



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 30 | 9th May 2025

What has been happening?

VE Day, 80th Year Anniversary

We had a fabulous week learning a little bit about World War 2 and VE day. The children have made aeroplanes, flags and sandwiches and decorated biscuits. They found out a little bit about life in the 1940s such as games played, music and fashion. Some even learnt to fold a big sheet (tablecloth). The children thought about how VE day was celebrated in 1945 and created their own street parties with afternoon snacks and games, including lunchtime dancing to the 'music that won the war'. Many children bought in photographs and stories from family members who were in the war or remembered celebrating past VE days. Thank you to our parents/carers, staff and children for enabling such a brilliant week.



Parent Workshop

Thank you to everyone that came to the parent workshop on understanding and managing our children's big feelings. We hope you found it useful and the slides have been posted on the [school website](#). We hope to see many more of you on 15th May where we will have tea, coffee and biscuits too!



Next week is warm and sunny. Remember to send your child into school with a sunhat, water bottle and apply long lasting sun cream before school.



Look out for more school news on our [Alwyn facebook page](#) or new [Instagram account @alwyninfantschool](#). If you haven't already, give us a like and a follow.

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



Remember to Order Lunches

All school dinners must be pre-ordered by 8am on the day, however, we are finding that if you leave the ordering close to the deadline, the system can throw out an error message. Please try to order the night or weekend before.

Please note that for the Summer term, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the alternative options will be sandwiches with various fillings or a jacket potato with baked beans.

If your child does not have a packed lunch or you have not ordered a school lunch, they will be given a jacket potato with baked beans.

School lunches for infant age children are fully funded so parents do not pay for them. They are yummy!



Reception children will need their bicycling helmets every Wednesday, if they have one. We do have a few in school but not enough for every child.

Supporting Your Child's Emotions

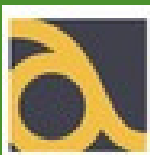
Join us to explore ideas and resources to support your child's emotional development and wellbeing in a caring, supportive and non-judgemental space.

These workshops are free to attend and will be led by Dr Jo Silfi, one of our school's Educational Psychologists.

All parents, carers, childminders are welcome to attend.

Thursday 15th May at 14:30 will be a question and answer session and thinking about ways to help with big emotions.

The sessions will take place in Alwyn Infant School and will finish in time for you to collect your child/ren after school.



**achieving
for children**

**Free sessions in a supportive environment for all.
Evidence-based with ways to support you and your child.**



Our Fabulous Parent Teacher Association

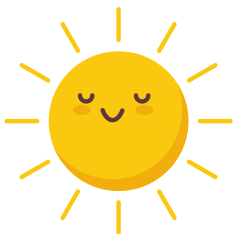
Remember as a member of the school community, you are automatically part of the Parent and Teacher Association (PTA).

They run brilliant events throughout the year but need your help. Please get in touch with them if you wish to take part or have some great ideas to share.



The PTA has been working tirelessly to boost fundraising efforts, and the dedication from the school community truly shines. Through a vibrant mix of events like lively Discos, festive Christmas and Summer Fairs, competitive Quiz Nights, and creative colouring competitions, we've managed to not only raise substantial funds but also bring our community closer together.

The money raised through the PTA is spent by Alwyn and Courthouse on all sorts of things that enhance school life at Alwyn and Courthouse schools. In 2023/24 Alwyn installed a brand new library which the children are absolutely loving. This year, the reception classes had a brilliant fully resourced domestic role play area.



Future Events in the Summer Term Keep an eye out for the amazing events that are being planned for the summer term.

Match funding We have some amazing parents who, through their work, have added to the funds we raise via Match funding; where their company match the amount raised on the event/stall they have helped run. We have had support from Microsoft, Barclays and Heathrow. Does your company match fund?

<https://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/matchfunding>

We would like to know what you think! Please fill in this form to share ideas for future events.

If you would like to make a donation to the PTA click here. Thank you

What have Reception been learning this week?

This week in Reception we have been learning all about VE day. We have found out about the Union flag and made our own flags and hats. It is amazing how old the people who lived through the war are now!

We have made paper planes and found out a bit about life for a child in the war and why people were so happy when the war ended.

On Thursday we made jam sandwiches and decorated biscuits all ready for our own street party in the afternoon, where we listened to wartime music. Some children said it was "The best party ever!"

Ask me to sound out the words 'town' and 'coin'.

Ask me to sound out and write "spoil the owl"

Ask me to show you a pattern with 6 objects.

Ask me to show you how to arrange my 6 objects so that I can subitise and don't need to count.

Ask me to tell you what VE day means

Next week Reception will be learning trigraphs ear and air in phonics and consolidating composition to 5, in Maths



What have Year 1 been learning this week?

This week Year One have enjoyed learning about VE Day and preparing flags, bunting and paper aeroplanes to use in our celebrations.

