



# Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Good Choices

## OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 12 1st December 2023

### What's happening?

#### PERFORM WORKSHOPS

Over the past two weeks Perform Drama have worked with all children in an amazing drama workshop. They travelled all the way to Australia to find a boomerang and met a crafty crocodile along the way. They had such fun acting and the class teachers were very impressed with their acting abilities. Comments from the children included "I loved travelling to all the countries on the airplane." and "It was the best morning ever!". What fun they must have had! To try a free Perform workshop, please see their advert on the final page of this newsletter.

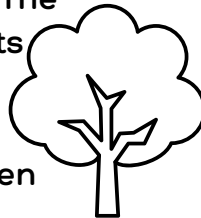
#### The Alwyn Aims

These are the rules we all try to follow:

- Use kind hands, feet and words
- Say how we feel
- Look and listen
- Always do our best

#### Year 1 - Trip to the park

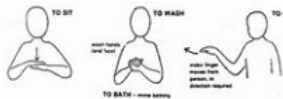
On Wednesday Year 1 had a trip to the park. The children wore their wellies/boots and raincoats. They explored the park using maps and identified human and physical features they could see which linked to what they have been learning in Geography.



#### No Pens Day

On Friday we took part in No Pens Day! This is a day to promote listening, speech and language and to raise awareness of the importance of communication skills.

Some of the activities included : partner talk, circle times, learning about sign language and beginning to understand children with various language disorders.



#### Christmas at Alwyn

Please be sure to check out the following pages. This time of year is incredibly busy and you need to be sure that your calendar is up to date! Please see the detailed schedule from both the PTA and school. Starting with the Christmas Fair tomorrow, Saturday 2nd December!

#### School Applications for Year 3

If your child is currently in Year 2, you will need to make an application for their Junior school place. The application portal is now open, until 15 January 2024. You need to log onto RBWM.gov.uk and in the Schools and Education section, you will find all the information you need. If you need any help with the application process, contact the admissions department at RBWM. You will then be informed of the junior school offer on 16 April 2024.



Just a reminder to please drive courteously as well as park considerately in Ashcroft Road and around Mulberry Close. We appreciate that it gets very busy at school drop off and pick up times. If a driver has the right of way, please let them pass safely.

**Caterlink** our catering company would value the opportunity to survey pupils at Alwyn. To assist your child in completing the survey, please access via the link below;

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/G9VWNSR>

# Ideas for Learning Chats

## What has been happening in Reception, Mrs Morgan

This week we have been learning 'e' and the digraph 'ck' (two letters making one sound). We have been busy learning our Christmas songs ready for our performances and learning more about the Nativity story. In maths we have been thinking about finding one less than a number and ways of making 4 and 5. We joined in Perform drama workshops where we went on an adventure to Australia.

Ask me to tell you one of our helpful words, and see if I can spot it anywhere.

Ask me to tell you what a shepherd does.

Ask me to tell you two numbers that go together to make 5.

Ask me to tell you about different types of homes.

Next week we are excited about our Christmas Performances!

## What have Year 1 been doing this week, Mrs Alston

This week, Year 1 enjoyed their first trip of the year to Oaken Grove Park. In science this week, the children in Year 1 explored their senses of taste and smell. Fantastic hands-on learning allowed them to taste a variety of different salty, sugary, savoury, bitter and sour foods. They were also given the opportunity to identify a variety of mysterious smells and comment on whether they liked or disliked the smell. They all agreed that the garlic had a particularly strong scent. Another wonderful week of learning through experience.

Ask me to show you how to using taking away to solve  $9 - 3$

Ask me to show you how to draw out taking away to solve  $9 - 3$

Ask me to name 3 nouns of gifts that Santa sent in the book 'Dear Santa.'

Ask me which of these tastes I like most: sweet, sour, salty, bitter, savoury.

Ask me to tell you which of these smells I liked most: coffee, vinegar, cinnamon, garlic.

Next week: we will be learning all about 2D and 3D shapes in maths. Please ask your child to describe and name the shapes that they know.

