



# Manland Primary School Newsletter

## Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy couple of weeks at Manland, and this term is truly flying by! It feels like we have only just returned from the Christmas break, and in just 3 weeks, we will be ready for the Easter holidays.

The children have experienced a range of exciting events and experiences over the last 2 weeks, with highlights, including: The Year 2 trip to Bletchley Park; The Year 5 residential trip to Phasels Wood and a fantastic World book Day on Thursday! I can safely say that the costumes this year were by far and away the best we have ever seen – thank you to parents and carers for your creativity and hard work.

Next week promises to be just as exciting, with Science Day in Monday, where children are once again invited to come to school dressed to impress!

I will look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at parents evening next week. Have a great weekend in the meantime!

Best wishes, *Mrs Wicks and Mr Comer, Co-Headteachers*

### Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Science Day as part of British Science Week (6-15 March)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Reception Class trip to Harpenden Library
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Parents Evening 3.30-7.30pm Rec – Yr6
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Yr5/Yr6 District Football Tournament (Invite only)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Yr5/Yr6 District Netball Rally (Invite only)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Parents Evening 3.30-5.30pm Rec – Yr6
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Yr4 Tate Modern Gallery class trip
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Red Nose day

### Manland Values Award



Since starting Reception, Miles has grown in confidence and now approaches all areas of learning with a consistently positive attitude. Miles listens carefully and follows instructions. He is an inspiration to others and often leads by example, particularly in the construction area.

Miles brings fantastic ideas to his writing and is beginning to form longer, more detailed sentences about the books we have shared in class. Just this week we were impressed with his writing about the Hungry Caterpillar eating a leaf and feeling better. His enthusiasm for learning shines through in everything he does.

Above all, Miles is always kind, thoughtful, and extremely well liked by his peers, making him a valued and respected member of our class. Well done Miles.

### Manland Values Award



Justin comes to school every day ready to learn and is eager to take on new challenges, always willing to give everything a go. Justin, always tries his hardest no matter what the task may be. Even when learning feels challenging, he approaches it with a positive attitude and continues to persevere. Justin listens carefully during lessons and takes pride in completing his work to the best of his ability. He is polite and considerate of those around him, showing awareness of others' feelings and personal space. Justin treats his classmates with kindness and respect, making him a valued member of our class community. He is a great role model to everyone around him, demonstrating the Manland values every day. I am very proud of the effort Justin shows in his learning and the calm, positive presence he brings to our classroom.



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## Manland Certificate Board

**Reception Manland Award**  
Klear R  
For inspirational movement in PE reflecting the story of The Hungry Caterpillar. Well done.  
Signed Mrs Keay and the Reception Team  
Date Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Year 1 Manland Award**  
Autumn P  
For demonstrating positive choices and fantastic focus in lessons this week.  
Signed Ms Fiedler  
Date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Year 2 Manland Award**  
Jasper E.  
Great use of co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions to vary sentence structures.  
Signed Mrs O'Connell  
Date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Year 3 Manland Award**  
Jibraan A  
For writing clear and engaging quotes that made his news report come to life.  
Signed Mr Brittin  
Date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Year 4 Manland Award**  
Lara Cutbertson  
for working hard both at school and home to improve her times tables.  
Signed Mr. Peacock  
Date 27.2.26

**Year 5 Manland Award**  
Noah B.  
For writing a thoughtful persuasive letter.  
Signed Mrs Barker  
Date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Year 6 Manland Award**  
Enayah A  
For using great examples of emotive language when explaining her frustration at people pronouncing food names incorrectly.  
Signed Mr Winchester  
Date 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Manland Certificate Board

**Reception Manland Award**  
Lottie P  
Showing the Manland Values, being a kind and helpful friend, going above and beyond to help others.  
Signed Mrs Keay and The Reception Team  
Date Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Year 1 Manland Award**  
Adam K  
For inspiring the class with his talk on his chosen character for world book day.  
Signed Ms Fiedler  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Year 2 Manland Award**  
Arthur B.  
Demonstrating a deep understanding of the 5 and 10 times table.  
Signed Miss Noonan  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Year 3 Manland Award**  
Sheldon C  
For showing great focus and maturity in his learning.  
Signed Mr Brittin  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Year 4 Manland Award**  
Sienna T  
For working hard on her times tables and trying her best. Keep it up!  
Signed Miss Peacock  
Date Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Year 5 Manland Award**  
AJ A  
For an exceptional residential trip.  
Signed Mrs Barker  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Year 6 Manland Award**  
Cassie B  
For becoming an "Assistant Teacher" to help others when converting Fractions, Decimals and Percentages.  
Signed Mr Winchester  
Date 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026



## Spotlight on Safeguarding



### Safeguarding Team

At Manland we have a Safeguarding Team who work with our pupils, families and outside agencies. They also support all of the staff in ensuring we provide the best care for our pupils.

