



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Good Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 19 | 2nd February 2024

What a busy week!

It has been a very exciting week with lots of new things being introduced and discovered.



Reading in Year 2

The children have been enjoying their book club. They recommend books to their friends, write book reviews and share their favourite characters and story parts.

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](#).

Baking in Year 1

The children have been busy baking this week for Design and Technology which linked brilliantly with their learning around 'The Gingerbread Man'. They had to take measurements, read instructions and roll out the dough, use a cutter and then decorate their person. Then wait while they baked in the oven. Our little figures did not run away like the one in the story. The smell throughout the school was amazing.



A Cheeky Request

The reception classes in Little Alwyn are in need of some more toys. If you are Spring cleaning and you have any of the following items please speak to a member of the Early Years Team, or send a photo of the toy to senco@alwyn.org.uk.

- Puzzles (24 piece max)
- Dolls, doll clothes, push chairs etc
- Farm animals and woodland animals
- Magnetic toys
- Space items such as rockets, space buggies etc
- Fire station items such as fire engines and ladders
- Doll styling heads to use when playing hairdressers
- Cars
- Doctor and nurse sets.



And some wellies for outdoor learning, sizes 8 - 2.

Thankyou

Online Learning Platforms

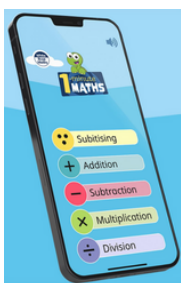


[CBeebies Little Learners app](#) launched this week.

CBeebies Little Learners is a learning app from CBeebies and BBC Bitesize, that puts the fun into learning!

Aimed at 2-4 year-olds, the app is free to download with no adverts or in-app purchases and children can play independently and offline, wherever they are.

It's packed with free CBeebies and BBC Bitesize games and videos featuring CBeebies characters, and all the activities are based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum.



1-minute Maths

The White Rose 1-minute maths app helps children build greater number confidence and fluency. It's all about targeted practice in engaging, one-minute chunks! It is free to download from Google Play and the Apple App Store.



Purple Mash

Children in Year 1 and 2 have access to Purple Mash, a whole world of fun and exciting learning opportunities in one safe online space.

It includes learning tools and content, designed for children aged 3 to 11 in the classroom and at home. Purple Mash supports learning through its resources, games and creative tools, tailored to the school curriculum; everything from core subjects such as maths, reading, writing and phonics, to all the other topics learnt in school.

The log-in details can be found in their reading record.

Numbots for Maths

[Numbots](#) supports the understanding of number bonds and helps addition and subtraction skills. These are the essential building blocks for maths concepts and lots of repetition of key facts can support fluency and speed. The children in Years 1 and 2 have individual logins and can build their own robots and collect rewards as they learn.

NumBots can be played on a browser (play.numbots.com) or via the app, which is free to download on Amazon, Android and Apple devices.

In order to get the best out of NumBots, we recommend that children play regularly for short bursts at a time, aiming for 3 minutes, five times a week. It is great fun!

Oxford Owl and Reading

Learning to read is essential for success in life. The more support and encouragement that you can offer your child, the more likely it is that they will make good progress.

At Alwyn, we are using the Floppy's Phonics teaching programme. It is a systematic approach to teaching the letters and sounds (the alphabetic code) that are needed to read and spell. To reinforce the learning in school, your child takes home a reading book to practise these sounds and build fluency. It is important to read these books more than once over a few days. **Please try to read with your child every day.**

As well as reading books, your child can access [Floppy's Phonics online](#). This resource can be used to access more books and the 'Floppy's Phonics extra practice zone'. Here you will be able to find the corresponding sound to match your child's worksheet and use the interactive online book. The children will be familiar with these from the classroom.

If you have any questions or difficulties, speak to your child's class teacher. We will also be running some online safety sessions for children, families and staff in February.

The School Day

Year Group	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Start Lunch Finish →	8.45am 12.00am - 12.45pm 3.15pm →	8.50am 12pm - 1pm 3.20pm →	8.50am 12.20pm - 1.20pm 3.20pm →

The School Gates

Thank you for supporting the new gate opening and closing times:

8.40am - 9.00am and 3.10pm - 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.

