



As we come to the end of the school year I would like to thank our children and parents/carers for a super school year. We have had a busy and fun-packed time and there are still lots of things to do before the summer break.

We are busy preparing your children for the next stage in their school lives. We say a fond farewell to all our fabulous Year 2 children. I'm sure they will be very happy in Year 3.

We also say cheerio to much loved members of staff and wish them happiness and success in the new and exciting times that lay ahead of them.

We say hello to our new Reception children and welcome them and their parents to Alwyn!

The Year 1 teachers are really looking forward to teaching our current Reception children and the Year 2 teachers can hardly wait to start teaching our current Year 1 children.

OPEN EVENING

Our school open evening is on **Wednesday 9th July** from 6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. This is an ideal opportunity for you to look around the school with your children and also allows most of you to meet their new teacher. This is followed by Courthouse's open evening which starts at 7.00 pm.

SPORTS WEEK

The children have thoroughly enjoyed Sports Week and have participated in a variety of activities; multi-skills, dance, swimming, hockey, Zumba and kick boxing. I am sure they have told you all about it. We would like to thank all the sports coaches who have visited and given the children free taster sessions so they can decide what they might like to do in the future. Well done to everyone who participated in Sports Day. Once again the children behaved impeccably and worked superbly within their teams. Many thanks for all the adult support.



Mrs Evans

AROUND THE WORLD WEEK

At the end of April all the children collected their Alwyn passports in order to travel around the world and experience different aspects of the cultures of the countries visited. In reception we travelled from the Egyptian pyramids with their mummies right down the continent of Africa to safari in South Africa. We stopped for baguettes in France and then flew over to the USA to meet the Native Americans and have a go at making tepees and dream catchers. We passed Year 1 in Africa on their way to Kenya and just missed them going to Canada. They also experienced the sounds and tastes of Japan and in every country they filled in their passports as a record of their travels. Year 2 stayed a little closer to home with a visit to Wales. Passports were still required to record that they had been to Italy and Greece providing some more European culture before the long haul to Australia. A busy and exciting week which has been mentioned as one of their favourite Alwyn experience by some children! An enjoyable and informative week for all.



Mrs Jenkins

CLASSES NEXT YEAR

Our **Reception** teachers are:

Mrs Harris (R WH) Team Leader

Mrs Jenkins (R SJ)

Mrs Palmer (R SP)

Mrs Lewis (R NL)

YEAR 1:

Mrs Evans (1ME) Team Leader

Mrs Badger-Sakal (1JB)

Mrs Shaw & Mrs Barnes (1AS) Mrs Shaw will take the class every day except Fridays when Mrs Barnes will teach the class.

Miss Stallibrass (1NS) new teacher

YEAR 2

Miss Grierson and Mrs Wallin are the Year 2 Team Leaders

Miss Grierson and Mrs Rowntree (2GR) Miss Grierson is our Deputy Headteacher. She will teach the class on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs Rowntree will teach on Thursday and Friday.

Mrs Wallin and Mrs Day (2DW) Mrs Wallin teaches on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Mrs Day teaches on Monday and Friday.

Mrs Sugrue (2GS)

Mrs Alston (2VA) new teacher

Staff news

Miss Billinghurst is moving to New Zealand and has secured a teaching position in the town of Whangarei, near Auckland. We tried to keep her but she thought the commute would take too long! Although Miss Billinghurst has only been with us for a year it has been a fabulous year and we will all miss her. She has worked extremely hard and the children in her class have all benefitted from her nurturing teaching style and her sunny disposition. We all wish her the very best of luck in the future.



Sadly we are also having to say goodbye to **Miss Fantham** who is moving to Oswestry in Shropshire. She has secured a job in a large local primary school. Again she felt the commute was too long and our loss is Oswestry's gain! Miss Fantham has been with us for many years and has had a significant and extremely positive impact upon the children in her classes, the staff and indeed the whole school. Her huge smile, exceptional teaching skills and fabulous sense of humour will be sorely missed.

We are also sorry to be saying farewell to **Mrs Tarleton** who has also been with us for many years, since the start of her teaching career. She is an outstanding teacher and her hard working attitude and expertise will be missed as will her dedication to the well-being and learning of all the pupils in our school. We give Mrs Tarleton our very best wishes for the future.

Miss Anna Harris, a truly excellent teaching assistant, is also leaving us at the end of the school year to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher. She starts teacher training at Oxford Brookes University in September and takes all our good wishes with her. We will miss her ready smile and her fantastic attitude. Miss Harris will make an wonderful teacher and, who knows, perhaps she'll return to us in a few years time? I hope so!

We are very pleased to be welcoming two new teachers to our team here at Alwyn. Miss Stallibrass will be teaching a Year 1 class and Mrs Alston is joining Year 2.

