Manland

INSPIRATION ASPIRATION RESPONSIBILITY

Manland Primary School Newsletter

Empowering children to lead fulfilling lives

Headteacher Update

16th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past couple of weeks, Mr Comer and I have really enjoyed spending time in classrooms, monitoring teaching and learning across the school. We have been incredibly impressed by the children's positive attitudes, enthusiasm for learning and the way they work so well together. It has been wonderful to see them so engaged in their lessons, supporting one another and taking pride in their work. There is so much excellent learning taking place across the school, and we are very proud of both our children and staff.

In our assemblies, we have continued to celebrate our Year of Kindness, recognising the many thoughtful and considerate acts we see around school every day. It has been particularly lovely to hear examples of children going out of their way to help others and make a positive difference to our school community.

This week, we have also announced our new Pupil Ambassadors! Congratulations to all those appointed, and thank you to everyone who put themselves forward. We are really looking forward to seeing our ambassadors take on greater leadership responsibilities, contribute their ideas and help shape different aspects of school life. Providing children with meaningful opportunities to lead, contribute and take responsibility is something we value enormously at Manland.

Finally, we are looking forward to welcoming many of you to our Harvest celebrations next week. It is always a lovely opportunity to come together as a school community, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Wicks, Headteacher

Diary Dates

Monday 19th October	Year 1 Science Workshop
Tuesday 20th October	Parents Evening 3.30pm-7.30pm
Thursday 22nd October	Harvest Festival Celebration Assembly at 9.15am (1.5 hrs)
Thursday 22nd October	Parents Evening 3.30pm-5.30pm
Friday 23rd October	House Learning Day
26th October – 30th October	**Half-Term**

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Manland Values Trophy



Clemmie brings joy into every corner of our classroom, she is someone who has a very special superpower: the power to make people smile. She is kind, she is thoughtful, and she always finds a way to add a little spark of fun to every interaction. Her gentle humour and warm nature make our class a happier place to be.

What has impressed me most so far is her incredible growth in confidence. In maths, Clemmie now believes in herself, tries things independently, and bravely gives tricky challenges a go before asking for help. That confidence is shining brighter every week.

Clemmie, you have made a fantastic start to Year 3. I am so proud of you, and I cannot wait to see how you continue to grow throughout the year.



Arlo comes into the classroom each day with the biggest smile and brings such a special sense of joy to everyone around him. His kind interactions with other children, his lovely nature and his willingness to give things a go make him such a valued member of our class. What makes Arlo so special is his wonderful can-do attitude. He approaches his learning with such determination and continues to show us the importance of perseverance, even when things feel tricky.

Arlo should be so incredibly proud of himself and everything he has achieved this half term. Keep smiling, keep trying and keep being your wonderful self! You are an absolute superstar, and we are all so proud of you!

You are an inspiration!

Congratulations!

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VALUES CERTIFICATE WINNERS

Reception
Julia
For working with determination on a phonics sound hunt.

Year 1
Kai
For responsibility and dedication in English.

Year 2
Max
For an inspirational approach in Science.

Year 3
Dhilan
For an inspiring, confident contribution during our playscript work.

Year 4
Verity
For an inspirational myth.

Year 5
Nico
For an amazing suspense story.

Year 6
Orla
For showing an inquisitive approach to Maths.

Reception
Luke
For challenging himself when creating patterns outside.

Year 1
Evan
For taking responsibility for his learning.

Year 2
Maddy
For including unique details in writing.

Year 3
Riley
For showing great effort in his writing.

Year 4
Lorelai
For an inspirational piece of artwork.

Year 5
Daniel
For choosing ambitious vocabulary in writing.

Year 6
Emily
For a caring approach to Buddying.

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Safeguarding

Keeping our children safe

Listen Support Act

Gaming & Who Children Talk To Online

Online gaming can be great fun and an important social activity for children. Many games, however, include chat functions that allow players to communicate with people they have never met in real life. For younger children in particular, it can be difficult to understand that an online profile does not necessarily tell us who somebody really is. Useful family conversations can explore **who children play with, how they know them, what information is okay to share and what they might do if another player says something that makes them uncomfortable**. Taking an interest in the games children enjoy can make these conversations feel much more natural.

