



# Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

## OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 33 | 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### What has been happening?

Welcome back to the last term of the school year. It is a busy term so please keep an eye on the key dates list and the 'Ask Mes' in the newsletter.

#### The Power of Quiet Kindness

The Year 1 and 2 children took part in a fabulous assembly with Mr Hyatt at the start of this week on kindness. They thought about kindness in the moment such as a smile, a helping hand, or a comforting word; the warmth we give to others, the compassion we show to those in need, and the patience we offer when it's hardest to give.

They also thought about kindness for their future selves and how it doesn't always feel kind at the time but it will help them when they are older. This type of kindness is about learning to follow rules, understanding that we can't always have what we want and there are expectations to follow so when we are older we can be a successful member of the community. This is the kindness shown by parents/carers and school grown ups that helps prepare them for the adult world.

True kindness isn't about how it feels—it's about what it does. It uplifts, it protects, it heals and helps us to grow, even when it's hard and seems unfair. Let's challenge ourselves to be kind in all its forms. Not just when it's easy, but especially when it's not. That is the power of quiet kindness.

#### Happy Eid ul-Adha

We wish all families celebrating Eid this weekend a lovely time. This is an important festival in the Muslim faith. If you would like to know more, please [follow this link](#). You could challenge yourselves and try out the quiz.



#### Phonics Screening Check

Next week, the Year 1 children will be taking the Phonics Screening Check. This is a statutory assessment designed to check the children have learnt the necessary skills to decode and blend words to an appropriate standard and highlight the children that need additional support. If you were unable to attend the information meeting, the details can be found on the [school website](#).



Remember to send your child into school with a sunhat, water bottle and apply long lasting sun cream before school.



Look out for more school news on our [Alwyn facebook page](#) or new [Instagram account @alwyninfantschool](#). If you haven't already, give us a like and a follow.

### 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

All school dinners must be pre-ordered by 8am on the day, however, we are finding that if you leave the ordering close to the deadline, the system can throw out an error message. Please try to order the night or weekend before.

Please note that for the Summer term, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the alternative options will be sandwiches with various fillings or a jacket potato with baked beans.

If your child does not have a packed lunch or you have not ordered a school lunch, they will be given a jacket potato with baked beans.

School lunches for infant age children are fully funded so parents do not pay for them. They are yummy!



Reception children will need their bicycling helmets every Wednesday, if they have one. We do have a few in school but not enough for every child.



# 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.



Get colourful and join our colour run! Run, skip or even cartwheel your way around our course making your way through the colour stations. Kids can run on their own or you can tackle the course as a family.

**Saturday 5th July 11.30am - 2.30pm**  
**(gates open at 11.30am, race starts at 12pm, BBQ and Bar 12.30 - 2.30pm)**  
**Courthouse Junior School Field**

**Entry is £6 per runner, free for spectators (pre schoolers can run for free)**  
**Family BBQ and Bar, plus cakes and treats**  
[Click here for tickets](#)

## **The PTA Summer Auction is coming soon!**

The team are busy contacting local providers for auction items and as always we really appreciate their support and generosity. If any parents or carers currently work for a company that would be willing to donate an item, please let us know at: [AlwynandCourthousePTA@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:AlwynandCourthousePTA@yahoo.co.uk).

It could be a product, experience or maybe a voucher - we are always open to ideas.

Match funding We have some amazing parents who, through their work, have added to the funds we raise via Match funding; where their company match the amount raised on the event/stall they have helped run. We have had support from Microsoft, Barclays and Heathrow. Does your company match fund?

<https://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/matchfunding>

**We would like to know what you think! Please fill in [this form](#) to share ideas for future events.**

**If you would like to make a donation to the PTA [click here](#). Thank you**

## What have Reception been learning this week?

This week in Reception we have been very busy finding out about people who help us which is our current topic. We have been looking at Police Officers, Firefighters and Vets this week which has been a lot of fun. We have set up a role play Police station and a Vet and have been writing 'wanted' posters and incident sheets and healing many sick toys! As we are finding out about people who help us, we would love to have some visiting adults to come and tell us about their helpful jobs and show us some equipment. So if any of you are paramedics, firefighters, police officers etc we would love it if you could come in and share your jobs and expertise with the children. If you are able to come in and help, please speak to your class teacher.

