



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Good Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 20 | 9th February 2024

It was Book Week

Well, it has been a brilliant last week of term as we focused on books and our love of reading.

The travelling book fair was a huge success as children and grown-ups, browsed a huge range of books and talked about their likes and dislikes. There were lots of exciting purchases!

In Little Alwyn

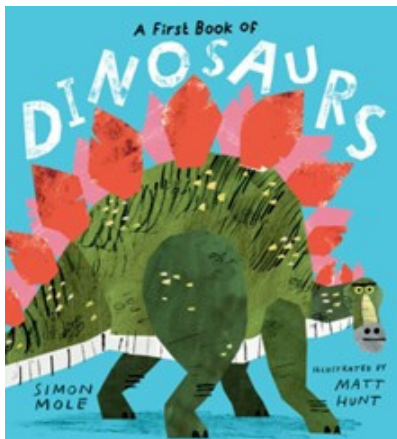
This week we have been reading lots of books from home. One class had over 18 stories to read!

We read the story blurbs on the back covers and guessed what the stories were about.

An Author Visited Year 1

Simon Mole, a rapping poet, came in to share his poems and inspired us to write alliterative sentences about animals. We especially enjoyed hearing him rap some of his poetry and joined in with some rapping of our names!

Simon shared some poems from his new book **A First Book of Dinosaurs**. The book is a Sunday Times 'One to Watch Out For' pick, and features over 30 poems in three sections.



Simon has kindly offered the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of the book at a reduced price of £15. Please pay for your orders [using this link](#) by the end of Sunday 18th February, and Simon will personalise the books and deliver them to school after half-term.

"Smile and stomp along with this celebration of all things DINOSAUR, with exuberant poems by a National Poetry Day ambassador and joyful artwork."

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

The deadline for ordering lunches is 8am on the day.

Please review the menu with your child to check they know what has been chosen for them each day and that they like it. Choose peas or beans, if asked.

Lunches for infant age children are fully funded so parents do not pay for them. If your child does not have a packed lunch or ordered a school lunch, they will be given a jacket potato with baked beans.

Please drive and park sensibly!

Please drive slowly along Mulberry Walk and be aware of the pedestrians.

Park sensibly; not blocking driveways or stopping on the road bends.

If using a disabled bay, please ensure your blue badge is clearly displayed.

Thank you



Look out for more school news on our [Alwyn facebook page](#).

Book Week in Year 2

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed Book Week.

On Wednesday we were lucky enough to take part in a workshop with Coral Rumble, a real local author. She helped us with rhyming and inspired us to write our own poems.

Here's an example.

A snake in a lake eating a cake,
A dog on a log looking at a frog,
A cheetah eating a fajita,
A cat in a hat having a chat!



The Lunar New Year

The week started with an introduction to the Lunar or Chinese New Year.

Chinese New Year is the biggest holiday celebrated among Chinese people. It is often referred to as the spring festival because it signals the beginning of spring. It is a time when families and friends get together to say goodbye to the old and welcome the new.

2024 is the Year of the Dragon.

Julian, from Eagle Claw Kung Fu School, visited the children during a whole school assembly. He showed the children the different sized percussion instruments and parts of the lion dance. This is a traditional dance, performed for the new year that mimics animal movements.



The children loved watching the eyelids flutter, ears wiggle and large mouth with a dangly beard open and close.

It was so interesting to watch and hear the loud drums and tambourines

Dance Festival

Yesterday, the children from Maple class and Pine class, along with their teachers, travelled to Braywick Leisure Centre to take part in a fabulous dance festival. Organised by the Ascot and Maidenhead School Sport Partnership program, Alwyn Infant School came together with many other schools in the borough to show off their dance skills. Both classes were the youngest in attendance and were the stars of the show! A big well done to the children who put in lots of hard work and practise into their dance routines.

Pico Productions, professionally filmed the performance of the Primary Dance Festival and copies of the DVD or USB stick are available to [buy now online](#). It costs £12.00 for DVD, or £16.00 for USB stick and orders received before 9th MARCH will receive FREE DELIVERY, as these will be delivered to Alwyn in one go. Orders received after this time will be charged £2.50 postal and admin fee. [Click here](#) and scroll to bottom of page to select Thursday's performance.



What was it like to be a child in old Alwyn?

Our very own Mrs Gaddes visited the classes in Year 1 to support their learning in history. Mrs Gaddes attended the old Alwyn school site and also worked in the new Alwyn. She talked about her experiences in school at that time and the children asked her some great questions. It really helped to make them feel like historians as they investigated the past. Thank you Mrs Gaddes!



Book Week Half Term Challenge



Here are some examples from previous years for inspiration

Half Term Challenge

Choose a book you really enjoy and create some fabulous art work to represent it.

You could:

- Draw a new book cover for it
- Make a model of something or someone from it
- Make a scene in a box/shoe box
- Draw a picture or collage of your favourite character

You can do anything about the book that is exciting, interesting, colourful and fun.

Bring it into school after the half term holiday, making sure you have your name and class written clearly. All work will be put on display around the school

Shoe box ideas



Ideas for drawings – book covers



Ideas for models



Ideas for a shoe box



Ideas for Learning Chats

What have Reception been learning?