The Designated Safeguarding Lead at Manland is Mrs Wicks. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Mr Comer, Miss Noonan and Mrs Kemp. Mrs Wicks and Mr Comer are also trained in Safer Recruitment.

Our Safeguarding Governor is Mr Wardle who monitors that the school meets all statutory requirements in regard to Safeguarding. Our deputy Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Montgomery.

All of the adults in our school help to keep children safe.

**Role of the DSL:** The DSL takes lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection across the school (including online safety). They take part in strategy discussions and inter-agency meetings, and contribute to the assessment of children. They advise and support other members of staff on child welfare, safeguarding and child protection matters, and liaise with relevant agencies such as the local authority and police.

**Role of the DDSLs:** Some safeguarding activities may be delegated to deputies (DDSLs). The DDSLs may deputise for the DSL in their absence, but the DSL will retain ultimate lead responsibility for safeguarding and child protection.

### Child Protection Policy

Our child protection policy is always available on our school website and can be located: <https://manland.herts.sch.uk/download/child-protection-policy/>





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## Lanyards

Safeguarding is our **number 1 priority** at Manland Primary. Every child has the right to be safe from harm and danger. It is everyone's responsibility to ensure every child is free from worry and able to learn and develop in a safe and secure environment. Our lanyard system is an important part of our safeguarding procedures and is enforced at all times.

All visitors to our site must sign in at the office and obtain a lanyard. **No person can be in the school building without a lanyard under any circumstances, no matter how short a period.** The type of lanyard you receive will depend on the safeguarding checks in place for you.

### Grey



- Staff Lanyard
- All staff recruitment checks in place, including enhanced DBS
- Can be unsupervised whilst on site

### Red



- Governor Lanyard
- All Governor recruitment checks in place, including enhanced DBS
- Can be unsupervised whilst on site

### Green



- Volunteer Lanyard
- All volunteer checks in place, including enhanced DBS
- Can be unsupervised whilst on site

### Blue

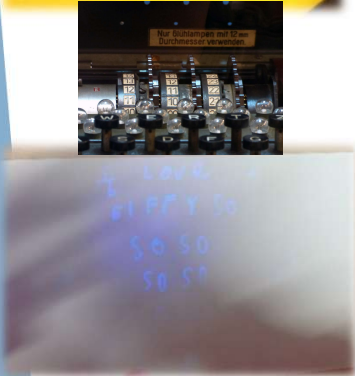
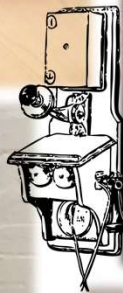


- Visitor Lanyard
- **Must be accompanied by a member of staff at all times whilst on site**



# Spotlight on History

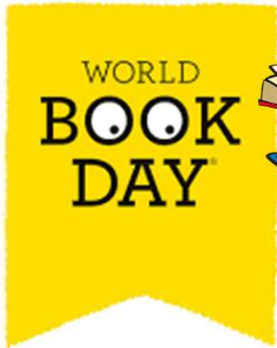
Year 2 had a wonderful day at Bletchley Park recently! As part of their history topic, children have been finding out about the way we communicate has changed: from the invention of the printing press (about 600 years ago) to the creation of the world wide web (a mere 37 years ago!). Our visit was an excellent opportunity to see how the invention of the telegraph and Morse code meant messages could be sent quickly and covertly during wartime. Children also found out about the excellent efforts of those who helped to intercept and translate messages during World War Two. In their workshop, Year 2 discovered how the Enigma machine enabled those at Bletchley Park to crack enemy codes - children even had a go at typing on a real Enigma machine! Children wrote secret messages using invisible ink, created their names using Morse code and interpreted messages that used Pigpen Cipher. A real highlight was using an extremely powerful radio to send our voices into space! Staff running the workshop commended children on their knowledge, enthusiasm and sterling behaviour - we were extremely proud!





# Spotlight on World Book Day

This week saw another action-packed World Book Day at Manland! We started the day with an assembly to launch our day. The theme of this year's World Book Day is 'go all in'. We want children to read books that are linked to their interests and hobbies: if you're into it, read about it! We talked about hobbies, how to develop a hobby and could reading be a hobby? Each teacher read an extract from one of their favourite books whilst children listened excitedly. It didn't take long at all before hands shot up as children guessed the titles of those books being read aloud! Children at Manland certainly know their books!





WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

# Spotlight on World Book Day





# Spotlight on World Book Day

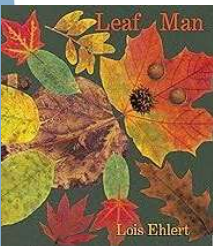
A busy afternoon saw children decorate their classroom doors and meet the mystery teacher who was coming to visit them! Teachers visited different classes to read with – this is such a lovely way to meet new children (and teachers!) to share some much-loved stories. As we awaited Year 5's return from their residential, Friday was rounded off with our Pupil Parliament touring the school to judge the 'top door'. Everyone has put in so much effort to make today fun and bubbly – thank you to children and families for the thought you have put into costumes and making 2026's World Book Day such a fun event!



Reception



Year 1



KS1 **WINNER**  
Year 1!



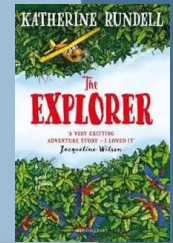
Year 2



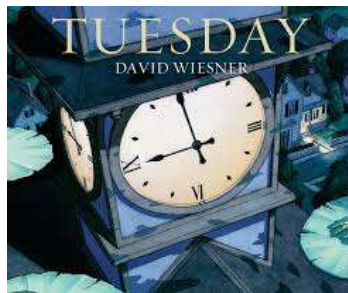


# Spotlight on World Book Day

KS2 **WINNER**  
Year 4!



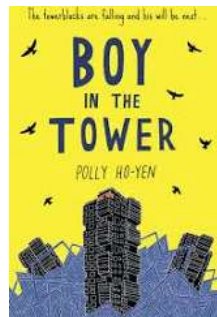
Year 3



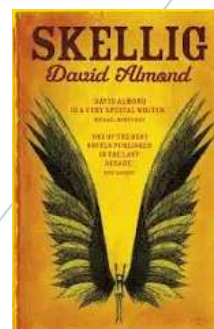
Year 4



Year 5



Year 6



Don't forget our 'Get Caught Reading' competition (which we'll be running up until the end of the Easter holidays). Keep a book with you at all times so you can squeeze in some sneaky reading!



## Spotlight on Year 5 Residential

On Tuesday Year 5 went on their 3 day residential to Phasels Wood. They did a Scavenger Hunt and Woodland Portraits, they took part in "Nightline" where the children use their senses in different challenges. They also had Team Challenges, and the excitement of the Cresta Toboggan Run. On the first evening they took part in a Talent Show around the camp fire.



"The food was really good and varied."



"The crate stacking was really good fun."





## Spotlight on Year 5 Residential

On Tuesday the children learned all about survival including lighting fires, building shelters, lighting and toasting marshmallows. In the afternoon they took part in an activity of crate stacking and archery.



Bushcraft was really interesting. I learnt how to properly use a fire steel to make fire.



On the final day the children learned all about trees and searching for bugs. Well done Year 5 you showed amazing communication, teamwork and creativity skills.





## Our new website

We're excited to announce the launch of our brand new and enhanced school website which will be going live on Monday. The site will be more user friendly for parents and carers with improved accessibility and up to date information.



## Reception ducklings



Tuesday was a very exciting day in Reception as the children waited eagerly to watch the duckling eggs hatch. They sang the, 'Five Little Ducks' song as they watched and listened to the ducklings cracking their egg and gradually hatching out. By Wednesday morning all five ducklings had hatched and moved from the incubator to the duckling brooder. The children have loved listening to them cheep, watching them bounce around in their brooder and snuggling together to keep warm. Next week the children will get to hold them and we might even give them a bath.



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### Safeguarding

We have a **Safeguarding Team** in school. If you ever have a concern about a child, please speak to: Mrs Wicks, 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.



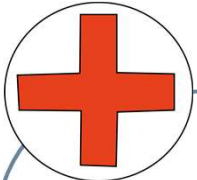
#### Attendance

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.



### **Calling First Aiders!**

Manland HSA is looking for parents who are willing to be First Aiders for HSA Events. For most events, the level of training should be equivalent to this First Aid Essentials Course <https://www.educare.co.uk/courses/first-aid-essentials>, and for events with children in reception, we should have someone with qualifications similar to the Ofsted Approved Level 3 Pediatric First Aid Course listed here: <https://www.daisyfirstaid.com/daisy-first-aid-classes/classes-for-childcare-providers/>.

