

## Alwyn Infant School



**Build Belonging** 

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

### **OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER**

Issue No. 9 | 14th November 2025

#### What has been happening?

#### In the Playground...

During the morning and after school drops, please ensure all children walk with their scooters or bikes in the playground. We have had a few near miss accidents this week with younger children almost scootering into people. It is a busy area so no scooting or cycling in the playground. It is a good opportunity to practice walking with their scooters, just as they would when crossing a road. An important skill to learn!



#### Anti-Bullying Week with Odd Socks

This week we have focused on 'Power for Good' and taken part in many activities for Anti-Bullying Week. On Monday, many people came into school wearing odd socks!

It was a great way to introduce and celebrate the things that can make us unique individuals but still be part of the Alwyn family. It also helps to learn about bullying and its affects as well as the steps we can all take together to stop it. Further information for parents can be found on the Anti-bullying Alliance website.

#### Remembrance Day- 11th November

The children talked about the importance of Rememb<mark>rance Day and</mark> took part in the 2 minute silence. They were all very interested to learn about the significance of the poppy as a way of remembering. Many of our children from Squirrels, Rainbows and other organisations told their friends about the parade on Remembrance Sunday. We were very proud of them for taking part.

#### Children in Need and Diabetes Awareness

Thank you for your donations to Children in Need and help to make a difference to the lives of children who need some support. It is a fun way to help us understand that some people are less fortunate than others and have different live experiences.



It also teaches us the importance of helping others and being kind. Donations can still be <u>made here</u>. It was also lovely to see some blue to develop our awareness of diabetes. A few of our children told their friends about families members who have this condition and the different ways they manage it. For further information you can visit Diabetes UK.



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

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!



#### Next week: Road Safety Week

The whole school will be focusing on road safety to emphasis on:

- using car seats
- holding hands to cross a road
- crossing a road safely.

See the poster for more details.



#### 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

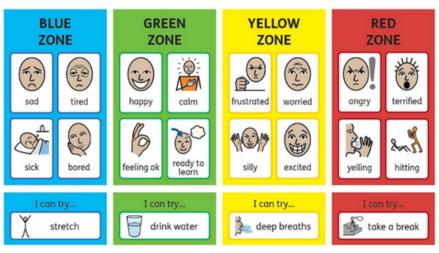
## What is meant by responsibility?

- •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.

## Helping your child to be safe on roads

# Why is this important?

## Many parents are confused about the law on child seats and how it affects them.

This is why we have teamed up with **Brake**, **the road safety charity**, to let you know what the law says and why it is so important to use the right child seat and make sure you're all belted up before setting off!

UK law states that children should use a child car seat until they're 12 years old or 135cm tall, whichever comes first.

Brake recommends that children should use a correctly sized and fitted child seat until they are 150cm tall.

You can choose a child seat based on your child's height or weight.

You must only use a child seat if your car's seat belt has a diagonal strap, unless the seat is either:

- · specifically designed for use with a lap seat belt; or
- · fitted using ISOFIX anchor points.

You must deactivate front airbags before fitting a rear-facing baby seat in a front seat.

You must not fit a child seat in side-facing seats.

Booster cushions or backless booster seats should not be used for children who are under 125cm tall or weigh less than 22kg.

For UK law relating to child seats: www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules



For expert advice on choosing and fitting a child seat: www.goodeggcarsafety.com

Today we have learned about road safety by taking part in a Beep Beep! Day organised by Brake. Find out more at www.brake.org.uk/beep

Department for Transport (2024) Reported road casualties Great Britain, annual report: 2023 and associated data sets.
 Acardmon Animations LTD 2025 / © Broke 2025

In 2023, 401 child passengers aged 12 or under were killed or seriously injured in road crashes.\* Using a correctly sized and fitted child seat significantly reduces the risk of a child dying or being seriously hurt if a crash happens.

- Never hold a child in your arms in a vehicle - use a modern child seat suitable for their size and weight until they are 150cm tall.
- Always use an EU-approved child seat with a label showing a capital E in a circle.
- Check manufacturers' labels and instructions carefully when buying a child seat, to make sure it is appropriate for your child's height and weight.
- ✓ Make sure the child seat is fitted at the correct angle and doesn't move. The harness should fit tightly with the chest clip level with your child's armpits.
- Follow the fitting instructions exactly. If possible, fit the seat in the middle of the back of your car. If you need to use a taxi, use one you can fit your child seat into.
- Ensure your child and all passengers are belted up before every journey – that includes you too!

Organised by



#### Holding Hands to Cross a Road

The key messages are:

- always hold their hand when walking near roads
- always find a safe place to cross the road
- look out for traffic by using the Green Cross Code
- always walk on the pavement or footpath
- walk with the scooter when crossing

Please talk to your child about the messages

## On average 9 children aged 7 or under are killed or injured on roads in Britain every day.

We are doing our bit to try and make sure this never happens in our community. Please help us by supervising your child closely on roads and helping them learn about road safety.

We are also encouraging children to become champions for road safety and to use 'pester power' to ask grown ups to help keep them safe on roads.

#### What have Reception been learning this week?

This week has been a busy week in school. We have been finding out the meaning of bullying and what we can do to be kind to others. We have learnt about the importance of Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies.

