



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Good Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 9 | 10th November 2023

What's happening?

On Friday, KS1 children were shown a video about Remembrance Day and then took part in class discussions. They were all very interested in the importance of the poppy as a way of remembering. Some of the children are taking part in activities with Squirrels, Rainbows and other organisations on Remembrance Sunday, so we would like to wish them well. I am attaching a link to a lovely video we have used in school that you may want to watch at home and use as a bit of a talking point to help understanding or a chat.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02qvbd9>



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



This weekend is Diwali; a special celebration for Hindu people all over the world. It is a celebration of light and the triumph of good over evil and is known as "The Festival of Lights." People light small oil lamps called divas to remember Rama and Sita returning home safely. At school, we have all been learning about Diwali and why and how it is celebrated. The children who celebrate Diwali have been explaining to the rest of their class what special things they do. Happy Diwali everyone!



Next week is anti-bullying week, starting on Monday with Odd Socks Day. Children will enjoy activities around the theme of kindness, as well as learning about bullying.

If you are a cyclist, please do not cycle on the pavements as pedestrians are coming into/out of school.



School Applications for Year 3

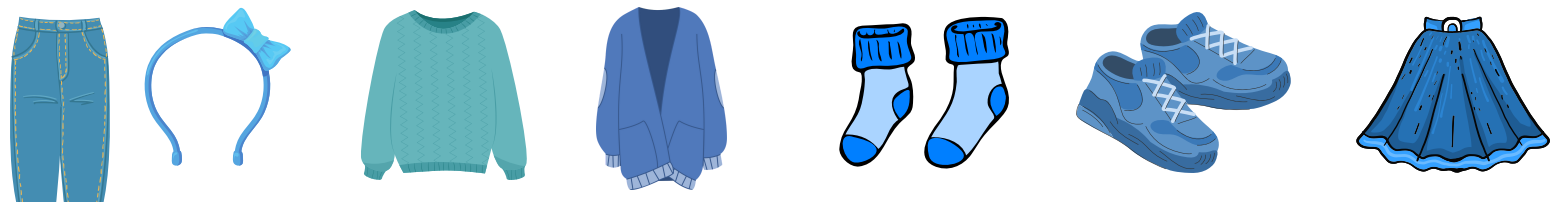
If your child is currently in Year 2, you will need to make an application for their Junior school place.

The application portal will be open between 10 November 2023 and 15 January 2024.

It is extremely important that you complete the form during this time. If you log onto RBWM.gov.uk and look in the Schools and Education section, you will find all the information you need. If you need any help with the application process, contact the admissions department at RBWM. You will then be informed of the junior school offer on 16 April 2024. Courthouse Junior School are holding an information meeting for Year 2 parents on 22 November 6pm.

School Application for Reception

If you have a child with a birthday between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, you can also make an application for a place in Reception using the same website.



Wear blue for diabetes awareness day on Tuesday 14th November

Next Tuesday is National Diabetes Awareness Day. As this is a condition that affects a few of our families we felt it was important to use this time to raise awareness of this life affecting condition.

In school, the children will learn a little bit about diabetes and how it is managed. I would like to invite our school community (grown ups too) to wear something blue on Tuesday 14th November.

The children could swap one item of their school uniform to something blue (eg, t-shirt, shorts, skirt, socks etc) or it could be something as simple as a blue hair-band or wristband.

Finding out a family member has type 1 diabetes can be a shock and means many adjustments must be made to family life. It is a condition where their blood sugar - or glucose - level is too high because their body can't make a hormone called insulin. This happens because the body attacks the cells in the pancreas that make the insulin, so they can't produce it. We all need insulin to live as it does an essential job. It allows the sugar in our blood to enter our cells and fuel our bodies. With type 1 diabetes, the body still breaks down the carbohydrate from food and drink and turns it into sugar. However, when the sugar enters the bloodstream, there's no insulin to allow it into your body's cells. More and more sugar then builds up in the blood, leading to high blood sugar levels which cause serious medical issues.

There is currently no cure for type 1 but it is treated by insulin injections. For further information, you can go to [Diabetes UK](#)

Thank you for your support and I will look forward to seeing us all in something blue.



Welcome to
Alwyn Infant School



[Alwyn](#)

[Parents](#)

[Key Information](#)

[Policies](#)

[Curriculum](#)

[Contact Us](#)

A reminder that our school website is full of useful information; Calendar dates, curriculum plans, school dinner menu, school policies and much more.