Contact Ben Heineike at [heineikeo2@gmail.com](mailto:heineikeo2@gmail.com) if you:

- 1) Are already first aid qualified and would like to get on the HSA's list of possible first aiders.
- 2) Would like first aid training (either the Essentials training or the full Pediatric First Aid Course). If there is enough demand, the HSA will organize a first Aid Essentials Course to be held at the school. For the longer Pediatric First Aid Course, the HSA would be happy to fund your training (approx £99). Courses are run weekly in Hertfordshire and can be found here <https://www.daisyfirstaid.com/first-aid-mid-hertfordshire/>. The next one in Harpenden is Sunday 7 June at 9am-3pm.

If you would like to help keep HSA events safe as a First Aider let us know!





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## Upcoming Sports Fixtures

**Football Tournament** - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>  
March at Wood End 1.15pm

**Football League**  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March Home vs Sauncey Wood  
(3.30 start) **A Team**  
and  
Home vs Markyate (3.55pm start) **A Team**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March Away vs Kimpton (collect  
3pm) **A Team**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March Home vs Harpenden  
Academy (3.30pm start) **A Team**  
and  
Home vs Beech Hyde (3.55pm start) **A Team**

**Netball Rally** - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at KWS  
1.30pm

**Netball League**  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March Away vs St Dominic (collect  
3pm) **A Team**

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March Home vs Beech Hyde  
(3.340pm start) **A Team**

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March Home vs St Nicholas  
(3.30pm start) **A&B Teams**



## Netball



The A team visited Markyate school this week for another league game. They all showed great effort and teamwork to come away with a 17-0 win! During the game some of the girls switched to positions they don't normally play and all did brilliantly! Well done to all involved. A special well done to Audrey who was voted player of the match by the opposition.



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## Our New Cricket Cage



"It's brilliant we can now play on the playground in a safe way"

We wanted to say a big thank you to HSA for the generous donations towards our new cricket cage through recent HSA events. This will be invaluable to the children to practice cricket at break and lunch.



"It's so big! We can use it every lunch and break"

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## Tag Rugby



This week a group of boys and girls from year 5&6 attended the Harpenden Schools tag rugby tournament.

The played games against 4 different schools. The competition was tough, but the team battled well and displayed some really good passing and tagging, improving all the time as the tournament went on.

Unfortunately they didn't manage to do enough to qualify for the final, despite this they all had a great afternoon and should be really proud of the amazing effort and attitude they displayed throughout the tournament.

Well done to all involved.



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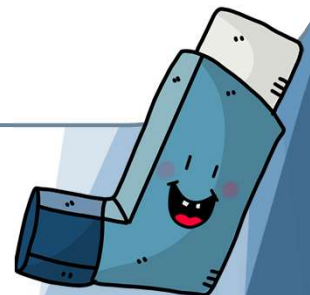
## Allergy Awareness

Many of you will have seen the news this week that new statutory requirements will be coming in to schools from September 2026 regarding allergy awareness. The proposed requirements are likely to include the need for schools to:

- Stock “spare” adrenaline auto-injectors for use in emergency situations
- Provide allergy awareness training for all staff
- A comprehensive policy for supporting children with medical conditions, including Individual Healthcare Plans (IHCPs) to record specific arrangements for individuals

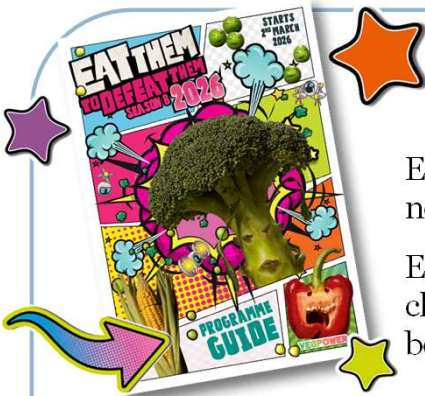
At Manland, we welcome these new statutory requirements and we want to reassure our community that Manland already has most of the requirements in place already, including:

- spare adrenaline auto-injectors and also asthma inhalers for use by children where parents have provided consent
- Annual anaphylaxis and asthma training for staff, which takes place every September. This training also includes a review of all children in school with IHCPs or who may require emergency intervention. This ensures all staff are aware of which children at Manland may require emergency intervention.
- Emergency intervention reminder posters are also in staff areas and these are updated, as and when, the allergies of our pupils change.
- A comprehensive policy which explains how we will support pupils with medical conditions at our school (see Supporting Pupils with Medical Conditions Policy on the school website). Our Food Allergy and Intolerance policy is currently under renewal and we will share the new version with parents, as soon as it is available.





