

Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 8 | 7th November 2025

What has been happening?

Welcome back to Term 2 of the school year. We hope you had a lovely half term break. The children have enjoyed telling the school grown ups about their break and seem happy to be back.

PCSO Visits

You may have noticed the PCSOs have been visiting during the morning drop off to help with parking. They were concerned with the number of near miss accidents they witnessed due to rushing and irresponsible parking.

Please do not park on the bends, across driveways, entrances to small parking areas or mount the curb. We do not want to have a serious incident and children hurt due to irresponsible and dangers driving and parking behaviours.

An Afternoon with a Gymnast

On Monday afternoon, Year 2 were very lucky to be invited to Courthouse for a special sporty assembly.

Beth Tweddle the British Olympic gymnast came to visit to talk about her sporting success. She showed the children footage of her appearances at the Olympics and World Championships and we found out that she has a move on the uneven bars named after her!

She shared the importance of keeping healthy by exercising, eating 5 fruit and vegetables every day and to make sure you have fun!

Next Week

We have a very exciting week ahead, packed with meaningful events and opportunities. A few key things to

Monday: Odd Socks Day. Encourage your child to wear odd socks, with their school uniform, to celebrate what makes us all unique!

Friday: Children in Need & Diabetes Awareness Day

It's non-uniform day! Children are invited to come into school wearing their own clothes for a suggested £1 donation to Children in Need. They can add a blue item for Diabetes. Year 2 will still be doing PE so they need to be in sporty gear.



Look out for more school news on our Alwyn facebook page or Instagram.

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
- Look after our things
- Always do our best

Remember to Order Lunches

The menu has changed to the new Autumn/Winter 25/26 menu, which will run up to the Easter holidays 2026. The full menu is on our website.

Hot dinners must be pre-ordered in advance. The deadline for ordering lunches is 8am on the day the lunch is wanted.

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 talk about the menu with your child and check that they are happy with their lunch choice as we are unable to change it on the day. School lunches for infant age children are fully funded so parents do not pay for them.

They are yummy!



Harvest Donations

The food donations have been delivered to <u>Maidenhead FoodShare</u>. They were incredibly pleased with the amount and variety of the food.



Responsible Behaviour Curriculum in Alwyn and Courthouse

Our vision is to develop well rounded, confident and responsible children who aspire to achieve their full potential. We want our children to do their best in all aspects of school life - work, play, friendships and behaviour, and to take pride in all they do. We want them to develop respect and a sense of responsibility for themselves, each other, property, the wider community and the environment. To support this aim, we follow a behaviour curriculum that is explicitly taught and also weaves throughout the whole of school life.

Each week, the classes explore a different theme. They have a Monday 'check-in' circle time to introduce it and set a goal to work towards throughout the week. On Tuesday, the Year 1 and 2 assembly is time to think about the whole school approach to the theme. They celebrate their successes with a Friday 'check-out' circle time in their class.

To support this learning, there is a weekly leaflet for parents (below) to introduce the theme and sometimes gives ideas on how to help.





Age-appropriate responsibility ideas.

Ages 3 to 5	Ages 6 and 7	Ages 8 and 9	Ages 10 and 11
Help adults with tidying up Laying the table for dinner Put dirty washing in the basket Put on their own shoes when everyone is getting ready to leave the house	Get them to follow their own morning routine - e.g. getting dressed, eating breakfast, brushing teeth Let them choose dinner once a week - it has to be nutritious for everyone Choose something to donate to charity once every school holiday	Unload the dishwasher or dry up washing up Create a 'looking after the family pet' chart for the child to follow Ensure children pack their own school bag - have a timetable so they know when they need PE kit etc and teach them how to follow it	Use an app or set up a budget plan - give pocket money and some has to be saved etc Support time management by giving a set time for something to be completed by e.g. homework/chores

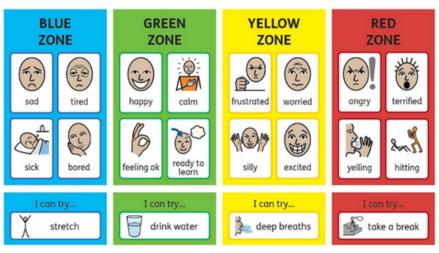
What is meant by responsibility?

- •Responsibility is the state of being accountable for our actions, obligations, or duties.
- •Responsibility involves the recognition and acceptance of the consequences, both positive and negative, that result from our choices and behaviours.
- •Being able to accept our responsibilities has been proven to support children in being more successful in their later lives.
- Modelling and talking about responsibility is an important way for children to learn as is giving children some responsibility in the home.



