



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 know:

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.

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 **Maidenhead FoodShare**. They were incredibly pleased with the amount and variety of the food.



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

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.

THIS WEEK'S TOPIC IS

AGE-APPROPRIATE RESPONSIBILITY

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	Get them to follow their own morning routine - e.g. getting dressed, eating breakfast, brushing teeth	Unload the dishwasher or dry up washing up	Have a chore rota
Laying the table for dinner	Let them choose dinner once a week - it has to be nutritious for everyone	Create a 'looking after the family pet' chart for the child to follow	Use an app or set up a budget plan - give pocket money and some has to be saved etc
Put dirty washing in the basket	Choose something to donate to charity once every school holiday	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	Support time management by giving a set time for something to be completed by e.g. homework/chores
Put on their own shoes when everyone is getting ready to leave the house			



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 Responsible Behaviour Curriculum



BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
sad tired	happy calm	frustrated worried	angry terrified
sick bored	feeling ok ready to learn	silly excited	yelling hitting
I can try... stretch	I can try... drink water	I can try... deep breaths	I can try... take a break

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 1 PE 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 1 & 2 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 Boxtan 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 Boxtan like to eat.

Ask me to tell you who Vlad and Boxtan 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..

Congratulations!

A huge 'well done' to all the children who have been in the golden book, this week.

We are very proud of you!



KEY DATES!

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/carers talk at 2.30pm

5th March

World Book Day

10th & 12th March

Parent/carers 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:](#)



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.

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



THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS IS
MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

AT 12 NOON



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 .

**THE EDUCATIONAL 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.



5+ years
(Suggested age)

Kids Craft Club

Connect with your little ones through the joy of creating joyful crafts together at **Stickies Craft Club**.

Sunday 9th November
10 - 11am

£14
£10 for sibling/s

St. Luke's Community Hall
Maidenhead, SL6 7AT

Booking required - Leanna 07890591638
insta: stickiescraftclub

A Magical Family Adventure at Windsor Great Park Illuminated!

From **14 November 2025 – 3 January 2026**, Windsor Great Park will sparkle with a brand-new illuminated trail, filled with dazzling new displays and returning favourites like the iconic Field of Light and Fairies.

It's the perfect festive outing for families and friends – wander through glowing woodland, watch colourful fountains dance, and stop to toast marshmallows or enjoy hot chocolate under the stars. Best of all, the trail is **dog-friendly every evening**, so even four-legged family members can join in the fun.

New for this year: **Low Sensory Sessions** on **Tuesday 25 November**, offering a calmer way to enjoy the magic.

Tickets sell quickly, so book early to make magical memories your family will treasure.

www.windsorilluminated.com



WINDSOR GREAT PARK ILLUMINATED
14 November '25 – 3 January '26



SAMURAI Kickboxing

ANNUAL KICKBOXING TOURNAMENT

CAFÉ & SAMURAI SHOP OPEN

- ✓ Experience a Kickboxing Tournament in a fun, safe environment – everyone welcome!
- ✓ Take part in exciting challenges like the High Kick & Flying Kick!
- ✓ Watch your Instructor do an amazing demo of their Kickboxing skills – always a highlight!

Sunday 16th November 2025
St Piran's School, Maidenhead
Little Samurai (age 4 – year 2)
9–11am
Young Samurai (years 3–6) & Samurai Kickboxers (year 7+)
12.30–3.30pm

FREE for Little Samurai
£35 for Young Samurai & Samurai Kickboxers



BOOK NOW

07828 534817 info@samuraikickboxing.com www.samuraikickboxing.com

"THE SAMURAI TEAM ARE JUST AMAZING! THEY ARE INSPIRATIONAL! THEY TEACH THE CHILDREN NOT ONLY KICKBOXING BUT ALSO RESPECT, DISCIPLINE & SELF-PROTECTION & INSTIL CONFIDENCE THAT I CAN REALLY SEE IN MY DAUGHTER."

SAMURAI Kickboxing

Our students are having a fantastic time – learning new skills, staying active and building confidence. To encourage even more children to give Kickboxing a try, we're offering a special deal for the next block of sessions after half term: **5 sessions for the price of 2** (2 sessions absolutely free for new students).

Kickboxing is about so much more than fitness. In our classes, children will:

- Build confidence and self-belief
- Improve focus, discipline and resilience
- Develop coordination, balance and motor skills
- Burn energy in a positive, fun and structured way
- Learn respect and teamwork in a safe environment

This is a brilliant opportunity for your child to try something new and discover just how much fun Kickboxing can be.

Wednesday Mornings 745 - 845am
5/11 - 3/12

Spaces are limited - please book quickly to secure your child's place!

[Register here](#) & let the Samurai team (info@samuraikickboxing.com) know when you've completed that & they will do the rest.

We can't wait to welcome more children to the club after half term.

More information can be found on our website www.samuraikickboxing.com where you will find info on our **Classes, Refund Policy, Grading** (& the associated costs), **Sparring, Uniform & Equipment, Holiday Camps, Birthday Parties** and lots more.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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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.



KIDWELLS PARK SKATEPARK

A New Skatepark for Maidenhead!

Support the Kidwells Park Skatepark Project
We're building a modern, inclusive and inspiring skatepark in Kidwells Park, Maidenhead.

- **Community-led project backed by local residents, skaters, BMXers & councillors**
- **Designed by skaters / BMXers, for skaters / BMXers - in collaboration with experts**
- **Safe, exciting & accessible - a space to stay active, social & creative**
- **Let's bring new energy to the park and give young people a place to thrive!**

HELP US MAKE IT HAPPEN!

We're raising funds now. Located in Kidwells Park, Maidenhead

Please visit the project website or scan the QR code for more information
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/kidwells-park-skatepark-project-maidenhead>

I'm supporting
Kidwells Park Skatepark Project, Maidenhead



Scan the QR code to find out more

Crowdfunder

Crowdfunder.co.uk | Search: "Kidwells Park Skatepark Project"



2go!
Raring2go!

AUTUMN

FAMILY FUNDS PG 19

HALLOWEEN RECIPES PG 26

HALLOWEEN FILMS PG 28-29

MAGAZINE & WEBSITE

THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

raring2go.co.uk

AUTUMN 2025

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/maidenheadandwindsor/autumn2025/>

Community Pages: Christmas Holiday Activities

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.

MAIDENHEAD UNITED FOOTBALL & MULTI-SPORT CHRISTMAS CAMPS



Dedworth Middle School
Cox Green Leisure Centre
Holy Trinity, Sunningdale
The Cage @ MUFC



For Boys and Girls
aged 4-13

Dec 22-24th
Dec 29-31st
Jan 2nd

£25 per day, 10am to 3pm

£5 per day 24th & 31st Dec

£3 early drop off at 9am

For details contact :

mark.nisbet@maidenheadunitedfc.org

Or book now via the QR code



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 issued 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 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 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.