We had a wonderful time playing traditional games from the forties and listening to wartime music.

In English, we have been writing a setting description using adjectives to create an interesting picture in the reader's head. In Maths, we have learnt about doubling, grouping and sharing.

Ask me to tell you how much my sunflower seed has grown.

Ask me to tell you about the Union Flag.

Ask me to tell you about one of the VE games we learnt.

Ask me to read the following words: plane, complete, phone, strike, cubes.

Next week, we will be going to Bekonscot. We can't wait!

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

Summer Term 5, 2024-2025

14th May

Yr1 Trip to Bekonscot

15th May, 2.30pm

Parent follow up on emotional development workshop

16th May

Rabbi visiting Year 1 (RE)

19th May

Parent session on phonics screening check, 2.30pm

20th May, 9am

Parent coffee morning on transition and SEND

23rd May

End of term- normal finishing time

26th-30th May

Half term- school closed

Summer Term 6, 2024-2025

2nd June

INSET Day- school closed

6th June

Class group photos- please wear school jumper/cardigan

9th-13th June

Phonics Screening Check

11th June

Year 2 Trip to Wellington Country Park

16th-27th June

Sports Fortnight

18th June

National Thank a Teacher Day

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week, in maths, we have finished our topic on time. We have been telling the time to five minutes and looking at the minutes in an hour and hours in a day.

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of VE Day, we had an exciting week learning about the significance of VE Day and doing many activities to celebrate it, from making a Spitfire plane to colouring and cutting out bunting decorated with the Union flag. We also had great fun playing some old fashioned indoor games, namely tiddlywinks and Old Maid. Yesterday, we finished off our celebrations by joining with year 1 and having a party in the playground. We played outdoor games such as Squeak Piggy Squeak, Marbles, Hide the Slipper, Pitching Pennies, skipping and Oranges and Lemons. The children moved around in mixed groups to different games so they could sample them all. Finally, we sat down and had some nibbles and refreshments because after all, it wouldn't be a party without food!

Ask me what games we played at our VE celebration.

Ask me to explain the instructions for one of the games using time words eg. first, next, then.

Ask me which country's flags make up the Union Jack.

Ask me what VE stands for

Ask me tell you how many minutes in:

a quarter of an hour

a half an hour

three quarters of an hour

one and a half hours

Next week we are continuing to learn about writing instructions, culminating with the children writing a set of instructions to turn their teacher into a toad - watch this space!

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

Summer Term 6, 2024-2025

24th June, 9.15-11am

Whole school sports morning with our grown ups

30th June, 6pm

New parents/carers meeting

1st July

Children visit their new classes in Alwyn and Courthouse

10th July, 4-5pm

Grown ups invited to visit classes, new and current

11th July

School reports sent home

17th July, 3.30

PTA Disco for Year 2

22nd July, 9.30am

Year 2 Leavers' Concert to their parents/carers

23rd July

Last day of school, early finish at 1.30pm

Congratulations!

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

In Little Alwyn, they love to have their special stickers and certificate.

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!**

Half Term Clubs

Events Disclaimer: Please note that the events listed are organised by external parties and are not endorsed or recommended by Alwyn Infant School. We provide this information as a courtesy to our community. We advise families to exercise their own discretion and judgement when participating in any events or activities.



FOOTBALL CAMP
MAY HALF-TERM

Age
5-12-year-olds

Discounts
Use code: **MAY10- 10% off!**
Expires Wed 7th May

Prices
£20 per day

Dates
Tuesday 27th - Friday 30th May

Venues
Reading: **Calcot Junior School**
Newbury: **Winchcombe School**
Maidenhead: **Alwyn Infant School**

Times
Standard day: 9am-3pm
Extended day: 9am-5pm
Available at Newbury and Calcot

WE ACCEPT
CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!

For Holiday Camp Enquiries- Email holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com www.mnrcoaching.com

@MNR Coaching Limited
@MNRCoaching
@MNRCoaching_

This is Mr Baker and his team of coaches



WISE OWLS CLUBS
fun & friendship
27-30 MAY 2025
HIGHFIELD SCHOOL
MAIDENHEAD
AGES 3-14 YEARS

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED
OFSTED REGISTERED
BOOK NOW!

Tuesday 27 - Friday 30 May 2025
8:30am-5:30pm
From only £37.50 (additional cost for outings and special activities)
Home cooked, healthy menu including snacks, two main meals and dessert) only £6.50

WITH OVER 50 EXCITING ACTIVITIES

- Swimming
- Lego Master Builders Competitions
- Park trips and picnics
- Group games & Obstacle Courses
- Photography competitions
- Baking
- Cinema
- Arts & Crafts
- Sport & Activities
- Rock climbing wall
- Pool table and Table Football
- and more...