## What have Year 2 been doing this week, Miss Frank

Year 2 has been busy retelling After the Storm by Nick Butterworth. The children have worked so hard using beautiful handwriting, conjunctions, time words and phrases and expanded noun phrases. We are very proud of them. We've also been learning about human features in Geography, we are now experts! We are also very busy learning songs for our Christmas singalong, we hope you can come and watch us!

Ask me what a vertex on a 3D shape is

Ask me what an edge on a 3 D shape is

Ask me how many edges a cube and cuboid has

Ask me what a human feature is

Ask me to give an example of a human feature

Ask me if a river is a human or physical feature

Next week Year 2 will be creating their own storm story based on After the Storm by Nick Butterworth.

## Congratulations!

Children are enjoying Golden Book Assembly in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.

A huge 'well done' to all the children who were in the Golden Book for their achievements this week.

We are very proud of you!



## KEY DATES!

2nd December 2023

midday until 3pm.

Christmas Fair

7th December

Christmas Jumper & Lunch

Day

Elfridges (PTA)

8th December

Elfridges (PTA)

### Christmas Performances

Reception 9.30am

Ash 5th / Oak 6th / Elm 7th

December

Year 1 9.30am

11th / 12th / 13th Dec 9.30am

All classes are in all

performances. Monday's

performance is full. Please

speak to the school office if

you would like tickets for the

Tuesday or Wednesday.

Year 2

13th Dec 2.30pm

PTA Christmas concert after school

14th December

Last day of term

15th December

Finish time - 1.30pm

First day of term

4th January 2024





## Saturday 2 Dec 12-3pm

The Christmas Fair is held in Courthouse School. There'll be lots of festive food, entertainment, the ever popular Santa's grotto, stalls and games to play. Tokens are preferable and can be bought at the fair or [online](#).



### We can't do it without you.

Sign up to help at our upcoming events for as little or as long as you can give. We PROMISE it doesn't mean you signing up to join the PTA forever.

- CHRISTMAS FAIR
  - Tombola sorting (Fri am)
  - Cafe
  - Kitchen
  - Games Room
  - Stalls (PTA stalls)
  - Grotto
  - Face painting
  - Craft room
  - Set up (Fri pm)
  - Set up (Sat am)
  - Clear down
- DOORSTEP SANTA
  - Elf runners
- ELFRIDGES
  - Elf helpers



## Sunday 3 Dec 5-8pm

After a busy day in the grotto Santa and his elves will doing his rounds out and about on the local streets. Please come along and give him a wave, have your photo taken and cheer him and his lovely sleigh along. We will have a [live tracker](#) so you can keep an eye on him.

## Tuesday 5 to Friday 8 Dec

[alwyncourthousepta.com/elfridges](http://alwyncourthousepta.com/elfridges)

Our children's shop 'Elfridges' will be open once more so the children can buy a surprise gift for someone special. You can pre pay online or they can bring their tokens along. Every gift is £2.



Courthouse during lunchtime

- Years 3+5 : Tues 5 Dec
- Years 4+6 : Wed 6 Dec

Alwyn after school in outside classroom

- Reception : Thurs 7 Dec
- Years 1+2 : Fri 8 Dec



<https://signup.com/go/UanYoQu>

## RAFFLE

1st Prize £250  
 2nd Prize £100 Restaurant Voucher  
 3rd Prize Hamper  
 Plus more  
 Tickets on sale now  
[alwyncourthousepta.com/raffle](http://alwyncourthousepta.com/raffle)

## AUCTIONS

Our toy and main auction go live on Sunday 19 Nov. Bidding ends 8 Dec at 9pm. We have some great items lined.  
[alwyncourthousepta.com/xmas](http://alwyncourthousepta.com/xmas)

It's the Christmas Fair this Saturday 2 December, 12-3pm at Courthouse Junior School.  
With games, stalls, cafe and grotto there's something to entertain everyone.

We still need your help, even just an hour would make a big difference and be appreciated.  
Sign up now: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/282487828091/false#/invitation>

The Christmas Raffle will be drawn at 2pm on Saturday 2 December.