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## **Eat them to defeat them!**

Eat Them to Defeat Them is back and will be launching in school next week!

Eat Them to Defeat Them is an award winning campaign to get children eating more vegetables, with the aim of turning the behaviour into lasting habits.

Look out for rewards charts which will be coming home with children. Children who eat a vegetable during lunch will receive a sticker to bring home and stick on their reward chart.

## **FESTIVAL OF DISABILITY INCLUSIVE CYCLING - SUNDAY 12TH APRIL 10:00AM TO 1:00PM - FREE BRITISH CYCLING EVENT**

We are excited to invite all schools to the Festival of Disability Inclusive Cycling, taking place from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

We would love for you to join us for a fun and welcoming day celebrating inclusive cycling for all.

Whether someone is new to cycling or an experienced rider, there will be plenty to enjoy:

What's on:

- ✔ Try a range of all-ability bikes – including standard bikes, trikes, handcycles, tandems and more, suitable for all ages and impairments
- 🎨 Face painting – creative fun for children and families
- 👥 Activities for everyone – a real celebration of inclusion, community and enjoyment

Event Details:

📅 Date: Sunday 12th April 2026

🕒 Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

📍 Location: Gosling Velodrome, Stanborough Road, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL8 6XE

✉ Contact: [iffattejani@britishcycling.org.uk](mailto:iffattejani@britishcycling.org.uk)

Sign-up links: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/festival-of-disability-inclusive-cycling-sunday-12th-april-2026-tickets-1980463423412?aff=oddttdcreator>



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Hertfordshire Community  
NHS Trust

## Children & Young Peoples (CYP) Therapy Service Termly Newsletter

*Update for Schools from the CYPT Team- Spring 2026*

### Speech & Language Therapy SaLT

The CYP Speech and Language Therapy Service has designed and developed two new language groups for Key Stage 2 children called 'Language Investigators' and 'Language Navigators'. These groups aim to provide equitable and accessible high quality targeted intervention, to enrich the language and communication skills of children across Hertfordshire primary schools. The Language Investigators group is designed to explore supportive language strategies to develop children's vocabulary learning, narrative, inferencing skills, and extend their spoken sentences. The Language Navigators group is designed to support transition to secondary by developing language strategies which can be used to support self-advocacy and self-management within secondary school specific scenarios. If you feel these groups would benefit the children, in your school, please get in touch with your local Education Lead, who can send you further information.



### Physiotherapy

Regular physical activity has many benefits; improved strength and fitness, reduced stress and anxiety, improved self-esteem, help develop social skills and can bring people together. However, less than half of school-aged children do the recommended 60 minutes of physical activity each day. In order to help families and schools support children in getting active for 60 minutes The Youth Sports Trust have designed many helpful resources from 60 second activity challenges, activity ideas to do at home, primary & secondary PE activities as well as SEND physical activities.



### Occupational Therapy

Over the coming months, schools and children will be preparing to transition to a new classroom or school. Helpful strategies include:

- Reintroduce supports such as visual timetables, now-and-next boards, social stories, and environmental cues.
- Encourage mindfulness and relaxation techniques, gradually giving children ownership.
- Use sensory strategies like movement breaks, heavy work activities, and fidgets.
- Adapt the environment by providing a quiet, low-arousal space between activities.
- Identify which part of the transition is most challenging and create a clear action plan.

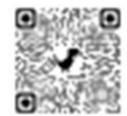


Further universal advice is available from Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust (see school strategies, including support for transition to secondary school). Therapies Advice Line: 01923 470 680 (option 3).

### Sensory Service

The Sensory Processing Service offers universal, targeted, and specialist support through workshops, consultations, assessments, and virtual school drop-ins, providing practical, evidence-informed strategies to manage sensory differences.

In Spring 2026, targeted workshops will be delivered to Hertfordshire schools, equipping staff with strategies to support pupils with sensory processing needs. [Training - sensory processing service](#)



Workshop topics include:

- Sensory Inclusive Learning Environments
- Sensory Regulation in the Learning Environment
- Sensory Circuits in Schools
- Supporting Sensory Differences in Schools
- Sensory Differences and Transitions
- Using Positive Behaviour Support to Support Sensory Differences



[www.hct.nhs.uk](http://www.hct.nhs.uk)



Innovative



Caring



Agile

For further information please contact:

Telephone:  
01923 470680-  
Option 3

Email:  
[hct\\_cyptherapies1@nhs.net](mailto:hct_cyptherapies1@nhs.net)