SNAP TO BOOK

01628 620 013
www.wiseowlschildcare.co.uk
[facebook/wiseowlsclub](https://facebook.com/wiseowlsclub)
[instagram/wiseowlsclubs](https://instagram.com/wiseowlsclubs)

wise owls childcare

[Click here for more information](#)

School Day

Year Group	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Start Lunch Finish →	8.45am 11.45pm - 12.45pm 3.15pm →	8.50am 12pm - 1pm 3.20pm →	8.50am 12.20pm - 1.20pm 3.20pm →

The School Gates

The Alwyn and Courthouse gates open at 8.40am until 8.55am and 3.10pm until 3.35pm

The opening times allow movement between our two schools and provide different points of access which should help with traffic and parking in our area.

The gate opening times are different from the time your child is required to be in school.

The Importance of Being on Time

Reception children need to be in school at 8.45am.

Year 1 and 2 children need to be in school at 8.50am.

The classroom doors will open at these times and close as soon as the last child in the line enters the classroom; this usually takes less than 3 minutes. Any child arriving after the classroom door is shut, will be marked as late. Knocking on the classroom door once it is closed is disruptive to the children as their teacher is having to keep opening the door instead of settling their class for the morning.

Please be on time every morning. It can be worrying for a child to enter a classroom late especially when their classmates are sat on the carpet ready to learn. All children should have come into school, put their belongings in the cloakroom, their book bag in their drawer and their water bottle in the tray and have been registered before 9am each morning.

Attendance Matters

Being in school every day is extremely important for all children in order to receive the best possible start to their learning. Your child's attendance is vital to a successful education, as this is the foundation for lifelong learning. Lessons are planned in sequences and if a child misses a part of this sequence, they are at a disadvantage when it comes to committing that learning to long term memory.

If your child is slightly under the weather, but well enough to come into school, send them in and mention it to the class teacher. They will keep an eye on your child and phone you if there are any concerns.

Reason for absence

Please let the office know the specific reason for your child's absence rather than feeling unwell or ill. This helps us monitor any small outbreaks of similar virus' and supports the recording of absence.

Medical Appointments

If you have a medical appointment during the school day, inform the school before the appointment and provide a GP/Hospital appointment card or letter.

Leave Requests

Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Any other exceptional circumstances will require supporting evidence that shows the child has to attend something that results in missed school days.

Fixed Penalty Notices (fines) may be triggered if your child misses 5 consecutive days of school or 10 sessions in 10 weeks. A session means a morning or afternoon, not a day.

Please ensure that you make all reasonable efforts to send your child into school.

Penalty Notice Changes

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices on 19 August 2024 there are significant changes in the way that Penalty Notices are to be issued and an increase in the charges associated with them. These are nationwide changes implemented for consistency across all Local Authorities.

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Headteacher.

First Offence

For the first time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be;

-£160 per parent per child paid within 28 days.

-Reduced to £80 per parent if paid within 21 days.



Please ensure you communicate all absences for your child to school.

Second Offence

Within 3 years of the first offence.

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance the amount will be;

-£160 per parent per child paid within 28 days.

-No reduction for early payment.

Third Offence Onwards – Within 3 years of the first offence

The third time an offence is committed for unauthorised term time leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued and the case will be presented straight to the magistrates court. Fines can be around £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found to be guilty in the magistrate's court can show as a criminal record.

Notices to Improve

A Notice to Improve is a final opportunity for a parent to engage in support and improve before a penalty notice is issued. If the national threshold has been met and support is appropriate but offers of support have not been engaged with by the parent or guardian or have not worked, a Notice to Improve should usually be sent to give parents or guardians a final chance to engage in support. A Notice to Improve does not need to be issued in cases where support is not appropriate and an authorised officer can choose not to issue one in any case, including cases where support is appropriate but they do not expect a Notice to Improve would have any behavioural impact (because the parent has already received one for a similar offence).

If sufficient improvement is not made following the service of a Notice to Improve, a penalty notice may be issued either during or at the end of the designated time period.

Don't forget.

Penalty Notices are issued Per Parent, Per Child.

For example 3 siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 3 fines. This could amount to £960

DfE Blog for Parents

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>



10 sessions in 10 weeks

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks. **5 Consecutive days** of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

[Link](#) to the attendance page on the Alwyn website.



Providing Children's Services for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to reaching the top?



For every day your child is absent from school, over 6 hours of instructional time is lost.

ARKING RESOLUTION

Driving, Parking and Vehicles in Mulberry Walk

Please think about our neighbours and school community, especially as one of our school values is kindness. Drive and park carefully and considerately on the roads surrounding the school at all times.

The road gets very busy at drop off and collection times. To help with this, we have an unofficial one way system that keep cars moving safely. Please reduce your speed and drive slowly around the one-way system. This is crucial as there are very young children walking along the pavements who may not be seen easily while driving, especially in these grey days.