**Ask me to sound out and read the words 'the' and 'be'.**

**Ask me to tell you about people I know who help me.**

**Ask me to play a number track board game with you.**

**Ask me to tell you if number 3 is before or after number 5 on a number track**

**Ask me to tell you something that makes me feel good.**

Next week Reception will be revising ai and ee in phonics and continue to develop their subitising skills in Maths

## What have Year 1 been learning this week?

This week we have started learning the recorder in Music. We are learning our first note B. In Geography, we are learning about the UK and the countries and cities that are in the UK. We have learnt that it is an island and we have looked at where it is on a map and a globe. We have continued to paint our seasonal tree and experimented with how to mix our colours to make different shades. We are looking at money in Maths and the value of different coins. In English we have been describing a monster character of our choice - what kind of food do they eat and what do they sound like? We have continued to revise phonics sounds and practised spotting digraphs and trigraphs before blending sounds to read the words.

**Ask me to name a country in the UK.**

**Ask me to name different coins and say which has the biggest or smallest value.**

**Ask me to read the following nonsense words: gnauth, traun, gloud, flebe**

**Ask me to read the following real words: knight, gnaw, laundry, pound,**

**Ask me to tell you what my monster character is like that I described in my book - what do they look like and what are they scared of?**

Next week is phonics screening week - please remember to go over the homework sent at half term.

## KEY DATES!

### School Year 2024-2025

#### Summer Term 6, 2024-2025

9th-13th June  
Phonics Screening Check

11th June  
Year 2 Trip to Wellington Country Park

16th-27th June  
Sports Fortnight: lots of events

18th June  
National Thank a Teacher Day

24th June, 9.15-11am  
Whole school sports morning with our grown ups

30<sup>th</sup> June  
Class Photographs  
New reception parents/carers meeting: 6pm

1<sup>st</sup> July  
Children visit their new classes in Alwyn and Courthouse

10<sup>th</sup> July, 4-5pm  
Grown ups invited to visit classes, new and current in Alwyn only

11<sup>th</sup> July  
School reports sent home

17<sup>th</sup> July, 3.30  
PTA Disco for Year 2

22<sup>nd</sup> July, 9.30am  
Year 2 Leavers' Concert to their parents/carers

23<sup>rd</sup> July  
Last day of school, early finish at 1.30pm



## What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week Year 2 had a visit from Mrs Douglass, a specialist dance teacher. She is helping us choreograph dances for our end of year show. We really enjoyed our session with her and are excited to see how our dances will progress next week.

In English we continued our work on instructional writing by making a disgusting sandwich and then writing a set of instructions. We had lots of fun making the sandwiches as disgusting as possible with mud, leaves and sticks as some of the ingredients!

In maths, we started a new topic- position and direction. We learnt about left and right turns as well as revising positional language such as above and below.

Ask me to tell you the instructions for my disgusting sandwich.

Ask me to describe, using adjectives, the ingredients for my disgusting sandwich.

Ask me to give you directions from the front door to the kitchen using right and left turns.

Ask me to describe where an object is in the living room using the words- above, below , between and behind.

Ask me who Koforowola Abeni Pratt was.

Ask me why Koforowola Abeni Pratt was important to nursing.

Ask me about a special journey I would like to go on and why.

Ask me to tell you about the temperature conditions plants need to grow well.

Next week we will be starting to create a persuasive leaflet in English.

### Congratulations!

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

In Little Alwyn, they love to have their special stickers and certificate.

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!**

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# 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 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.

## 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.

# Penalty Notice Changes

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices on 19 August 2024 there are significant changes in the way that Penalty Notices are to be issued and an increase in the charges associated with them. These are nationwide changes implemented for consistency across all Local Authorities.

Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Headteacher.

## First Offence

For 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 of the first offence.

The second 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.

-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

## DfE Blog for Parents

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>



## 10 sessions in 10 weeks

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks. **5 Consecutive days** of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

[Link](#) to the attendance page on the Alwyn website.



Providing Children's Services for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

## Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to reaching the top?



For every day your child is absent from school, over 6 hours of instructional time is lost.

# ARKING RESOLUTION

## Driving, Parking and Vehicles in Mulberry Walk

Please think about our neighbours and school community, especially as one of our school values is kindness. Drive and park carefully and considerately on the roads surrounding the school at all times.

The road gets very busy at drop off and collection times. To help with this, we have an unofficial one way system that keep cars moving safely. Please reduce your speed and drive slowly around the one-way system. This is crucial as there are very young children walking along the pavements who may not be seen easily while driving, especially in these grey days.

We have good relationships with our neighbours but that can only be maintained with your help. Please do not block their driveways when parking and remain polite if they ask you to move. Any area with block paving is for the residents of the road and not for school parking or access.

Please do not park on the bends of the road or directly opposite another car as this can stop the flow of traffic and make it difficult for other drivers to pass.

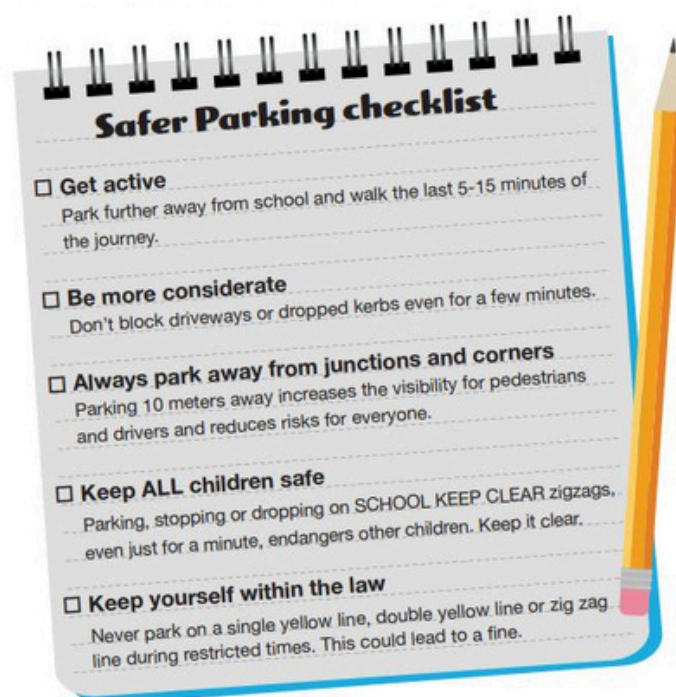
Do not mount the curb as our children and their siblings are very little and not always easy to see.

### To ease congestion, please explore other options:

- If you are able to walk or cycle to school this would help.
- Consider parking further away, such as by Courthouse Junior School, where there are more roads to park along safely and they tend to be less congested.
- A short walk can make a significant difference in reducing traffic and ensuring safety and you can access Alwyn by walking through Courthouse as the gate opening times are the same.

Recently we've had a few reports of members of our school community driving along the pavement, on the bend, at speed resulting in near misses as well as some aggressive behaviours when they have been reminded of our parking etiquette.

Aggressive driving and behaviours put us all at risk and should be reported by calling 101.



**Share the roads, Share the responsibility**





## 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.

### DUCK DERBY

RAY MILL ISLAND - MAIDENHEAD  
SUNDAY 15TH JUNE | 12PM - 5PM

FREE ADMISSION  
TRAIN RIDES  
CRAFT STALLS  
CHILDREN'S  
ENTERTAINMENT

DUCK RACE  
4.30PM - 1<sup>ST</sup> PRIZE  
**£250**



Maidenhead Lions Club  
Charity number: 1193483



**GEMS**  
Autism & ADHD Support Service  
East Berkshire

01753 373 244 / 0800 999 1342  
weekdays 9am to 5pm  
<https://www.gems4health.com>  
[gems4health@nhs.net](mailto:gems4health@nhs.net)

GEMS is for children and young people who are diagnosed with, or who may have, autism and/or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The service also supports parents and carers and is open to anyone living in Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead or Bracknell Forest.

