



# Manland Primary School Newsletter

## Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe it's only our second week back after the Christmas break! The children have settled back into school routines extremely well and are working incredibly hard.

I know that the spring term ahead is going to bring with it some exciting events, with the Year 5 residential to Phasels Wood; some class assemblies; and several day-trips to look forward to.

I hope that you all are back into the swing of things after the holidays. I know that January can feel like a long month, but it won't be long until we start seeing some brighter weather and some lighter mornings!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend, and I will see you all next week.

Best wishes,

*Mr Comer, Headteacher*

### Diary Dates

| Date  | Event   |
|---|---|
| Wednesday<br>28 <sup>th</sup> January<br>2026 | Year 1 Class Assembly<br>9.10am (approx. 9.40am finish)                                       |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>February 2026      | SEND coffee morning with<br>Mrs Kemp 9.00am (approx.<br>10am finish)                          |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup><br>February 2026       | Year 6 parents SATs meeting<br>at 11.00am (Teams online<br>session approx. 11.30am<br>finish) |
| Monday 9 <sup>th</sup><br>February 2026       | Y5 & Y6 SJL visit for Gym<br>and Dance display  |

### Manland Values Award



Marcus is consistently enthusiastic, arriving at school each day with a smile and a real eagerness to learn. He sets an excellent example by being polite, kind and welcoming to everyone around them. Marcus shows a strong desire to succeed in lessons, regularly checking his work carefully before moving on. His books are always neat and well-presented, with pride taken in his learning and presentation. His confident and outgoing personality brings energy to the classroom and helps create such a positive and enjoyable learning environment. Marcus strives to be the best he can be, approaching every task with care and determination while modelling exemplary behaviour throughout the school day.

Marcus is consistently respectful to both staff and peers and has truly flourished since the start of the year. Congratulations!

### Manland Values Award

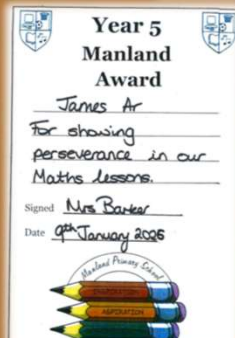
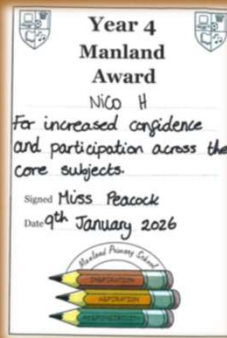


Nina is someone who truly deserves to be celebrated. She is an incredibly hardworking member of our class who always tries her very best, even when something feels tricky. Since joining my class this year, Nina has pushed herself and made amazing progress in all of her subjects, especially in the one she finds the most challenging. That shows real determination and courage. Nina also brings so much positivity into our classroom. She is warm, welcoming, and a fantastic friend to everyone. She makes people feel included, and her kindness never goes unnoticed. On top of that, she has a wonderful sense of humour, the classroom honestly wouldn't be the same without her smiles and laughter. Nina, thank you for being you. Please keep being the person who works hard, keeps trying, and brings a smile to all of us every single day. Myself and the class are so proud of you well done!

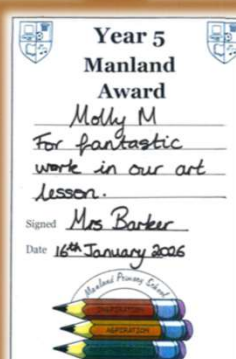
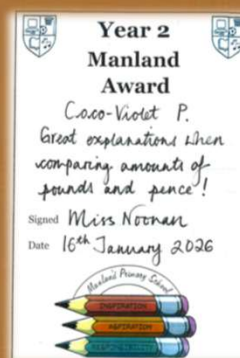


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## Manland Certificate Board