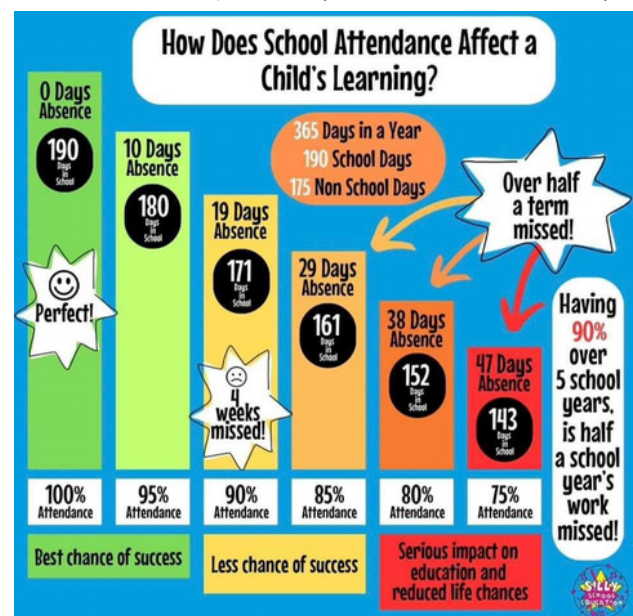
Medical Appointments

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.

Holidays during Term Time

We will not authorise requests for holidays during term time. **Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued to parents who take their children out of school for holidays.**

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



Ideas for Learning Chats

What have Reception been learning?

This week the children have moved on to learning Stage 2 'green' sounds, starting with /j/ and /v/. In maths we've moved on to the composition of 6, 7 and 8. We've continued to learn about Chinese new year and about staying safe.

Ask me to write 'jam' and 'vet'.

Ask me to show you different ways I can make 6 with my fingers.

Ask me to tell you who I can tell if I don't feel safe.

Ask me to retell the story of Six Dinner Sid.

Next week, we will be learning 'w' and 'x' in phonics and continuing to explore 6, 7 and 8 in maths.

What have Year 1 been learning this week, Miss Harris?

Year 1 had such fun designing and baking their gingerbread people in DT. We then took them home to eat. Yum yum!

In English, we wrote our own instruction sentences to explain how we made our gingerbread people, using time words and bossy verbs.

In maths we have been using our number bonds to 10 to solve problems involving number bonds to 20.

Ask me to read the words:

looked, jumped, played, helped, kicked

Ask me about the phoneme and the grapheme

Ask me how I can use $5+2=7$, to find the answer to $15+2=?$.

Ask me how I made my gingerbread person

Ask me to name a reptile

Ask me to tell you the features of a reptile

Ask me to tell you why old Alwyn closed

Next week we will be learning about Chinese New Year, continuing to explore 'old Alwyn' in our History lessons with a special visit from an ex pupil and learning about doubles and near doubles in maths.

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week we have been continuing with multiplication and division in maths. We have used resources to solve word problems and to support and deepen our learning. In SPaG we have learnt that homophones are words that sound the same but are spelt differently and we have practised spelling and writing different homophones. As scientists, we have planned an experiment for next week to test whether different materials are waterproof. We had to predict which materials we thought were waterproof and would therefore be suitable for an umbrella. Luckily for the children, we will not be sending the ones who predicted felt as a suitable material out in the pouring rain to test their predictions!

Ask me to show you how I can share 24 into groups of 4.

Ask me to show you how I can share 24 sweets between 4 friends.

Ask me to tell you what waterproof means.

Ask me to use 2 words to describe the properties of an umbrella.

Ask me what a homophone is.

Ask me to spell see and sea.

Next week we are learning the 2 and 10 times tables and related division facts.

KEY DATES!

5th-9th February

Book Week

-Book Fair after school Tues-Fri

-Author workshops (Yr1 & 2)

8th February

Dance Festival (Pine & Maple)

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!**

Community Pages



Inclusion Summit



We are extremely pleased to announce our fifth Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Inclusion Summit. This event has been co-produced between SEND Voices RBWM, Achieving for Children, the Independent Advice and Support Service, Children and Young People's Integrated Therapy Service and schools.