We have good relationships with our neighbours but that can only be maintained with your help. Please do not block their driveways when parking and remain polite if they ask you to move. Any area with block paving is for the residents of the road and not for school parking or access.

Please do not park on the bends of the road or directly opposite another car as this can stop the flow of traffic and make it difficult for other drivers to pass.

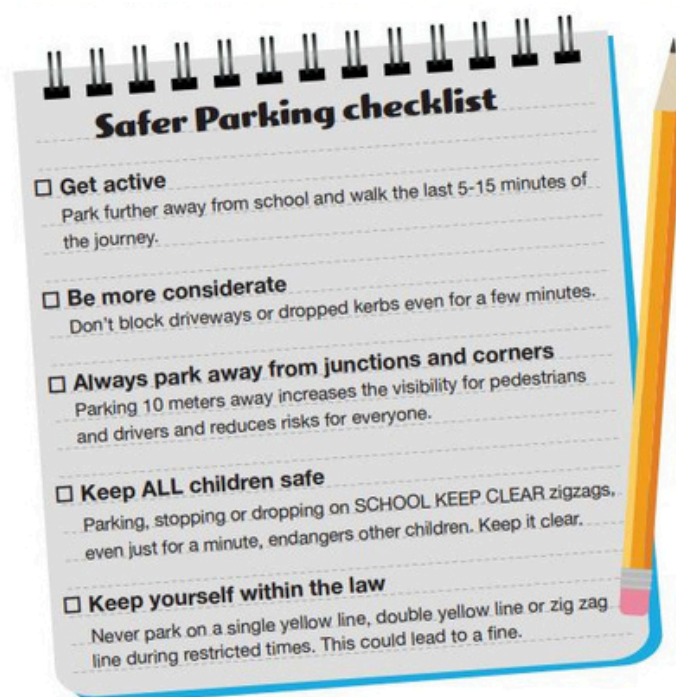
Do not mount the curb as our children and their siblings are very little and not always easy to see.

To ease congestion, please explore other options:

- If you are able to walk or cycle to school this would help.
- Consider parking further away, such as by Courthouse Junior School, where there are more roads to park along safely and they tend to be less congested.
- A short walk can make a significant difference in reducing traffic and ensuring safety and you can access Alwyn by walking through Courthouse as the gate opening times are the same.

Recently we've had a few reports of members of our school community driving along the pavement, on the bend, at speed resulting in near misses as well as some aggressive behaviours when they have been reminded of our parking etiquette.

Aggressive driving and behaviours put us all at risk and should be reported by calling 101.



Share the roads, Share the responsibility



Community Pages: What is happening in our local area?

Community Events Disclaimer: Please note that the events listed are organised by external parties and are not endorsed or recommended by Alwyn Infant School. We provide this information as a courtesy to our community. We advise families to exercise their own discretion and judgement when participating in any events or activities.



Bear cubs

Ages 5 to 10

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

7th April - Lego Fun - Dedworth Library, Windsor
21st April - Easter Monday - No session
5th May - May Bank Holiday - No session
19th May - Big on Bouncing - Slough (fee applies)
2nd June - Story Time - Langley Library
16th June - Picnic in the Park - Bracknell

**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

For more information: Call 0800 999 1342 or visit www.Gems4Health.com





01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342
weekdays 9am to 5pm
<https://www.gems4health.com>
gems.4health@nhs.net

GEMS is for children and young people who are diagnosed with, or who may have, autism and/or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The service also supports parents and carers and is open to anyone living in Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead or Bracknell Forest.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

ADHD Course - Monday 28th April, 12th & 19th May - 7 to 9pm
Sensory Processing - Wednesday 23rd April - 7 to 8:30pm
Managing Anxiety - Wednesday 23rd April - 10am to 12noon
Empowering Calm - Wednesday 7th May - 10am to 12noon
Autism Course - Thursday 8th, 15th & 22nd May - 7 to 9pm
Girls and Autism - Tuesday 10th June - 10am to 12noon
Sleep - Autism and ADHD - Tuesday 17th June - 7 to 9pm
Adolescence - Wednesday 2nd July - 10am to 12noon

Visit our website to book your space - www.Gems4Health.com





Boyn Grove Library

Lego club



Every Friday starting 9 May
3.30pm to 5pm
Suitable for children and families.



Scan or visit fbwm.gov.uk/ libraries for details of our other events and clubs in the borough.



@RBWM_Libraries RBWM Libraries RBWM_Libraries

It all starts with...



We all play at:
Boyne Hill Cricket Club

Session dates:
Saturday 10th May- Saturday 28th June

Session timings:
9:30am-10:30am

Contact:
Jack Spencer-Jones- 07595463584,
jackspencerjones@yahoo.co.uk



Sign up today at
allstarscricket.co.uk

Click here for more information