## Manland Certificate Board







# Spotlight on Displays



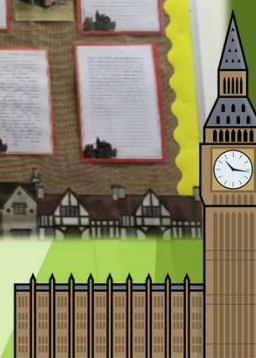
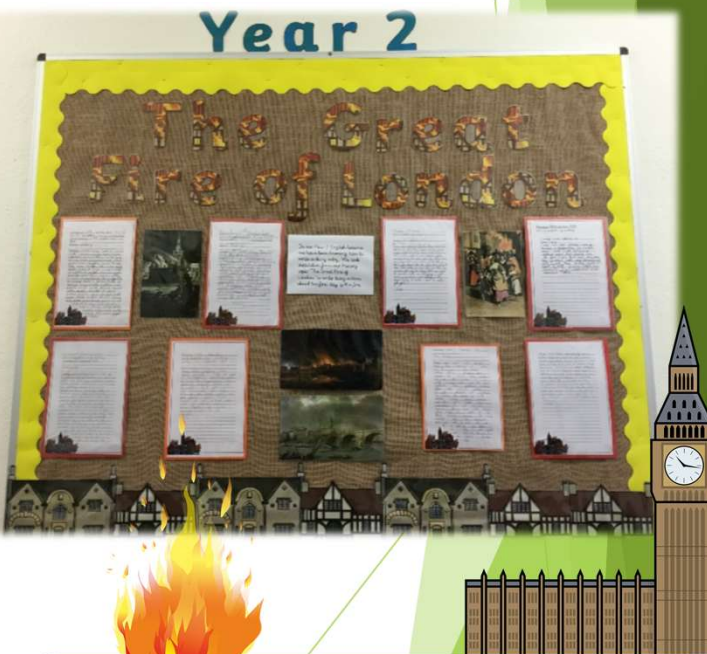
## Reception

In Reception we have been learning about winter. We read the book 'Blue Penguin' and were inspired to learn about Antarctica. We are really proud of the work we have produced. In Expressive Art and Design we created a winter scene. You can see an igloo, ice and penguins and we used materials such as paint, cotton wool and paper plates.



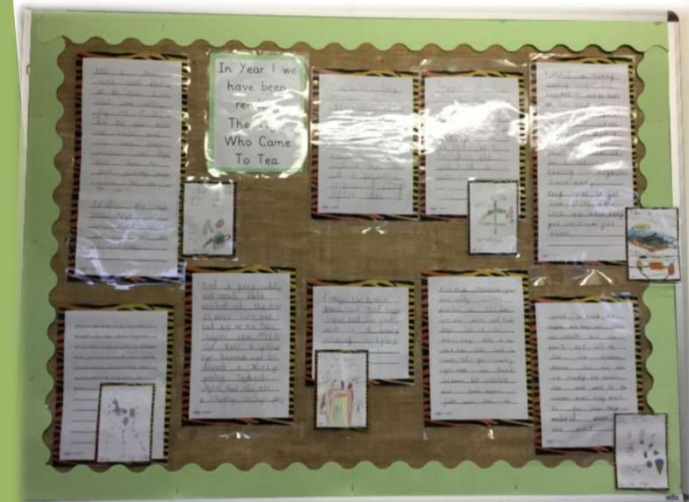
## Year 1

Year 1 have been inspired by the 'Tiger who came to Tea' by Judith Kerr. We have written our own versions with our own animals coming to tea using interesting adjectives. We also designed our own front covers.



## Year 2

In English Year 2 learnt how to write a diary entry. They took inspiration from the Great Fire of London History topic to write diary entries as if they experienced the first day of the fire. We were very proud of their writing.



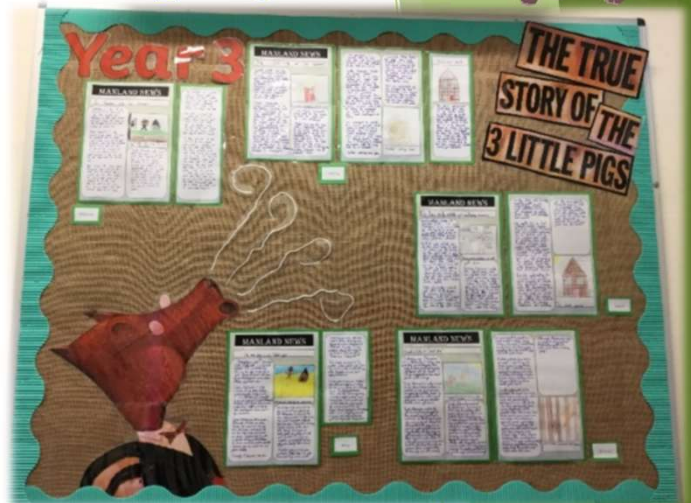




## Spotlight on Displays

### Year 3

Our classroom display showcases the children's fantastic news reports based on *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs*. The pupils stepped into the role of journalists, retelling the events from the wolf's point of view and carefully considering bias, evidence, and different perspectives. Through this engaging project, they developed their writing skills while learning how news reports present information. The finished display celebrates their hard work, creativity, and growing confidence as thoughtful writers.



