



Manland Primary School Newsletter

Friday 5th June 2026



Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 8th June 2026	Y1 Phonics Screening check week
Tuesday 9th June 2026	Year 3 Maths Challenge event (invitation only) Y3 & Y4 Tag Rugby School Games Event (invitation only)
Wednesday 10th June 2026	Y5 & Y6 Harpenden District Rounders Tournament (invitation only)
Thursday 11th June 2026	School Photo Day (class, individual and siblings)
Tuesday 16th June 2026	SJL PE transitional Festival (for Year 6 pre-SJL students)
Wednesday 17th June	Year 3 Verulamium Museum class trip Y5 & 6 Harpenden District Kwik Cricket Festival (invitation only)
Friday 19th June 2026	Y5 & Y6 World Games Day Event (invitation only)

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week at school.

Our Year 6 pupils are now well underway with rehearsals for their end-of-year performance. They have been working incredibly hard, and we are looking forward to seeing the finished production.

This week, Year 4 completed the Multiplication Tables Check. We are extremely proud of the children, whose times tables knowledge is excellent. They approached the check with confidence and determination and should be very proud of themselves.

On Monday, we welcomed Great Athletes to school. The children thoroughly enjoyed the event and were inspired by the athlete's visit. Thank you to Mr Winchester for organising such a fantastic day and to everyone who supported the fundraising, helping to raise valuable funds for the school.

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful weekend.

Mrs Wicks and Mr Comer, Co-Headteachers

Manland Values Award



Since the start of Year 1, Aidan has come to school every day with an enthusiastic and positive attitude to start the day! He settles immediately to his soft start activity, demonstrating how to be an inspirational role model to the rest of the class.

Aidan is aspirational in his learning behaviours by engaging and remaining focused in all learning across all subjects. He communicates clearly with his learning partners and is always ready to share his learning and fantastic knowledge with the class.

Aidan works hard in every lesson, engaging in all tasks and showcasing his growth mindset and resilience by always persevering to create his best work. Congratulations, Aidan!

Manland Values Award



Riley is extremely good natured and a helpful member of our class. He has an eye for detail and always makes sure that our learning environment is neat and presentable. Riley has a strong sense of integrity, ensuring that games are fair and fun for everyone taking part. Riley has a lovely sense of humour, but he knows when it's time to buckle down and do some work! Since the beginning of the year, Riley has worked really hard (at home and at school); he has made great strides in both his reading and handwriting. Riley has proved that hard work really does pay off! Riley is a calming influence in our class - he realises the benefits of working as a part of a team and helping his friends.

Riley is an absolute asset to any class, he should be very proud of his accomplishments!



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Manland Certificate Board

Reception Manland Award
 William R
 Inspirational homelearning making a map of the planets with fantastic writing and pictures.
 Signed Ms Shorthouse and the Reception Team.
 Date Friday 22nd May 2026.



Year 1 Manland Award
 Audrey W
 For scientific thinking and showing the difference between deciduous and evergreen trees.
 Signed Ms Fidler
 Date 22nd May 2026



Year 2 Manland Award
 Ella R.
 Demonstrating perseverance when learning to tell the time to 5 minutes.
 Signed Miss Norman
 Date 22nd May 2026




Year 3 Manland Award
 Bonnie S
 For having a positive approach to her learning and for being a great friend.
 Signed Mr Brittin
 Date 22nd May 2026



Year 4 Manland Award
 Daniel Wollaston
 following instructions well and completing his work to a high standard, especially maths.
 Signed D. Johnston
 Date 22-5-26



Year 5 Manland Award
 Molly M
 For writing an excellent fantasy story in the style of J.R.R. Tolkien.
 Signed [Signature]
 Date 22nd May 2026



Manland Certificate Board

Reception Manland Award
 Riley S
 Inspirational effort linked to our topic - drawing and annotating a map of our outside world area.
 Signed Mrs Keep and The Reception Team
 Date Friday 5th June 2026



Year 1 Manland Award
 Aivia B-P
 For demonstrating aspirational learning behaviour and working hard on the quality of her handwriting skills.
 Signed Ms Fidler
 Date 5th June 2026



Year 2 Manland Award
 Cerys J.
 For a caring and thoughtful approach towards others.
 Signed Miss Norman
 Date 5th June 2026



Year 3 Manland Award
 Oli M
 For creatively using poetic devices to create a free verse poem with strong imagery.
 Signed Mr Brittin
 Date 5th June 2026



Year 4 Manland Award
 Tom M
 for using his reasoning skills to help others understand and learn.
 Signed Miss Peacock
 Date 5th June 2026



Year 5 Manland Award
 Fionn KM
 For showing commitment and enthusiasm to make improvements in his Maths.
 Signed Mrs Barker
 Date 5th June 2026.



Year 6 Manland Award
 Charlotte C
 For displaying a creative and hardworking attitude throughout rehearsals on stage.
 Signed Mr Winduster
 Date 5th June 2026





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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



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Attendance



Our whole school attendance for the last two weeks is **96%**

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.