It will be a great opportunity for all parents and carers, as well as other key stakeholders, to share information and celebrate developments in SEND across the borough.

This event will inform, engage and inspire how we are all working together as a positive beacon of inclusion for children and young people (0 to 25 years) with special educational needs and disabilities.

There will be a selection of workshops to attend and a bustling marketplace.

This face-to-face event will be held on:

Wednesday 7 February, 2024

Royal Windsor Racecourse

- 9.15am Registration and browse the marketplace
- 10am Introduction
- 10.15am Presentations
- 11.15am Break and browse the marketplace
- 11.45am Workshops
- 1.10pm Summary of the day and performance from Manor Green School

To register your interest click on this [link](#).
If you are interested in having a stall, please email: inclusionsummit@achievingforchildren.org.uk



FREE SEND INFORMATION SESSIONS

with the Information, Advice & Support (IAS) Service

Preparing for adulthood with the PFA team

22nd February 9.30-11.30am

If your child or young person has an EHCP, what is the process for preparing for adulthood, what can you expect, what is the timeline, what is parental responsibility? what is LA responsibility, when do plans cease?

Reflections on Emotionally Related School Avoidance (ERSA) with Educational Psychology service

29th February 9.30-11.30am

A session with the ERSA Educational Psychologists as an informal session to talk about ERSA and an opportunity to ask questions.

Drop in Coffee morning - Farewell to Christine Doyle, IAS Adviser who is retiring

14th March 9.30-11.30am

IAS Adviser Christine Doyle is retiring. Please come along to celebrate Christine's extensive career within the SEND sector and have a cup of tea with us and other parents. No need to book - just turn up.

CAMHS Learning Disability Team

18th April 9.30-11.30am

Come and learn about the CAMHS Learning Disability team, what do they do? How can they help? What services can they offer?

**Book your free place via :
www.ias-rbwm.info/events**

All sessions take place at Friends House, 14 West Street, Maidenhead SL6 1RL

The GEMS team are delighted to announce some new workshops for adults and children.

Have you or your child recently been diagnosed with Autism or ADHD ?

Would you like to understand more about what this means?

GEMS are running virtual workshops which will give participants an opportunity to share their experience and understand more about their diagnosis in a safe setting.

The sessions will run for up to 1 hour and 30 mins and have a maximum of 10 attendees.

The cost is £20 plus booking fee per session (This event is non refundable).

Sessions are running on the following dates:

Children ages 8-12 years with autism - Thursday 8th February, 4:15-5:45pm

Adults 18+ with autism - Thursday 15th February, 7-8:30pm

Adults 18+ with ADHD - Monday 4th March, 7-8:30pm

Children ages 8-12 with ADHD - Thursday 7th March, 4:15-5:45pm

To book your space please use the following link :

www.ticketsource.co.uk/gems4health-autismandadhdsupport

GEMS
Bear cubs
Ages 5 to 10
First and third Friday of the month - 4pm to 5pm
January 5th - Design your own superhero - Online
January 19th - Bingo - Bracknell - St Margaret Citherow RC Primary School
February 2nd - Crafting - Slough
February 16th - Big on Bouncing - Slough
March 1st - Sports Day - Maidenhead - Woodlands Park Primary School
March 15th - Easter Biscuit Decorating - Heathfield School - Ascot
*Please note activities may be subject to change
Registration: 0800 999 1342
Criteria: Children with or being referred to RHC or other autism and learning difficulties

As a parent/carers you may feel that your child would benefit by joining a social session.

Sessions encourage Participation, Confidence and Fun!

For more information, please contact the GEMS team on: gems.4health@nhs.net or 0800 999 1342. You can also [click here to book a place](#).

Please note that bookings will close when sessions are fully booked / day before a session

Fun activities providing an opportunity to make friends in an understanding environment and a chance to develop social skills and self esteem. We provide a mixture of online sessions and sessions held in the local community

Activities are held on 1st & 3rd Friday of every month.