I am sure you will all join me in welcoming them to Alwyn.

Hardworking PTA

We've had a successful fund raising year this year with our joint PTA with Courthouse and have raised more than £15,000, and still counting! As parents and teachers we are all automatically on the PTA, however if you'd like to join our PTA committee and have a say in how the funds are raised and spent then please join us! The more parents we have on the committee, the more we can raise. We are all mums and dads volunteering our time to help – some of us work and some of us don't but we all enjoy helping our schools. Every little bit helps – photocopying our newsletters in the school office; updating our website or designing our posters and newsletters, or organising and planning our activities, but especially helping out on the day. If you'd like to get more involved and join our fun and friendly PTA committee, please come along to our PTA AGM on Thursday 18 September at 7pm here at Alwyn. As always we will be running a quiz night after the AGM – so do come along and support us. There will be more about this at the beginning of the new school year to remind you.



Reception have green fingers it's official !

Reception have been busy over the last few weeks planting, weeding and watering their new sensory and vegetable garden. Many of the plants in our new garden have been kindly donated by parents. We have strawberries and tomatoes and thanks to the warm sunny weather we have transformed our "Little Alwyn" garden into a colourful learning space.



Mrs Jenkins

KEW GARDENS

This term, Year 2 spent an exciting day visiting Kew Gardens. We examined different plants and experienced various climates in the wonderful greenhouses and found out about healing qualities of plants from a travelling expert.



As it was such a beautiful day, we were able to have a picnic and enjoy the fabulous surroundings. We continued to explore the greenhouses and gardens until it was time to return to the coach. It was a brilliant trip! **Miss Grierson**

RIVER AND ROWING MUSEUM VISIT

The Year One children had a really wonderful time in Henley when they went on their second school trip. They enjoyed a boat ride with Hobbs & Co, visited The Wind in the Willows gallery and walked along the river learning about boats. The weather was lovely and we were very proud to hear the tutors saying how well the Alwyn children behaved. Many thanks to all the parents who offered to come along. Without parental support our school trips would not be possible.

Mrs Evans



Caterpillars!

Last term we had chicks in school and we are continuing to look at life cycles. This term each class has caterpillars to observe. Just like in the book "The Hungry Caterpillar", we have enjoyed watching the caterpillars grow bigger every day. Most of the classes have already been lucky enough to see some beautiful butterflies emerging from their chrysalises. We are looking forward to setting the butterflies free and watching them fly away!



Mrs Wallin

La Jolie Ronde (French after school club) have been voted **THE BEST** National Activity for Children aged 5-12 years old. Voted for by parents La Jolie continues to lead the way, ensuring your child learns with the very best.



LEAVERS' CONCERT

Tuesday 22nd July

at 2.00 p.m.

For Year 2 families only!!



EYFS Sports Day

Reception Children had a lovely time joining in four games on Sports Day. The parachute game needed a lot of self-control to make the ball drop into the middle hole and all classes achieved a good score. The ladder race required skill to tread into each space and the balancing a bean bag race required concentration. The final race, where the children ran holding the England flag was fun and showed that our young athletes are faster than the England Football Team! A big thank you to all the family supporters who cheered the children on.



Mrs Harris

GEOGRAPHY WEEK IN YEAR 2

Year 2 really enjoyed learning about Mexico in Geography Week. They learnt all about physical and human features and even carried out an experiment with a volcano. Thankfully the eruptions were not too big! Mexican food tasting was a particular highlight for many of the children, who tried salsa, guacamole and re-fried beans. After a trip to Kew gardens, the week culminated in the creation of rain-forests, filled with unusual animals and carnivorous plants, in every classroom. Why not pop in and explore one?

Miss Fantham



History Week in Year 2 involved stepping back in time to the Crimean war, where Florence Nightingale was treating wounded soldiers at Scutari Hospital. The children learnt about what hospitals were like and how they have changed as a result of the work that Florence Nightingale carried out. They are all very relieved that hospitals are much cleaner now!

Miss Fantham



COMING TO SCHOOL

Local residents continue to find it very difficult when their pathways and driveways are blocked by parents' cars at the beginning and end of the school day.



Please park carefully and considerately.

Please bring your child into school at the start of the day. Do not leave them at the gate or in the playground. Please take them to their class and wait with them until the classroom doors are opened.

Year 1 Technology Week

The children followed their visit to Henley River & Rowing Museum with a Technology Week. During this week they designed, made and tested their fantastic boats to see if they would float. The children chose suitable resources to make the hull, stern, bow and mast and all adults in Year One were impressed with the way the children used their joining skills to attach the materials together. Many thanks for all the recycled materials donated to us.

Mrs Evans