Talk with your child about responsible use of their games console

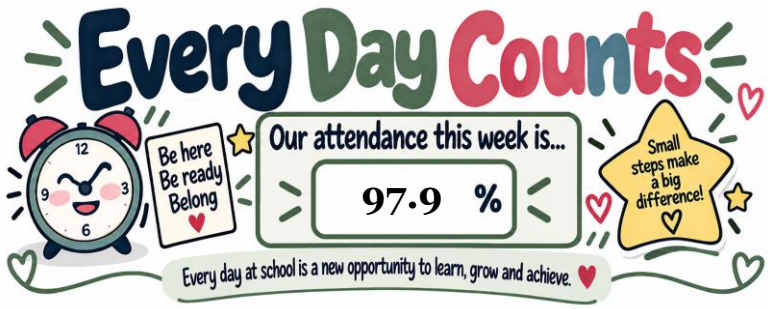
Discuss what is okay and not okay to use it for and look at the possible risks. Tell your child what they should do if something goes wrong while using it. This could be to turn off the screen and tell an adult.

Think about the location of the games console

Will it be in a shared family space or in a bedroom? Think about: setting time limits; reminding your child about the risks of communicating online with people that they do not know; and encouraging them to come to you with any worries.

Explore parental controls

Take a look at the controls available both on the games console 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.





Regular attendance and punctuality are essential to helping children thrive at school. **Every day and every minute of learning matters** – arriving on time helps children settle calmly, feel part of their class and be ready to learn from the very start of the day. Even small amounts of absence or lateness can add up over time and mean important learning is missed. Thank you to all our families for supporting good attendance and helping children to **be here, be ready and belong.**



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MEET OUR NEW AMBASSADORS

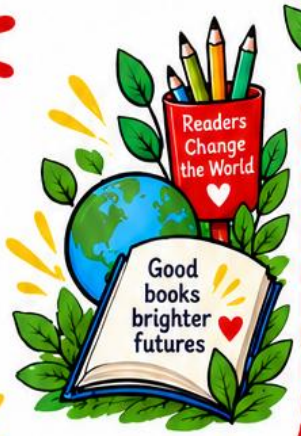
READING AMBASSADORS



We are proud to announce our Reading Ambassadors!

- Charlie C (Yr 4)
- Lewis (Yr 6)
- Saeed (Yr 4)
- Savannah (Yr 5)
- Emma (Yr 5)
- Lia (Yr 5)

Congratulations to our new Reading Ambassadors!



♡ Share • Inspire • Read ♡

SUSTAINABILITY AMBASSADORS



We are proud to announce our Sustainability Ambassadors!

- Coco-Violet (Yr 3)
- Ella (Yr 3)
- Rafferty (Yr 4)
- Olivia (Yr 4)
- Alice (Yr 3)
- Nina (Yr 4)
- Dhilan (Yr 3)
- Isla (Yr 3)
- Lottie (Yr 3)
- Francesca (Yr 3)

Congratulations to our new Sustainability Ambassadors!



Care • Lead • Make a Difference

SPORTS AMBASSADORS



We are proud to announce our Sports Ambassadors!

- Sophia (Yr 5)
- Imogen (Yr 5)
- Tom (Yr 5)
- Ori (Yr 5)
- Daniel (Yr 5)
- Cali (Yr 6)
- Ernest (Yr 6)
- Noah (Yr 6)
- Eric B (Yr 6)
- Fionn (Yr 6)

Congratulations to our new Sports Ambassadors!



♡ LEAD • INSPIRE • ENCOURAGE ♡

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Bikeability

Last week, Year 5 took part in their Bikeability training, developing essential cycling skills and learning how to stay safe on the roads. The children began by having their cycling skills assessed in a traffic-free environment on the playground before progressing onto local roads. Throughout the week, they learnt how to maintain their bicycles, improve their balance and control, and carry out a range of important cycling manoeuvres.

During their on-road sessions, the children practised starting and stopping safely, making U-turns, passing side roads and parked vehicles, and turning left at junctions. They also developed their awareness of other road users and potential hazards, while learning to recognise and respond to road signs, signals and markings.

Well done, Year 5, for demonstrating such fantastic responsibility, confidence and awareness on the roads!



Hertfordshire Cycling



"We have learnt new skills like signalling and being independent on our bikes. I can now cycle a lot further safely."





"I can ride on the roads with confidence. The instructors were clear with their instructions and demonstrations."

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We are delighted to invite parents and carers into school for our upcoming **Parents' Evenings**:

- **Tuesday 20th October 2026:** 3.30pm–7.30pm, or
- **Thursday 22nd October 2026:** 3.30pm–5.30pm

Parents' Evening is a valuable opportunity to visit your child's classroom, look through their books and speak with their class teacher about their **learning, progress and achievements**.