All can be found at

<https://www.alwyn.org.uk/>

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



Ideas for Learning Chats

What has been happening in Reception, Mrs Sakal

Reception have had a busy week! We have been learning new phonics - m and d and continuing to practice blending our sounds. We have been consolidating our learning about numbers to 3 and exploring one more and one less. We have been finding out about Diwali and decorating rangoli patterns and lanterns - we enjoyed the story about Rama and Sita too! This week we also thought a bit about Remembrance Day and why we have poppies!

.Apologies to reception parents I gave you the wrong Ask Me statements last week

Ask me to tell you a word that starts with m

Ask me to tell you what these words are from the sounds - d-i-p, d-e-n, s-a-d, d-a-d, m-a-d

Ask me to tell you what makes me special

Ask me to tell you why we give presents

Clap 2 times and ask me to clap one more than you

Next week we will continuing our phonics journey, learning g and o and exploring circles and triangles. It is Anti Bullying Week and Diabetes Awareness Week and we will be finding out about both. Just a reminder to wear odd socks on Monday to celebrate our differences and something blue on Tuesday for Diabetes awareness.

What have Year 1 been doing this week, Miss Harris

This week, Year 1 has been learning about the names for parts of the body. The children really enjoyed drawing around a child in their class and making a life-sized labelled person. The children have continued to learn how to log onto a computer and are beginning to gain confidence in how to type and use a mouse. We have had a very creative week, learning about Diwali and making some lantern art to celebrate. We have also made poppies for Remembrance Day.

Ask me to read the words: foil, fear, hair

Ask me to show you how to write these robot letters: r, b, n, h

Ask me to read the new helpful words: are, again, be

Ask me to tell you 3 different ways of making 10.

Ask me to name 5 parts of the human body

Next week we'll be learning about our five senses.

What have Year 2 been doing this week, Miss Frank

Year 2 have been working very hard this week. In maths we have started to carry numbers when adding, it's very tricky but we're doing really well. We are very excited about learning a new song in Music that includes singing and rap. We are learning how to say the words for the rap really quickly which is quite challenging! We have also re-visited the festival of Diwali which is being celebrated at the weekend. We even drew our own Rangoli patterns.

Ask me to add these 3 numbers

$$7 + 4 + 3$$

$$8 + 1 + 2$$

$$9 + 6 + 1$$

Ask me to tell you a set of instructions on how to light a sparkler safely, make sure I include time words and bossy verbs!

Ask me to tell you the names of the 3 seas that surround the UK

Next week in Science we will be learning about the needs of humans and comparing them to the needs of animals.



Congratulations!

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

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!

KEY DATES!

13th November

Anti bullying week

Odds Socks Day

14th November

Wear something blue for diabetes awareness day

1st December

Non uniform day

(bring in a tombola prize for the Christmas Fair)

Also No Pens Day (more details to follow)

7th December

Christmas Jumper & Lunch Day

Elfridges (PTA)

8th December

Elfridges (PTA)

Christmas Performances

Reception 9.30am

Ash 5th / Oak 6th / Elm 7th

December

Year 1 9.30am

11th / 12th / 13th Dec 9.30am

December

Classes to be confirmed

Year 2

13th Dec 2.30pm

PTA Christmas concert after school

14th December

Last day of term

15th December

Finish time - 1.30pm



Thursday 16 November

Doors opens 7.15pm. AGM starts at 7.30pm

Quiz starts at 8pm

Venue: Courthouse School Hall

Tickets £3 each

Join us for our annual quiz with our quizmaster Mrs Ridley. Bring your knowledge of music, tv, art and everything else in between for a fun quiz to test the braincells.

Form a team (max 6 people) or join a team on the night with the aim of becoming our Alwyn & Courthouse Quiz Champions 23/24 and win a prize too.

We will kick off the evening with our AGM where we share an update on how we did last year in terms of fundraising, spending plans and vote for the committee for the coming school year. (more information about voting to follow separately).

The quiz will start at 8pm so if you don't fancy the AGM you can join us just for the quiz.

CAN YOU HELP?

The PTA need your support. If you would like to get involved with helping to organise social events and you can spare a few hours a term. Please contact the PTA www.alwyncourthousepta.com



Information on all our events, visit www.alwyncourthousepta.com

CHRISTMAS IS COMING...

All the Christmas favourites are back this year. Along with our Christmas Fair we will be hitting the streets once more with Doorstep Santa, we will be running Elfridges our secret santa shop for children only (lunchtimes for Courthouse and after school for alwyn).

We massively appreciate your support so please sign up; an hour on the cafe really does make a difference.

SIGN UP TO HELP
<https://signup.com/go/UanYoQu>

Four small icons representing the events: Doorstep Santa (a Santa Claus head), Christmas Raffle (a golden ball), Christmas Auction (a Christmas tree), and Elfridges Kids Shop (a shop sign).