Hertfordshire Residents Survey on HCC Services

Have your say on living in Hertfordshire. The county council is asking residents to share your thoughts on your local area, council services and how you like to be kept informed. This information will be used to improve services and help deliver a sustainable, inclusive and thriving Hertfordshire.

Visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/residentsurvey to have your say. If you have any questions about the survey, get in touch with the county council at corporate.policyteam@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Reception 2026

Do you have a child starting Manland in September 2026? If so, the DfE have launched 'Steps for School', a campaign aimed at parents whose children are yet to start reception. A variety of social media assets, including MC Grammar's '[Steps for School](#)' rap video, are available on the [campaign toolkit](#). We encourage you to look through the materials and share them with your child in the run up to them starting school.





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Spotlight on Personal Development - Year 6

Year 6 recently enjoyed a fantastic week at JCA Condover Hall, filled with fun, adventure, and unforgettable experiences. Throughout the week, the children showed incredible resilience and determination, overcoming fears, coping brilliantly with being away from home, and pushing themselves well beyond their comfort zones. They took part in a wide range of exciting activities, including abseiling, buggie building, raft making, zip wire, a campfire evening, disco, and many more. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as they supported one another and embraced every challenge with enthusiasm. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of them for having such an amazing week and for creating memories that will last a lifetime.



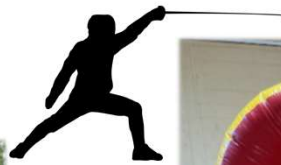
TEAM

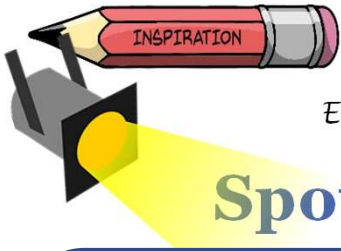




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Spotlight on Personal Development - Year 6





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Spotlight on Festival of Fitness

We were delighted to welcome former international sprinter and national champion Fred Afrifa from Great Athletes to school for an afternoon of fun, fitness, and inspiration. All of the children took part in an energetic and fast-paced fitness session, giving their very best effort while being enthusiastically cheered on by their peers and other year groups. Following the activities, Fred delivered an inspiring assembly, sharing his experiences and encouraging everyone to remember the important message to always 'keep moving forwards'. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our parents and children for their incredible fundraising efforts. Thanks to your generosity and support, we have raised over £3,000 for the school – an amazing achievement that will make a real difference to our children's sporting experiences and opportunities.





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Thank You for Your Incredible Support!

A huge thank you to all the children, parents, families and friends of Manland Primary School for the amazing support shown for my Big Ben to Eiffel Tower cycle ride fundraiser.

I'm delighted to share that, thanks to your generosity, we have raised almost **£2,000 (including Gift Aid)** so far! This is a fantastic achievement and will make a real difference to the children at Manland.

We hope this money will help fund a **new, bigger and better bike and scooter shelter**, giving pupils a safe and secure place to store their bikes and scooters while at school.

The fundraising page will remain open until **Sports Day**, so if anyone would still like to contribute, donations are very welcome. Every pound helps us get closer to making this project a reality.

Thank you once again for your support, encouragement and donations. It has been wonderful to see the school community come together behind this challenge.

Best wishes,

Matt - Dad to Ernest (Year 5) and Otto (Year 3)

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/mateusz-fogel-big-ben-to-the-eiffel-towergege>



Thank You to Friends of Manland

Over 2024 and 2025, FOM and all our families were able to purchase new LED lights for all the classrooms - not only has this had a huge impact on the learning environment for pupils, but it has also significantly reduced our energy costs, meaning we have gone from an energy rating of D to C. This is the most efficient rating we have ever had - so a huge thank you!



We want to say thank you to Mr Nicholl, who, over the half term, worked to preserve our much loved Planet mosaic at our entrance way!

The mosaic was starting to show signs of deterioration, and the heatwave compounded the issue, with large parts of the mosaic coming away from the wall.

Mr Nicholl took on the herculean task of removing every single shard from the mosaic and somehow managed to have it all back in place for Monday morning! We are not sure how Mr Nicholl managed this task in such a short amount of time, but we are incredibly grateful.





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Free School Meals

From September 2026, the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) will be changing. From the start of the new school year, all parents/carers who are in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of the amount received.

Applying takes around 5 minutes, and you will need your National Insurance number.

Applications can be made using the following link:

[Free school meals and other benefits | Hertfordshire County Council.](#)

There is no requirement for pupils who are already receiving Free School Meals to re-apply.

Applications for the new school year can be made from 1st June 2026.

We encourage you to apply even if you have previously been told you were not eligible.

Not only will your child receive a hot, nutritious meal at lunchtime, but the school will also receive additional funding to support pupils.

If you require any further information or support with your application, please contact us at admin@manland.herts.sch.uk.

Violin lessons



This week, the children enjoyed an interactive violin assembly with local violin teacher Katy Wilmshurst, featuring music from films, television, and classical favourites. Pupils discovered the versatility of the violin through a variety of styles and genres and had the chance to experience the instrument up close. Many stayed afterwards to try one of the student violins that Katy brought along. There is an opportunity for children in Year 2 and above to start violin lessons at Manland with Katy from September. Katy lives locally and has over 30 years' experience teaching violin in Hertfordshire and London, working with pupils from young beginners to advanced diploma level students. She also regularly performs with professional orchestras and ensembles.