- 1st Prize - £250 Cash
- 2nd Prize - £100 Seasonality Restaurant voucher
- 3rd Prize - Hamper

Buy tickets now at <http://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/raffle>

Toy and Christmas Auctions are open. Bidding closes at 9pm on Friday 8 December.

Check out the auctions now:

Toy Auction - brand new toys from Mattel <https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/toyauction2023>

Main Auction - from family days out to treats for you

<https://www.jumblebee.co.uk/christmas2023>

Elfridges will be taking place after school for Alwyn children. Elfridges is a kids only gift shop where they can choose a gift wrapped ready to go under the tree and surprise their loved ones. Tickets can be purchased in advance at <http://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/elfridges>

Alwyn Reception - Thursday 7 December

Alwyn Years 1 & 2 - Friday 8 December



**Courthouse Junior School**  
Every child flourishing

---

### 2 x Teaching Assistants

Vacancies: 1 x General TA and 1 x TA to work with EHCP pupils  
Start date: As soon as possible  
Contract type: Permanent, term time only.  
Hours: 27.5 hours per week Monday to Friday 8.50am-3.20pm  
Salary: Scale 2c, Point 3-4 (FTE £24,442-£24,848) Actual £15,434 to £15,690

At Courthouse, our aim is for every child to flourish. We work hard but only on things that make a difference. We're looking for a Teaching Assistant:

- To work under the specific supervision, instruction and guidance of the class teacher to support the teaching and learning activities in the classroom.
- To provide general support to the class teacher in the organisation and management of pupils and the classroom.
- To work with a named child with an EHCP and offer appropriate support.
- To assist the teacher in creating and maintaining a calm and purposeful environment.
- To promote the inclusion of all pupils, ensuring they have equal access to opportunities to learn and develop.
- To be responsible for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children within the school.

We offer the successful candidates:

- A dedicated and supportive team
- CPD
- Children who love their school
- Career pathways

If you would like to arrange a school visit or require further information, please contact our School Business Manager, Todorka Rolfe, by emailing [trolve@courthousejunior.co.uk](mailto:trolve@courthousejunior.co.uk) or call 01628 626958.

An application pack is available on our website [Vacancies | Courthouse Junior School](#)

Completed applications should be sent to [trolve@courthousejunior.co.uk](mailto:trolve@courthousejunior.co.uk)

**Closing date: Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Interview date: w/c 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Our school is committed to safeguarding. The successful applicant will be required to provide suitable references and undergo an enhanced DBS.



# Alwyn performance time is coming!



## Reception Christmas Performances, 5th-7th December, 9.30am

Our three reception classes will perform some fantastic seasonal songs, usually with actions, to their parents and families. The performances are the same, however each class will take the centre stage at the different performances.

**Ash class on 5th December, Oak class on 6th December,  
Elm class on 7th December**

There is no need to request tickets for these performances.

There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.



## Year 1 Christmas Performances, 11th-13th December, 9.30am

The Year 1 classes will be working together to perform 'Penguin Pete'.

They will repeat the same performance on each of the three days however you will need to order tickets in advance using [this order form](#).

The numbers for each performance are limited due to Health and Safety reasons so put in your requests promptly. Each performance will be the same and include all of the three classes in Year 1.

We can allocate up to 2 tickets per family (in total, not per performance), however there is an option of requesting further tickets if they become available.

The extra tickets are not guaranteed so if you do not receive confirmation then your request has not been successful.

There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.



## Festive Songs with Year 2, 13th December, 2.30pm

Our Year 2 parents are invited to come and listen to, or join in, with some festive songs and carols. This should be a jolly occasion and allow the children to demonstrate their singing talents.

There is no need to request a ticket for this. Just turn up ready to sing!



## At all of our performances there will be a cash collection

This year we are supporting the charity, 'Children's Hospital Pyjamas'. They provide pyjamas for children who have been admitted into hospital and have not had time to pack the essentials needed for a hospital stay.

Further details about the charity can be [found here](#).