Booking Your Appointment
We use an online booking system for Parents' Evening appointments, allowing you to choose a convenient appointment time with your child's class teacher. Once you have made your booking, you will receive an email confirmation. You can also log back into the system should you need to change your appointment.
Bookings open: Friday 2nd October at 6.00pm
Bookings close: Sunday 18th October at 8.00am

To access the booking system, go to: https://manland.schoolcloud.co.uk/

Children on the SEND Register
Parents and carers of children on the **SEND register** will be invited to attend a separate meeting with their child's class teacher. However, you are very welcome to book a Parents' Evening appointment instead if you would prefer. If you choose to do so, please book your appointment through the Parents' Evening online booking system.

We look forward to welcoming you into school and sharing your child's progress with you.

Friendship Boxes for Children in Ukraine

Once again Manland is supporting Rotary in Harpenden for their annual Friendship Box appeal for 2026, 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 (English is now being taught in Ukrainian schools)
· Small toys
· Anything else you think will take their minds off the war that continues to rage around them
· A "good wishes card" if your children would like to do so but we suggest with no home contact details
PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE
Food, liquids, powders, batteries, religious artefacts or items with sharp edges.
Please drop all donations into the school office before the October half-term break. Your help is much appreciated.
Collection of boxes will be made at the **before the October half-term break.**

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Creative Writing Enrichment Morning at St George's School

Some of our Year 6 pupils enjoyed a creative writing workshop morning at St George's School, focusing on building confidence and developing a love of creative writing.

Through a range of fun and imaginative activities, the children were encouraged to explore their creativity and share their ideas. The morning provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to develop their writing skills, try new ideas and grow in confidence.

A big thank you to St George's School for providing such an inspiring and enjoyable experience.





Manland Girls Continue Their Winning Streak!

Manland produced another fantastic performance, securing an impressive **5–0 victory over Sauncey Wood!**

After losing our opening match of the season, the girls have responded brilliantly, winning **four consecutive matches**. Their teamwork, determination and confidence continue to grow with every game.

There is plenty more to look forward to after half term, with a fixture against St Dominics and the exciting Girls' Football Tournament at The Grove on the horizon.

Well done to all the girls for their fantastic effort and performances so far. Keep up the brilliant work!

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Spotlight On Attendance and Punctuality

We have noticed an increase in pupils arriving late to school this academic year. We want to ask all parents and carers for your support in ensuring all pupils arrive at school on time each day.

Good attendance and punctuality are essential to children's education and wellbeing. Even relatively short periods of lateness can have an impact.

Pupils who arrive late disrupt lessons. In addition, if a child misses the start of the day, they can feel unsettled and embarrassed and miss vital work and important messages from their class teacher.

Late arrivals can also disrupt the learning of the rest of the class, as staff may need to pause teaching to help the child settle and catch up with what they have missed.

We appreciate that there can occasionally be unavoidable circumstances which result in a late arrival. However, we expect all pupils to arrive at school on time each day and ask that you **please ensure your child is in class and ready to learn by 8.50am**.

Our registration times are as follows:

Attendance and Punctuality Key Times

Time	Timetable	Attendance Mark Received
8.40am	Gates open	–
8.50am	Registration starts	Pupils arriving to class after this time receive a **Late Mark** on their school record.
9.20am	Registration closes	Pupils arriving to class after this time receive an **unauthorised absence mark** for the morning session.
3.20pm	End of the school day	–

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for your continued support.

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Spotlight On Financial Support

Hertfordshire County Council has launched a new **Crisis and Resilience Fund**, replacing the previous Household Support Fund. The new fund has a greater focus on **early help and prevention**, with the aim of supporting people before financial difficulties develop into a crisis.

Who can get support?
The Crisis and Resilience Fund is intended to support people who are:
•struggling to afford everyday essentials such as **food, energy and water**
•experiencing a sudden financial shock, such as **job loss, illness or unexpected costs**
•at risk of longer-term financial hardship.
Residents are encouraged to ask for help **as soon as they begin to struggle**, rather than waiting until their financial situation becomes severe.

Your local **Citizens Advice** can provide financial advice and support and, where appropriate, refer you to other services. Find your local Citizens Advice

What help is available?
The Crisis and Resilience Fund provides access to a range of support, including:
•Financial support
•Food support
•Energy support
•Grants for community groups and organisations
•Children, Young People and Families Crisis Support Fund
•Emotional wellbeing and health support
•Housing payments

Application-based crisis payments are available through the **Welfare Assistance Scheme** via local Citizens Advice services. Eligibility is based on a financial assessment and engagement with Citizens Advice.