The Respo<mark>nsible Behaviour</mark> Curriculum





These zones of regulation are also a great way to help the children think about and identify their feelings, along with an idea to help manage them.

What have Reception been learning this week?

This week in Reception we have been learning the phonic sounds /ck/ and /e/. We have started to recognise the helpful words I, the, go and to.

In Maths the children have been identifying triangles and circles and learning about their properties. We have been learning the song 5 little peas in a pea pod press and making collections of 5 items.

In Science we have been looking at the weather and making windy day creations. The children have started our topic light and dark and have been excited to tell us all about their experiences e.g. fireworks at night.

Ask me a word with the /ck/ sound at the end.

Ask me a word with the /e/ sound in the middle.

Ask me to tell you about circles and triangles and spot them in my environment.

Ask me to find you 5 items e.g. spoons and count each one in order. Ask me to tell you something that is a light source e.g. the sun, fire, torch etc

Next week the children will be designing their own superheroes.

Reception classes have a weekly PE session with Mr Baker and his team on Wednesdays. They do not need a PE kit for this.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school after the half term break and hear about what they've been enjoying.

This week in Maths the children have been noticing how numbers are made up of parts that make a whole. They have used different resources to show the parts or work out the whole and have started using part-whole models. In English the children have been reminding each other about adjectives and what they need to include in a super sentence. Year One PE sessions are now on Wednesday and Thursday - the children enjoyed their activities with Mr Baker, beginning to develop their racquet skills, as well as working on their gymnastic skills with Miss White.

Ask me to tell you the parts that can make the whole number 7. Ask me to tell you something that is the same about us, and something that is different.

Ask me to tell you what we played with Mr Baker this week.

Ask me to tell you which animal I wrote about and how I described it.

Ask me to tell you what I know about natural features in Geography.

Next week we are looking forward to a day of poetry in celebration of Michael Rosen Day!

The Year 1PE days for this term are: Wednesdays with Mr Baker and his team. Thursdays, gymnastics, with Miss White.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026 Autumn Term 2

10th -14th November Anti-Bullying Week

10th November Flu vaccinations Odd Socks Day

11th Remembrance Day 11am silence

13th November Michael Rosen Poetry Day

14th November Children in Need & Diabetes Day, non-uniform/wear blue for a donation

17th - 21st November Road Safety Week

27th November Year 182 PTA Elfridges after school

28th November Non uniform day for tombola donation and Reception PTA Elfridges after school

29th November PTA Christmas Fete 12 noon - 3pm

9th & 10th December, 9.30am Reception Performance

16th & 17th December, 9.30am Yr1 Christmas Play

17th December, 2.30pm Yr2 Festive Sing-a-long

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week Year 2 have enjoyed starting several new topics for the new term. We've started Geography for the first time in Year 2, our topic is The United Kingdom. Throughout the term we will be looking at the four countries that make up the UK, their capital cities and flags and their human and physical features. We have also started reading a new book in our English lessons which is called Vlad and the Great Fire of London. It is a story about a rat called Boxton and a flea called Vlad and the adventures they have during the historic fire.

Ask me to name the main characters in our Vlad story.

Ask me to tell you what Vlad and Boxton like to eat.

Ask me to tell you who Vlad and Boxton meet in the story.

Ask me to tell you what the four compass points are.

Ask me to tell you what the UK stands for.

Ask me to tell you what the four countries that make up the United Kingdom are.

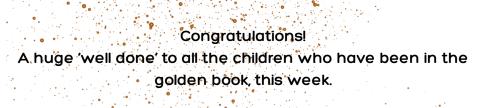
Next week in science we are looking at hygiene and healthy eating.

The Year 2 PE days for this term are:

Spruce - Mondays with their class teacher.

Pine and Holly - Tuesdays with Mr Baker and his team.

All classes on Fridays with Mr Baker and his team.



We are very proud of you!





School Year 2025-2026 Autumn Term 2

19th December Last day of term. Children home at 1.30pm

Enjoy the break

Spring Term 3

5th January 2026 Children return to school

12th-16th January Music Week

9th - 13th February Book Week Book Fair after school

16th - 20th February Half Term Break & Challenge Enjoy the break

23rd February Children return to School

23rd - 27th February Art/DT Week

2nd March Internet Safety Day Parent/carer talk at 2.30pm

5th March World Book Day

10th & 12th March Parent/carer consultations

16th-20th March Grown ups into school afternoon



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



Elfridges is back!