Please note for the Big on Bouncing Event

on Friday 16th February there is a small charge.

School Keep Clear



**NO STOPPING
NO PARKING
NO WAITING**

Why do I have to leave it clear?

For safety - to ensure clear sight lines for both motorists and children, as well as for other road users, outside schools. They provide a clear area in which children and adults can cross more safely.

Am I okay just to pick up on the zig-zag markings if I am only there for a second?

Under no circumstance should you stop on zig-zag markings at any time, even just for a second. A stationary car can prevent a driver seeing a child crossing the road.

But it's raining, can I just drop off?

Don't be pressured by bad weather into parking on the Keep Clear zig-zags.

Rule 238 of the Highway Code states;

"You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings when upright signs indicate a prohibition of stopping."

Better a wet coat than parking illegally which could result in a fine.

Keep the Zig-Zags clear- No excuses!



The Road Safety Officers at RBWM have created some information posters to share with the community as part of their 'New year, New you, New parking' campaign. They help to remind drivers of how to park safely and considerately and the laws regarding parking especially near schools.

PAVEMENTS ARE FOR PEOPLE

Would you like it if YOUR part of the road was blocked?

Obstructing the pavement can cause serious problems for pedestrians, people with disabilities, older members of the community and those with small children and pushchairs.

Rule 242 of the Highway Code states; "You **MUST NOT** leave your vehicle in a dangerous position or causing an unnecessary obstruction of the road."

You could be fined and your vehicle removed.

NEW YEAR NEW YOU

NEW PARKING RESOLUTION

Safer Parking checklist

- Get active**
Park further away from school and walk the last 5-15 minutes of the journey.
- Be more considerate**
Don't block driveways or dropped kerbs even for a few minutes.
- Always park away from junctions and corners**
Parking 10 meters away increases the visibility for pedestrians and drivers and reduces risks for everyone.
- Keep ALL children safe**
Parking, stopping or dropping on SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR zigzags, even just for a minute, endangers other children. Keep it clear.
- Keep yourself within the law**
Never park on a single yellow line, double yellow line or zig zag line during restricted times. This could lead to a fine.

Share the roads, Share the responsibility

World Book Day Costume Swaps

Do you need a costume for World Book Day? Donate clean, gently used but no longer needed children's costumes to collection points at [Maidenhead Library](#), [Dedworth Library](#), [Cookham Library](#) and [Windsor Library](#) from Monday 12 February.



The swap-shops will open on Thursday 29th February from 4pm, ready for [World Book Day](#) the following week. To get ready for World Book Day, come along to special story time events at [Dedworth Library](#) and [Maidenhead Library](#) to launch the costume swaps.

The story times are suitable for 2-12 year olds. Both start at 4pm.

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 £60 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
wildcatsjuniortouch@gmail.com



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,
jackspencerjones@yahoo.co.uk +

Sign up today at
allstarscricket.co.uk

Want to Get Active & Have Fun?
Come and Enjoy
Girls Cricket at Boyne Hill CC
"ALL ABILITIES WELCOME"
No kit or equipment required.

BAR & BBQ FRIDAY NIGHTS

All Ages from Under 5 (Reception) up to U13 (Year 8)

Girls Training
Fridays
U7-U9 6.15pm-7.30pm (Softball)
U10-U13 6.00pm-7.30pm (Softball & Hardball)
Saturdays
U5-U6 All Stars 10.30am-11.30am (Softball)

Contact
Jack Spencer Jones
jackspencerjones@yahoo.co.uk 07595463584

[@BoyneHill CC](#) [Boyne Hill CC](#) [boynehillcc1890](#)
Address: BoynGrove, HighwayRoad, Maldenhead, Berkshire, SL6 5AE

Attend a Get Into Teaching event.



What?

Whether you're ready to start your career in teaching or just curious, we can answer your questions.

When?

29 February 2024, 5pm - 8pm.

Where?

The Great Hall, University of Reading.

Register now.

Limited places available.



Teaching