Need help now?
If you are struggling, **HertsHelp** can help you find the right local support. You can contact HertsHelp whether or not you receive benefits.
Call: 0300 123 4044
Email: info@hertshelp.net
Online: Visit the HertsHelp website

hertshelp
call - email - text -online

Hertfordshire County Council's **Cost of Living Support** pages:
Find Cost of Living Support in Hertfordshire
For full details of the Crisis and Resilience Fund, visit:
Read about the Crisis and Resilience Fund on Hertfordshire County Council's website

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Spotlight On Be Bright, Be Seen

As the nights get longer, help your child stay safe on the roads this winter.

🔍 The Core Rule: Day vs. Night Visibility

Many winter jackets are dark and make children invisible to oncoming drivers. Ensure your child wears something bright and/or reflective depending on the time of day:

- 🌞 Daytime & Dusk: Wear Fluorescent colours (e.g., bright yellow, pink, or green).
- 🌙 Night time & Darkness: Wear Reflective materials (e.g., silver strips, reflective tape, or badges).

🎒 3 Simple Ways to Upgrade Your Child's Gear

You do not need to buy a completely new winter coat to keep your child safe. Use these quick fixes:

- High-Vis Bag Tags: Clip fluorescent tags or reflective stickers onto school rucksacks.
- Snap Bands: Slide high-visibility snap bands over dark coat sleeves or trouser cuffs.
- Bright Footwear: Choose shoes with reflective strips or add neon laces to sports kit bags.

🚲 If Your Child Bikes or Scooters

- Check the Law: By law, bikes must have working white front lights and red rear lights after dark.
- Keep it Clean: Regularly wipe road grit and mud off your child's bicycle reflectors.
- Helmet Upgrades: Add strips of weather-resistant reflective tape to scooter frames and helmets.

🛑 The 2 Biggest Winter Walking Hazards

1. The Distraction Trap: Remind your child to put smartphones away and remove headphones before crossing any road. They need both their eyes and ears to judge traffic speed.
2. Parked Cars: Wet winter roads increase braking distances for cars. Teach your child never to step out from behind parked cars, vans, or buses where drivers cannot see them.



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SEND

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

DSPL7 Delivering Special Provision Locally

and

Vista Support Services

2026/7 SEND Coffee Morning

DSPL7 & Vista host **DROP IN** coffee mornings where School and SEND Family Workers are available to support parents / carers of children with SEND regardless of a diagnosis. This is an informal and safe place for parents / carers to share information and chat. The DSPL7 SEND Lead and other professionals are also available for discussions.

There is no need to book to attend this coffee morning

Venue:

The Hub, Fleetville Junior School, 228 Hatfield Road, St Albans, AL1 4LW. The Hub is to the right hand side of the school building at the bottom of the car park.

****There is no parking available onsite, but 3 hours free parking is available nearby in Morrisons supermarket****

Running alongside our drop in coffee mornings, there is also the opportunity to reserve a 25 minute appointment to speak to professionals between 9:00am - 12:00pm.

Appointments

There is also an opportunity to book a slot with a professional.

To book an appointment:
Please email admin@dspl7.org.uk

Tuesday 24th November	**Early Years Advisory Team** and **PALMS**
Tuesday 26hJanuary	Harri Nicholas- **NESSIE**: anxiety, Mental health and EBSNA
Tuesday 16th March	Thelma Mugovera - **Ask Sali** (ECHP Advice)
Wednesday 12th May	Sarah Garvey - **Mental Health Support Team**
Tuesday 29th June	Jess Pickles **- First Steps Eating Disorders, Arfid,**

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A bright future starts here

MANLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

empowering children to lead fulfilling lives

ASPIRATION INSPIRATION RESPONSIBILITY

OPEN MORNING

COME AND SEE OUR AMAZING SCHOOL

If your child is due to start school in September 2027,
we would be delighted to welcome you and your child to one of our open mornings.

Thursday **5th November 2026** at 10.00am	Friday **20th November 2026** at 10.00am	Thursday **3rd December 2026** at 10.00am

Meet our Headteacher, key staff and Year 6 Ambassadors,
take a tour of our school, see our classrooms and learning environment, and find out more about what makes Manland such a special place.

- Exceptional learning opportunities
- Dedicated and caring staff
- A nurturing and inclusive environment
- High aspirations for every child
- **Phonics Check Score 97% (2026)** *Well above the national average*

Sign up for our Open Mornings here:

Prospective Parent Open Mornings

Or scan the QR code to book your place

We look forward to welcoming you!