The children have been learning the phonic sounds u and r. We have also started to learn the helpful words 'go' and 'into'.

In Maths we have been recognising and describing the properties of squares and rectangles and comparing amounts up to 10 using the vocabulary more than and fewer than. The children have been learning about nocturnal animals and have enjoyed reading our book time story 'Owl Babies'.

Ask me to tell you a word that begins with the sound u.

Ask me to tell you a word that begins with the sound r.

Ask me to find you examples of squares and rectangles in our environment.

Ask me to name 3 animals that are nocturnal.

Ask me to tell you the names of the owls in Owl Babies.

Next week is Road safety awareness week and we will be focussing on car safety, holding hands and crossing the road. We will be looking at the importance of wearing reflective clothing and being seen when it is dark. We will also be starting to learn some of our Christmas songs in preparation for our Christmas performances next month! Enjoy your weekend.

#### What have Year 1 been learning this week?

Year One have been very busy this week exploring lots of important themes about themselves and the wider world. They have been learning how to use their voice for good to help stop bullying and understand where fundraising goes to help Children In Need and the Poppy Appeal. We even adapted a famous Michael Rosen poem based on some very smelly, sticky food in our continuous provision!

We have delved deeper into the part-whole model in maths to start writing addition sentences. In English the children have orally told ideas for a wishing tale, inspired by Oliver Jeffers' beautiful book 'How to Catch a Star'. We've also been noting seasonal changes, exploring gifts in RE and learning the difference between natural (physical) and manmade (human) features of the world around us. What an interesting week we've had!

Ask me to name a natural feature and a human feature I can see in the world around me.

Ask me to recite my 'We're Going on a Food Hunt' poem.

Ask me to write an addition sentence where one part is 5 and one part is 3.

Ask me to share my idea for a wish that a character might have. Ask me to say how I feel when I give a gift to someone.

Next week we will explore keeping ourselves safe in Road Safety Week!

## KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026 Autumn Term 2

17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> November Road Safety Week

19<sup>th</sup> November SEND Coffee & Chat

27th November Year 182 PTA Elfridges after school

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

29<sup>th</sup> November PTA Christmas Fete 12 noon - 3pm

9th & 10<sup>th</sup> December, 9.30am Reception Performance

16th December
Christmas jumper day
Christmas lunch

16th & 17<sup>th</sup> December, 9.30am Yr1 Christmas Play

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

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

Enjoy the break

5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Children return to school

#### What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week, Year 2 have been working incredibly hard on subtraction. We have been subtracting a 2 digit number from a 2 digit number, working out which calculations need an exchange of tens and those that don't. Firstly we used Dienes tens and ones, then moved on to a pictorial written method. We have also been learning the names of the seas and oceans that surround the United Kingdom.

Ask me to work out the following calculations using my written method.

23-14

45-17

38-19

Ask me to name the four seas/ oceans that surround the United Kingdom.

Ask me to name the capital cities of-

England

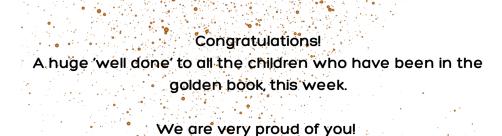
Wales

Scotland

Northern Ireland

Ask me to retell you the story of Vlad and The Great Fire of London Ask me to tell you a sentence containing the conjunction 'but'.

Next week we will be innovating Vlad and the Great Fire of London with our own ideas.







School Year 2025-2026 SpringTerm 3

5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Children return to school

12th-16th January Music Week

9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> February Book Week Book Fair after school

16<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> February Half Term Break & Challenge Enjoy the break

Spring Term 4
23rd February
Children return to School

23rd - 27<sup>th</sup> February Art/DT Week

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

5th March World Book Day

10th & 12<sup>th</sup> March Parent/carer consultations

16th-20th March Grown ups into school afternoon



# HELP!

The PTA need your help!

Please sign up to help at the Christmas Fair on **Saturday 29**<sup>th</sup> **November**.

If we do not have enough parent helpers by **3pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November**, we will have to make the decision to **cancel** the fair.

Please sign up here





#### 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 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!





# Drop-in flu clinics

At Foundation House, Windsor SL4 4LE

We are holding drop-in clinics for your child's flu vaccination on the following dates:

- 18.11.25 14:30-16:30
- 27.11.25 14:30-16:00
- 5.12.25 12:00-16:00

If you haven't completed a consent form yet, you can complete one using the information sent by your child's school or complete one at the clinic with one of the team.



Goto the address below to share your views and ideas



cypf.berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/feedback

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

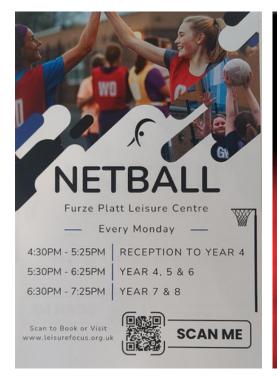


TUESDAY 19<sup>™</sup>NOVEMBER AT 9.00AM

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: 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.



## **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
$\rightarrow$	<b>→</b>	$\rightarrow$	$\longrightarrow$

#### 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.