### Year 4

Year 4 has been inspired by Valerie Bloom's poem 'the River'. Year 4 pupils have used rich vocabulary, rhythm, and personification to describe how a river travels through the landscape, changing and flowing with energy and life, just like in Bloom's poem.



### Year 5

This term, Year 5 has created a beautiful new display inspired by the poignant book *Where the Poppies Now Grow*. Students wrote heartfelt cinquain poems, reflecting on the moving poppy display at the Tower of London.



### Year 6

After learning all about our Solar System and the planets, the Year 6s used their English lessons to invent their very own planets. They explored how each planet was discovered, where it is located in the universe, and what its environment is like, including the weather and seasons. The children then brought their ideas to life by imagining the creatures that might live there and considering whether humans would be able to survive on their planet.





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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](mailto:safeguarding@manland.herts.sch.uk)



**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**



## Attendance

Our whole school attendance for the  
last two weeks is **97.2 %**

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.



## Thank you from Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care

Dear Manland Primary School,

On behalf of everyone at Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care, thank you for your donation of **£500**, which you raised from your Rudolph Run event. This an incredible sum of money.

This money could fund **13 hours** of care from one of our specialist nurses, in a patient's home to provide care, support and symptom management.

We continue to provide care and support for adults with a progressive life-limiting illness, and those who care for them, within Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire.

Our patients are supported to live the best quality of life they can through the combination of outpatient, rehabilitation and supportive care services, Hospice at Home and inpatient care. We are also here for family, friends, and carers, ensuring that everyone can receive the right support, wherever and whenever they need it.

As our care is provided at no cost to our patients and their families, it is made possible by the generous donations we receive from our local community, and your very kind donations have enabled our nurses and health care assistants to carry on their amazing work.

Thank you again for making moments together matter for our patients and their families.

With heart-felt thanks

**THANK  
YOU!**





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# Safeguarding

## Safer Internet Day

### Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI

#### SMART Rules

Safer  
Internet  
Day 2026 | Tuesday  
10 February

#### Safe

Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when you're chatting or posting online. Personal information includes your email address, phone number and password.

#### Meet

Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present. Remember online friends are still strangers even if you have been talking to them for a long time.

#### Accepting

Accepting emails, messages, or opening files, images or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems — they may contain viruses or nasty messages!

#### Reliable

Someone online might lie about who they are and information on the internet may not be true. Always check information.

#### Tell

Tell a parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone, or something, makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

Talk with your child about responsible use of their phone

Discuss what is okay and not okay to use their phone for. Talk about time limits and expectations of where the device can and cannot be used, this could include things like the phone being charged outside their bedroom overnight.

#### Discuss what to do if something upsetting or worrying happens

Give them the strategies they need in case something concerning happens whilst they are using their device. This could be to lock the screen and tell an adult, to make a report to the platform they are using, or to block the user.

Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the phone itself and on your home Wi-Fi. Talk these through with your child too. Parental controls are a helpful tool, but an open conversation with your child is the most important thing.





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# SEND Coffee Morning

You are warmly invited to our SEND Coffee Morning

An informal opportunity to chat, ask questions, and connect  
with others



**Date:** Tuesday 3rd February 2026



**Time:** 9:00 – 10:00am



**Address:** Manland Primary School, Sauncey Avenue

We are pleased to welcome representatives from:

**ADD-vance**  
ADHD & Autism Trust

**DSPL7**



To register interest, contact the school office:



[admin@manland.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@manland.herts.sch.uk)



01582 713452

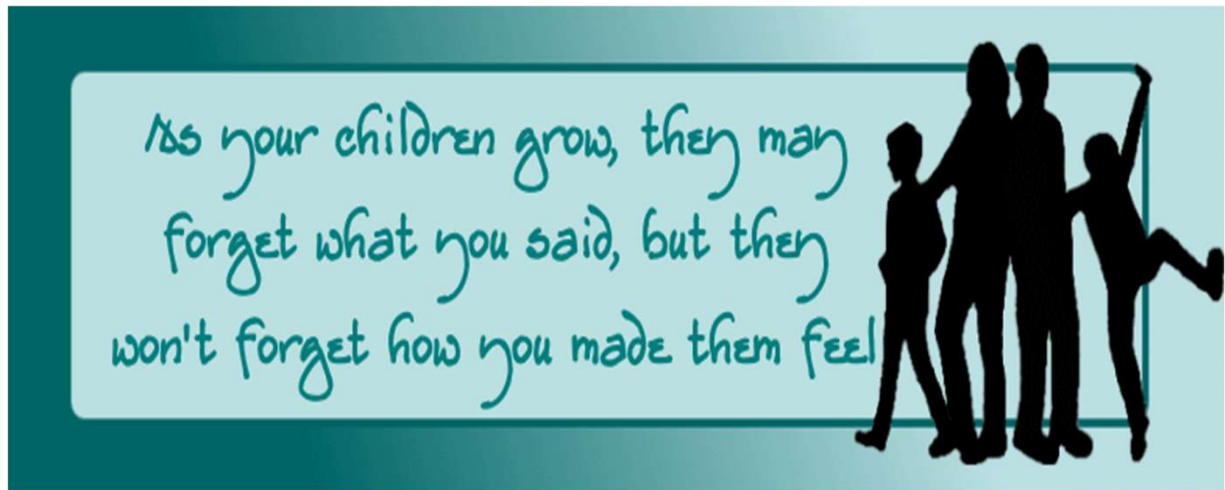
We look forward to seeing you there!