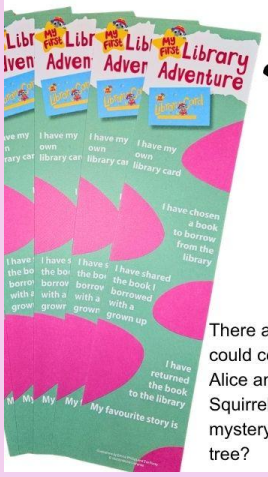
MANLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Manland Primary School
01582 123456
admin@manland.herts.sch.uk
www.manland.herts.sch.uk

My First Library Adventure

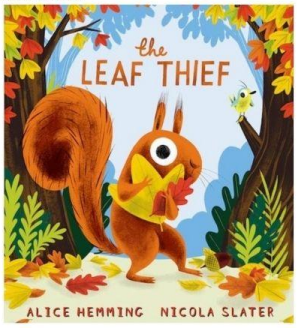
for Reception children

Have you started yours yet? Take your bookmark to your local library and complete the challenges to enter the prize draw. 50 lucky winners will win a personalised book signed by Alice Hemming and Nicola Slater, with 2 overall winners winning a special read and draw along session for their whole class.









There are hundreds of books waiting to be discovered. You could celebrate autumn by borrowing 'The Leaf Thief' by Alice and Nicola, the first picture book in their wonderful Squirrel and Bird series. Can Squirrel and Bird solve the mystery of who is stealing the beautiful leaves from their tree?

Hertfordshire

Taking part is easy! Your child needs to visit their local Hertfordshire library twice **before 19 December 2026**. They should bring their special My First Library Adventure bookmark, which they received at school. For each step of the Adventure they will collect a sticker on their bookmark.

How the My First Library Adventure works:

First visit to the library for stickers 1 & 2 -
Be, or become, a library member:
• If your child already has a library card in their name – they show it to a member of staff or library volunteer
• If they are not a member yet, your child can join the library. Please bring proof of your name & address

Take home books to read:
• choose and borrow one or more books
• ask a member of library staff or library volunteer for the first two stickers on the bookmark

At home: enjoy sharing the book(s) together



Second visit to the library for sticker 3 & 4 -
• return the book(s) to the library
• your child tells us about their favourite book
• enter the prize draw

Why join the library?
Children love to choose their own books, and it's free to join and borrow books from the library – just remember to bring them back on time or renew them if you want them for longer. Using the library regularly can help save money as you are borrowing and not buying, which is environmentally friendly too. Find out more at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/myfirst

You can find the addresses and opening times of all Hertfordshire Libraries at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

In your local library you will find hundreds of books to choose from so there is always something new to discover! • picture books – to enjoy together • beginning to read titles - to build your child's confidence as they learn to read • information books – to spark their interest in learning about the world • eBooks and eAudiobooks (including picture books) online and via the BorrowBox app – www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/ebooks

When you visit the library, please ask for a 'My First Day at School' certificate too. We look forward to presenting your child with theirs to celebrate this special milestone. We look forward to seeing you at your local library soon.



Baking BUDDIES

OCTOBER 2026

KIDS Half Term BAKING CAMP

Sessions available for all ages ranging from 6-11+.

We create 2-3 bakes each day - a savoury dish and sweet biscuits, cakes or desserts.

Sessions available from Monday 26th - Wednesday 28th October at High Beeches Primary School & Sauncey Wood Primary School

Cost: Half days £38.85 and Full days £48.80

For more details and registration visit:
https://baking-buddies.class4kids.co.uk
or email bakingbuddiesfun@gmail.com

SCAN ME

The Mayor of Harpenden's CHRISTMAS CARD DESIGN COMPETITION

Are you a budding Harpenden artist aged 4-11? Would you like to design the Town Mayor's official Christmas Card and turn on Harpenden's Christmas Lights with the Mayor?

Then get creative and send in your design on A4 paper (with your name, age and school on the back) and deliver or post to: The Mayor's Secretary, Harpenden Town Council, Town Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, AL5 2LX by Friday 6 November.
Good Luck!



HARPENDEN TOWN COUNCIL
CLOSER TO THE COMMUNITY

JMF
JAMES MARSHALL FOUNDATION CIO
EST. 1722
SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

THE HARPENDEN ARMS



Kids Quiz

calling all the young quiz champions!

28th of October 12pm start



fun, games and prizes!!



ages 7-13

£1 per entry

harpendenarms.co.uk