Our magical kids-only gift shop returns after school on 27-28 November. Let your little elves surprise loved ones with gifts they choose themselves! Book tickets here

Sign up to volunteer here:

Tombola Treats + Own Clothes Day Friday 28th November!

We're getting ready for our much-loved tombolas and would be so grateful for your support! On Friday 28th November, children can wear their own clothes to school in exchange for donating either a bottle (sealed and unopened) or something chocolatey.

All donations will help stock our fantastic tombola stalls at the Christmas Fair.

Donations can be dropped off at morning drop-off or sent in with your child.

Let's make it a sweet and fizzy Friday



Christmas Cards and Gifts

Please remember to order your Christmas cards and gifts by the deadline date. Instructions are on the proofs that were sent home on 4th November.

Please keep hold of these proof cards after you have placed your order and until you have received all your items - please note that we do not have copies.

All orders will be processed after the deadline date and then delivered to school.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS IS MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER





Christmas Fair, our biggest fundraising event of the year, is nearly here and it's the perfect way to kick off the festive season! Expect twinkly stalls, joyful tunes, and plenty of seasonal cheer for the whole family.

But we can't do it without you!

If you can spare just an hour to help
out - whether it's setting up, running a
stall, or tidying up - we'd be incredibly
grateful. Every bit of support makes a
huge difference.

Sign up to volunteer here:
Let's make this year's Christmas Fair
the most magical one yet!

For the parents of Alwyn Infant and Courthouse Junior School

SEND CHAT AND CONNECT

Come and join us for a coffee or tea, biscuits and a friendly chat about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We invite parents to join us to discuss SEND in a non-judgemental environment.

THEEDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY SERVICE WILL BE HERE TO TALK ABOUT THE WORK THEY DO IN OUR SCHOOLS



TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER AT 9.00AM

MEET AT YOUR SCHOOLS RECEPTION

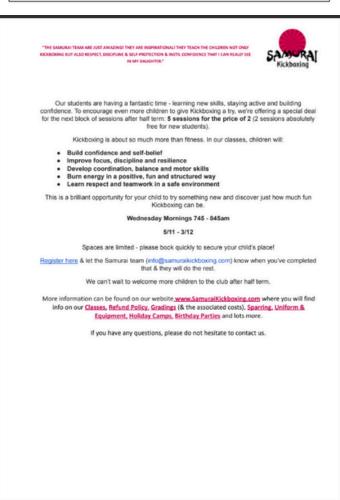
Community Pages: What is happening in our local area?

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.









Community Pages: What is happening in our local area?

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To all Maidenhead artists...

Josh Reynolds, our MP, is asking all budding artist to create a Christmas card that really captures the essence of Christmas in Maidenhead.

The suggested size is A5. Designs need to be bold and bright and preferably done in paint, felt tips or crayons as coloured pencils do not reproduce well when printed. Two-dimensional designs are preferred as materials like glitter and cotton wool do not work when printed.

The competition is for children aged 11 and under who live in his constituency. The winning entry is personally chosen by him and will be printed and sent out with Christmas wishes to people across Maidenhead as well as politicians, royalty, and leaders across the world.

Entries for the competition should be marked 'Josh Reynold's Christmas Card Competition' and sent to Maidenhead Advertiser, 48 Bell Street, Maidenhead, SL6 1HX. Entries should also include the full name, age and school or organisation (such as a cub or brownie pack) of the entrant as well as a parent's name, address and phone number. The closing date for entries is Tuesday, November 4 and there will be a prize.





raring2go.co.uk

AUTUMN 2025

Community Pages: Christmas Holiday Activities

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Penalty Notice Changes

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances and must be agreed, in advance, by the Head of School. An Exceptional Leave form must be completed and the school may ask for further evidence to support the application.

First Offence

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, if a second 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 issues Per Parent, Per Child.
For example 3 siblings absent would result in each parent receiving 3 fines. This could amount to £960

Click this link to visit the school website for further information.



10 sessions in 10 weeks

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions (not days) of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks.

5 Consecutive days of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

Punctuality

Children in Reception should be at the classroom door by 8.45am.

Children in Years 1 and 2 should be at their classroom door by 8.50am.

The school gates are locked at 8.55am. If your child arrives to school after this time, your child will receive an unauthorised late mark- this affects your child's attendance.

If arriving late, you must bring your child into the school office and sign them into school with a reason for the lateness.

School Day

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

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 by 8.45am.

Year 1 and 2 children need to be in school by 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.