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Most parents love being parents but it's not always easy. Things don't always go as you expected them to and you might find yourself unprepared for a situation you find yourself in. You might be doing fine at the moment but want to be prepared for what is ahead.

There's a constant juggle of different needs between children, parents, work, school and home. Needs changing as your children grow, it can be hard to keep on top of everything and still remember to enjoy family time.

Conflict arises in many families over issues such as bedtimes, meal times, morning routines, use of technology, homework, behaviour, keeping safe, being respectful, responsibilities and more.

**This is where Supporting Links can help.**

We are a local Social Enterprise, providing parenting support through courses, workshops and 1:1 mentoring of parents and children throughout Hertfordshire and the surrounding area. We value the knowledge and experience that every parent brings and we aim to build on those skills to enable parents to feel more confident and positive about their own abilities. We can help you understand your child's behaviour and develop effective strategies that really work to improve behaviour and communication, and build the foundations for successful family relationships.

**Promoting Strong Family Relationships**

**parenting**UK  
part of Family Lives





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## Calling Parents of Teenagers A Face-to-Face Course in St Albans

This course is funded by Herts County Council so is FREE for parents to attend.

### **TALKING TEENS**

**Wednesdays 7.00 - 9.00pm**



"Our home is no longer a battlefield. I am less stressed and my teenager speaks to me more. Thank you!"

"No judgement, just helpful and insightful ideas. Lots of practical tools and techniques to takeaway."

4-Feb, 11-Feb, 25-Feb, 4-Mar, 11-Mar, 18-Mar 2026

Sopwell Family Centre,  
Mandeville Primary School,  
Mandeville Drive,  
St Albans AL1 2LE

**6, weekly sessions for parents of children aged 12-19, covering:**

- **The Teen Brain, the physical and emotional changes and why their behaviour changes.**
- **The link between behaviour and difficult feelings.**
- **Maintaining your relationship with good communication.**
- **Understanding risk-taking behaviour around drugs, alcohol and gang culture.**
- **How to communicate during a conflict situation.**

### **Booking essential**

**Course ID: 802**

**To check eligibility and book a place, contact Supporting Links on:**

07512 709 556

**[bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk](mailto:bookings@supportinglinks.co.uk)**

Please include your phone number as we cannot book a place without speaking to you.

Details of all of our courses and workshops can be found on our website. <https://www.supportinglinks.co.uk/whatson.html>

**Professionals can contact us for priority places for parents they are working with.**

A referral form can be downloaded from our website: <https://www.supportinglinks.co.uk/contact.html>



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## **St Albans & District Dog Watch : Tue 24 Feb 10:00am & Thurs 26 Feb 1000am - Wheathampstead & Sandridge**



Dear Resident

Following an overwhelming reply to my initial message, we have decided to launch the **St Albans & District Dog Watch**.

Your local Neighbourhood Policing Team is looking to build a closer relationship with dog walkers who are out and about in our community at all times and in all weathers. You and your four-legged friends are our “eyes & (furry) ears” on our streets, in our parks & commons.

Below are details of our inaugural meetings where we hope to meet and walk with you in order to forge a new relationship with the Police.

If you can, please try to attend with your dog at the meetings below:

**Tuesday 24th February 2026 - 1000hrs - Marford Memorial Hall Car Park, Marford Road, Wheathampstead**

**or**

**Thursday 26th February 2026- 1000hrs - Heartwood Forest Car Park, Sandridge.**

I shall attend along with our rural Police Officer PC 1904 Cooper.

It would be great to see you as we too look to launch and expand Dog Watch.

(as ever, police attendance is based on operational demands)