We've enjoyed sharing all the fabulous books the children have been bringing in this week. We loved watching Julian from Eagle Claw Kung Fu who came in to show us a lion dance to celebrate Chinese New Year.

- Ask me to tell you what is double two.
- Ask me to tell you about the best story I've heard this week.
- Ask me to sound out the words 'web' and 'fox'.
- Ask me to tell you about the Chinese new year lion dance.

After half term we will be learning 'y' and 'z' in phonics and exploring length and height in maths

What have Year 1 been learning, Mrs Novelle?

What an exciting week Year 1 have had! On Tuesday, the children enjoyed a special assembly for Chinese New Year. They were enthralled by the movement of the dragon and loved dancing to the music played by our special visitors from Eagle Claw Kung Fu School. In class, they learned all about Chinese New Year and some of the traditions which take place. Beech class and Hazel class also made some beautiful artwork to celebrate. In History, the children had the opportunity to ask questions to a student who went to old Alwyn school. They found out lots of differences and similarities about school life between old Alwyn and Alwyn today. Year 1 has had a super few weeks and have learned a lot. The Year 1 team hope you and your families have a lovely half term break.

- Ask me to tell you what double 5 is.
- Ask me to tell you what double 7 is.
- Ask me to tell you what double 8 is.
- Ask me to use my knowledge of near doubles to tell you 5 + 6.
- Ask me to use my knowledge of near doubles to tell you 7 + 8.
- Ask me to use my knowledge of near doubles to tell you 8 + 9.
- Ask me to tell you all about Chinese New Year.
- Ask me to group and classify these animals and explain why: bear, frog, rabbit, crocodile, newt, snake.
- Ask me to tell you what a noun and a verb is.

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed Book Week with an author visit, book writing and poems. We started Book Week by reading the classic novel, Flat Stanley. A book about a boy who gets flattened by a bulletin board and becomes ...flat! We learned about the adventures he has, our favourite being when he wants to be a kite, we even made our own Flat Stanley kites to fly. We created our own 'flat' character and wrote their adventures in a book, we loved being authors!

- Ask me the doubles and halves of these numbers
2,4,6,8,10,12
- Ask me to write down the 2x table
- Ask me who Flat Stanley is and how he became flat
- Ask me how Flat Stanley stopped the art thieves
- Ask me to tell you all I know about Brunel

After half term Year 2 will start learning about the continents and oceans of the world.

KEY DATES!

9th February
End of Term

12th - 16th February
School closed for half term
Half term book Challenge

19th February
Children return to school

19th - 23rd February
Art/DT Week
Art workshops

26th February
Internet Safety Day

7th March
World Book Day- dress as a book character

12th & 14th March
Parents'/Carers' consultations

28th March
Last day of Term

29th March-12th April
School closed for Easter holidays

15th April
INSET day

16th April
Children return to school

Congratulations!

Children are enjoying Golden Book Assembly in Year 1 and 2. In Little Alwyn, they love to have their special sticker.

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!**

THE CROWN ESTATE 

Love Bugs Family Trail



Join us this half-term at Windsor Great Park for a lovely self-led trail around our wonderful woodland and marvellous meadow, learning all about the wonders of bugs and why you should love them!



Windsor Great Park Environmental Centre
Windsor Great Park, SL4 2BY
Mon 12th, Tues 13th & Weds 14th February
10am–2pm (last entry 1pm)
Booking necessary!

Scan here to book or visit www.bbwt.org.uk/events



FEBRUARY TOUCH RUGBY CAMP



12-13 FEB // // // //
AGES 5-17 // // // //

Hosted by Regional and National Qualified Touch Rugby Coaches.

Cost: £35 for 1 day (9.30am - 3:30pm) or £80 for 2 days. 10% sibling discount.

Venue: Maidenhead RFC, Braywick Park, Braywick Road, Maidenhead SL6 1BN



REGISTER

To register your junior or for more information, please email sammie@in2touch.com



Camps in association with the Wildcats Region
@wildcatstouch
wildcatsjuniorstouch@gmail.com




WORLD BOOK DAY
7 MARCH 2024

www.rbm.gov.uk
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead

WORLD BOOK DAY COSTUME SWAP

Donate clean, gently used children's costumes to participating libraries.

DON'T NEED A COSTUME?
You're welcome to donate with no obligation to exchange.

DON'T HAVE A COSTUME TO SWAP?
No problem!
Everyone is welcome to find their 'new to you' costume.

COOKHAM, DEDWORTH AND MAIDENHEAD LIBRARIES
Donations from: Monday 12 February
Costume swap shop from: 4pm
Thursday 29 February – Wednesday 6 March

WINDSOR LIBRARY
Donations from: Monday 12 February
Costume swap shop from: 2pm
Tuesday 27 February – Wednesday 6 March



It all starts with... ALL STARS CRICKET

We all play at:
Boyne Hill Cricket Club

Session dates:
Saturday 11th May - Saturday 29th June

Session timings:
10:30am-11:30am

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



Sign up today at allstarscricket.co.uk

Have a brilliant half term break and we will see you all back in school on Monday 19th February