If you would like more information about Katy Wilmshurst and the violin lessons available for your child, please email katy@wilmshurst.com.

Pupil News

Oli and Oscar from Year 3 took part in the West Herts Youth Cup Finals. They both play for U8s Colts "Sharks" which is brilliantly coached by Chris Wood. After a nail biting penalty shoot out the Sharks were victorious and took away the U8s cup. There are around 80 teams in the West Herts U8 division so this was a fantastic achievement for the boys

Pupil News



Daniel and Jack's Rovers Football team (COBRAS) won the HYL Cup Final on Saturday 9th May. It was a hard fought game against Panshanger, played at the Hertfordshire County Ground.

Pupil News



Enzo in Year 5 has passed his drums grade 1. Congratulations!



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Safeguarding

Help your child stay safe online

With so many apps, games, and websites out there, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. But the good news is you're not alone.

Online safety: how to get started

Trying to keep your child safe online can feel like a big challenge, but you're not alone. Many parents want their child to play, learn and explore the digital world safely, but aren't sure where to start.

1. Talk to your child about being safe online

It's normal for your child to be curious and want more freedom to use a device. Your child may also try to look at things online they know they shouldn't or see harmful content by accident while they explore.

For these reasons it's important to start having conversations about being safe online.

Having conversations with your child can help build trust and make them feel safe to come to you if they are worried or if something happens that makes them feel unsafe.

2. Set up parental controls

It's important to think about when you want your child to be able to use a device and how they will use it, before you give them access to use it on their own.

You can agree a 'digital plan' for screentime with your child, for example, not using a device at mealtimes or when it's time for bed.

Parental controls can stop your child from seeing content that could put them at risk of harm and limit the time they spend online.

This might look like:

- putting restrictive controls on the device your child has access to
- only allowing your child to use a device with an adult

As your child gets older or has new devices, it's important to check that the parental controls you use still work and are appropriate.

3. Find out where to get support

You might need help or extra information to guide your child when they use digital devices or go online.

Some of the different ways you can get support include:

- using a helpline to get expert advice
- knowing what your child is being taught about online safety in school
- attending a talk or online course

4. Know where to report something

Sometimes things happen online that upset your child or put them in danger.

It's important to remember that it's not your fault if things go wrong. But it's important to act.

Did you know?

Recent Ofcom research shows that 54% of children aged 8 or older know someone that has experienced something upsetting online.

Did you know?

The Royal College of Psychiatrists recommends no screens in the bedroom of teenagers at night. Getting enough good quality sleep is important for their health.



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Carefest – Herts libraries

Hertfordshire Libraries are hosting their annual CareFest this June, offering a series of friendly, drop-in events designed to help people feel more supported, confident and comfortable in everyday life. At each session, visitors can speak with a qualified occupational therapist who will provide personalised advice and, where appropriate, offer free practical aids to support daily living. Items may include jar openers, sock aids, car support handles and long-handled brushes. No booking is required. These are all-age events, with a particular welcome extended to older members of the community and carers.

Event dates and locations. All sessions run from 10am to 12pm:

- Stevenage Central Library – Monday 1st June 2026
- North Watford Library – Tuesday 2nd June 2026
- Borehamwood Library – Wednesday 3rd June 2026
- Baldock Library – Monday 8th June 2026
- Cheshunt Library – Tuesday 9th June 2026
- Abbots Langley Library – Thursday 11th June 2026
- Ware Library – Monday 15th June 2026



Additional wellbeing support available CareFest focuses on whole-person wellbeing. Attendees can also access:

- blood pressure checks and practical health advice
- life-saving cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training
- mental health support from NHS Talking Therapies
- advice on staying active and maintaining mobility
- free breakfast treats from Hertfordshire Independent Living Service (HILS), with opportunities to discuss local support services

Hertfordshire Libraries remain committed to helping residents maintain independence, confidence and wellbeing, whether for themselves or someone they care for. Find out more about CareFest 2026: <https://tinyurl.com/yx4mjx4u>

Come along, connect with others, and discover simple ways to make everyday life easier.

Climate action and sustainability



18th June is national Clean Air Day and Herts County Council have shared with us an activity sheet which you can use to take part in Healthier Air Month across the whole of June.

The activity sheet can be found as an attachment to this newsletter.

The activities help children explore the visible impacts of air quality and start thinking about the practical steps they can take to make a difference

Clean Air Day is an important initiative to support the environment and also members of our community who suffer with asthma.



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Let's get ready to

BAKE



You are invited to join Baking Buddies for our new Saturday morning SEND-friendly family baking experience.



These sessions are especially designed to create a safe and supportive space for parents and their child/ren to spend quality time together and bake recipes from all around the world.



Our first session is on Saturday 27th June from 9.30-12.30pm followed by a fundraising session for SpaceUK on Sunday 12th July.



Contact Sabrina at hello@bakingbuddiesfun.co.uk for more information or to book one of our sessions.