater Depth 24-25

Subject	Manland	National
English reading	75%	33%
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	63%	30%
Mathematics	72%	26%
Writing	28%	13%

Personal Development

National testing results are only one measure of success. Children at Manland are also given opportunities to develop their passions through a wide range of extra-curricula clubs. Achievements outside of school are also celebrated. Personal development is also championed, with children having many opportunities to build leadership and independence skills.





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**TIMES TABLES
ROCK STARS**

**ENGLAND
ROCKS**

**WE'RE IN IT
TO WIN IT!**

18TH - 20TH NOV