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

Sensory Processing - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 7 to 8:30pm

Autism Course - Wednesday 11th, 18th & 25th June - 7 to 9pm

ADHD Course - Thursday 17, 24 June, and 1 July - 7 to 9pm

Sleep - Autism and ADHD - Tuesday 17th June - 7 to 9pm

Girls and Autism - Tuesday 10th June - 10am to 12noon

Adolescence - Wednesday 2nd July - 10am to 12noon

Managing Anxiety - Tuesday 8th July - 10 to 12noon

Empowering Calm - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July - 10am to 12noon

Visit our website to book your space - [www.Gems4Health.com](http://www.Gems4Health.com)



Information for  
parents and carers

**NHS**  
Berkshire Healthcare  
NHS Foundation Trust

## Let's talk about wee and poo

Does your child struggle to poo?

Are they wetting themselves?

Do you need support with toilet training?

The Paediatric Bladder and Bowel Service is coming to a location near you!

Come and talk to us on the Health Bus for free advice.

**ASDA Slough**

Monday 16 June 2025

10am – 2pm



Scan me

Scan the QR code or go to the address below to find out more about our service:

[berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/continence](http://berkshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/continence)

**PARALLEL WINDSOR**  
6TH JULY 2025

WINDSOR GREAT PARK  
11AM TO 5PM

**FESTIVAL OF INCLUSIVITY**  
THE NATION'S FAVOURITE  
FULLY ACCESSIBLE FAMILY DAY OUT  
BURSTING WITH INCLUSIVE EXPERIENCES  
& ENTERTAINMENT

ANIMAL KINGDOM • ARTS & CRAFTS • COOKERY • DANCE  
INCLUSIVE SPORT • MUSIC • PICNIC • SENSORY ZONE  
STREET FOOD • STORYTELLING • QUIET SPACE  
YOGA & WELLBEING

**CHALLENGE EVENTS**  
WALK, RUN OR ROLL WITH NO CUT OFF TIMES  
MOBILITY AIDS & ASSISTANCE ANIMALS WELCOME  
10K • 5K • 1K • 100M • SUPERSENSORY  
MEDAL • T-SHIRT • GOODY BAG

START TOGETHER. FINISH WHENEVER.

**THE GREATEST DANCER CHALLENGE**  
MASS PARTICIPATION DANCE FOR EVERYONE TO SHOW OFF THEIR BEST MOVES

15% OFF TICKETS  
WITH PROMO CODE  
**SCHOOL15**  
VALID UNTIL 31 MAY

[WWW.PARALLELLIFESTYLE.COM](http://WWW.PARALLELLIFESTYLE.COM)

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## Summer Holiday Activities

**Summer Holiday Activities 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.

**28TH JULY - 2ND AUGUST 2025**  
**BRAYWICK NATURE CENTRE, SL6 1UU**



**SPEAKERS - PANEL DISCUSSIONS - FAMILY  
ACTIVITIES - NATURE CRAFTS - LIVE MUSIC -  
FOOD - BAR**

**KEEP UPDATED HERE**



**MORE SESSIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON**

**3 DAYS OF DANCE, FITNESS & CREATIVITY**  
**SUMMER MOVES**  
AGE 5-11 YRS | NEWFIELD PLACE MARLOW



**No matter their experience, every child will feel confident,  
inspired & supported by our caring & enthusiastic instructors.**

**What will we do?**  
Dance (Street, contemporary) Musical Theatre & Drama,  
Fitness & Yoga, Art & Costume Making

**When?**  
Monday 28th July to Wednesday 30th July 2025  
9.30 - 3.30 (single days available)

**info@janedouglass.co.uk | www.janedouglass.com**