Please read the Autumn 23 PTA newsletter .

http://bit.ly/ptanewsletter_autumn23

PBS Cooperative

Positive Behaviour Support for Families

Each family will be offered a 1:1 session after the 6 weeks

Week 1 - Introduction
Introducing the PBS model & the opportunity to meet the trainer and group

Week 2 - Carer well-being
Managing your mind-set & well-being. This has a lot to do with progress moving forward

Week 3 - Low arousal approaches
Creating less stressful environments for yourself and your family

Week 4 - Increasing positive interactions
This session looks at strategies for protecting and building relationships

Week 5 - Structure and Predictability
How to promote structure and support predictability to reduce anxiety and stress

Week 6 - Reactive Strategies
Change doesn't happen overnight. This session makes sure you have a clear plan if something goes wrong

For further details of how to book onto this course email: tim@pbscooperative.org.uk

PBS Cooperative

Positive Behaviour Support (PBS)

FREE

Berkshire CC have commissioned more on-line courses in Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) in November 2023.

All these courses are available free of charge, for parents/carers.

Please see the dates below, where places are available on a first come basis:

- Thursday 9th November 2023 - PBS Family Course (6-weeks)
- Wednesday 15th November 2023 - Practical Strategies for PBS (Family and Carers)

Further details of all these courses, including the booking form, can be found on Eventbrite via this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/cc/berkshire-pbs-training-1438569>

BERKSHIRE MUSIC TRUST

MAKING MUSIC FOR EVERYONE

ALL ACROSS BERKSHIRE

MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

We offer:

- Individual & Group Lessons in schools and in our music centres in Bracknell, Newbury, Reading, Windsor and Wokingham
- Ensembles and Choirs for all ages - a chance to play or sing with others. (You do not need to be having lessons with us to join!)
- Early Years Music Classes for ages 0-7 years old in community venues and our music centres
- Singing Cafes for the community and people with Parkinson's or Dementia and so much more!

FREE TASTER SESSIONS AVAILABLE

www.berksmusictrust.org.uk ☎ 0118 901 2370 📧 contact@berksmusictrust.org.uk

ALEXANDER DEVINE'S POP-UP SHOP

Maidenhead's only toy shop!

Alexander Devine
Children's Hospice Service

100% of proceeds will go towards supporting local children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions and their families.

Find us in the old CEX shop, opposite One Below in the Nicholsons Shopping Centre

Thursday 9th November and every Thursday, Friday and Saturday for six weeks, finishing on Saturday 16th December.

Opening hours: 9.30am to 4.30pm

Come in and browse our range of new and 'pre-loved' toys, puzzles, games and books at unbeatable prices!

FR Registered with FINANCIAL REGULATORY

WWW.ALEXANDERDEVINE.ORG/CHRISTMAS

Free informal information sessions

SEN Support & Inclusion Quality Mark

Thursday 16th November 0930-1130

@ Friend's House Maidenhead

If you would like to find out more about SEN support, what support you can expect school to provide, how it works, or what the Inclusion Quality Marks is and how it is awarded to schools - come along and find out. This is an informal session with Kelly Nash, Area SENCo and the IAS Team.

IAS Surgery

6th December 2023 0930-1130

@ Community Hall, Ascot Durning Library, High Street,
Ascot SL5 7JF

An opportunity to book a 15minute face to face appointment with one of the IAS advisers to discuss anything SEND related. We will do our best to answer any questions, give advice and support. You do not need to be registered with our service to access this. To book a slot please email ias@rbwm.gov.uk

SEND parent and carer engagement workshop

Tuesday
14 November 2023

12pm to 1.30pm

Windsor Youth and Community Centre,
65 Alma Road, Windsor SL4 3HD

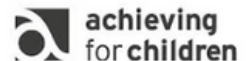


Send Voices
RBWM

SEND Voices RBWM and Achieving for Children Education Team invite you to their next termly engagement workshop.

This is for parents and carers of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). A chance for us all to meet and discuss education services and support for our children in RBWM.

Register for the workshop on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com).



The times for the group above is
4:30pm - 5:25pm:
Year 1 / 2 / 3 Is only £3.00 Per session.



Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

Bear cubs




Ages 5 to 10

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

- 6th October - Big on Bouncing - Slough *cost involved
- 20th October - Halloween Quiz - Online
- 3rd November - Rugby Fun - RBWM - Windsor
- 17th November - Create your own Mr Men or Little Miss Character/Story - Online
- 1st December - Make your own Christmas Decorations - Bracknell
- 15th December - Christmas Film Quiz - Online

*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