# Christmas at Norden Farm

Norden Farm and Slot Machine present

# Miki

Based on the book by Stephen Mackey

Tuesday 28 November - Saturday 30 December



FOR AGES 3+ YEARS

**Norden Farm**  
Centre for the Arts Maidenhead

01628 788997  
nordenfarm.org

slot  
machine  
theatre

Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF

**GEMS**  
Autism & ADHD Support Service  
East Berkshire



# Bear cubs



Ages 5 to 10

First and third Friday of the month - 4pm to 5pm

- 6th October - Big on Bouncing - Slough \*cost involved
- 20th October - Halloween Quiz - Online
- 3rd November - Rugby Fun - RBWM - Windsor
- 17th November - Create your own Mr Men or Little Miss Character/Story - Online
- 1st December - Make your own Christmas Decorations - Bracknell
- 15th December - Christmas Film Quiz - Online

\*Please note activities may be subject to change

Registration:

Gems.4Health@nhs.net  
0800 999 1342

Criteria:

Children with or likely to have ADHD and/or autism and living in East Berkshire



# Stay in control of your child's health

**NHS**

Rates of winter infections are rising rapidly amongst children. When your child is unwell, be sure to know what to look out for and when to seek help using the FREE Healthier Together app. Developed by paediatricians, trusted by parents.



"It's like a mini doctor for you at home."

Using an easy-to-follow traffic light system, you'll find clear information on common childhood illnesses, including advice on what signs to look out for, when and where to seek help if required, what you should do to keep your child comfortable and how long your child's symptoms are likely to last.



"Brilliant. Simple, reassuring and helpful. Thank you!"



Scan the QR code with a smart phone to visit **what0-18.nhs.uk**

Download the free 'Healthier Together' app



@Health\_2gether  
@Health2gether



Sheet Street Surgery  
Community Health Initiative

# IAS Surgery

6th December 2023 0930-1130

@ Community Hall, Ascot Durning Library, High Street, Ascot SL5 7JF

An opportunity to book a 15 minute face to face appointment with one of the IAS advisers to discuss anything SEND related. We will do our best to answer any questions, give advice and support. You do not need to be registered with our service to access this. To book a slot please email [ias@rbwm.gov.uk](mailto:ias@rbwm.gov.uk)

# Confidence Building Fun

## Try a Free Drama Class

— This is a fab class!  
It was mentioned at  
Katie's parents' evening  
that her confidence  
in class seems to  
have grown so I am  
delighted. Jane Spurgeon



### Try Perform for free and claim a £40 discount

Today, your child took part in a Perform drama, dance and singing workshop – a unique mix of activities designed to bring out every child's true potential.

Our small classes ensure lots of individual attention by our experienced teachers – hand-picked for their warmth, energy and professionalism. They'll focus on your child's engagement in the activities rather than their precision, and be with them every step of the way to guide, inspire and encourage.

As well as having fun at Perform, your child will enjoy real benefits: greater confidence, improved concentration and an increased awareness of what they can achieve.



[perform.org.uk](http://perform.org.uk)



### Your nearest Perform venues

See more at [perform.org.uk/venues](http://perform.org.uk/venues)

#### Perform Maidenhead

Saturdays at 9.30am  
Boyne Hill Infant School, Rutland Road, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 4HZ

#### Perform Maidenhead

Fridays at 4pm  
4 Marlow Road Youth And Community Centre, 4 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7YR

#### Perform Marlow

Mondays at 4pm  
All Saints Church Hall, The Causeway, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 2AA

#### Perform Windsor

Fridays at 4pm  
All Saints Dedworth Church, Dedworth Road, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 4JW

#### Perform Twyford

Saturdays at 9.30am  
Twyford Youth Centre, 3 Loddon Road, Twyford, Reading, RG10 9JA

### Your £40 introductory discount

Your child can enjoy a free trial class at any Perform venue. Sign up on or before the expiry date to claim your special discount. Call **020 7255 9120** or visit [perform.org.uk/free](http://perform.org.uk/free)

#### DISCOUNT CODE

**AINS191223**

#### EXPIRY DATE

**19-Dec-23**

The discount code cannot be applied retrospectively. Visit [perform.org.uk](http://perform.org.uk) for full terms and conditions.

**020 7255 9120**