



# Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

## OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 13 | 12th December 2025

### What has been happening?

#### Well done, Reception!

The children in Reception took part in three performances this week; one to the school and then two to their families. They were absolutely amazing!

It was fantastic to watch their confidence grow throughout each performance and their enjoyment shone through every time. There were smiles, superb singing, dancing and use of bells. The grown ups did well with their imaginary bells too! We are all looking forward to watching Year 1 and 2 next week.

#### Year 2 sang at St Mark's Church

A group of children were very fortunate to be selected to sing at a local church on Wednesday afternoon. A local Senior Social group contacted the school to ask if a group of children would like to join them for an afternoon of festive singing. We shared songs such as Jingle Bells, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer and The 12 Days of Christmas and we recited some Christmas poems for the audience too who couldn't believe the amount of words the children had memorized! The children performed with such confidence and were brilliantly behaved, we were very proud of them.

#### The Story of Christmas (Nativity)

Year 1 and Year 2 were visited by David Short, the vicar from St Peter's Church Maidenhead on Thursday afternoon. David gave two brilliant assemblies based around the Christmas story and why Christians give gifts and celebrate Christmas. Lots of children were involved with retelling the nativity story and some even got to dress up as shepherds, angels and kings! The children were able to recall knowledge from their RE lessons to share with David, even telling him what gifts they'd give baby Jesus if he was born in Maidenhead in 2025. What a great time we had!

#### A Note on Parent WhatsApp Groups

We know that class WhatsApp groups are brilliant for building community, friendships and remembering school events! However, we would like to offer a reminder that these chats should not be used to discuss specific school incidents, members of staff, or individual children. If you ever have any niggles, worries, or concerns—no matter how small—please come directly to us rather than airing them online. We are here to listen and help! You can always speak to your class teacher at the door or email the class address/school office directly.

### 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

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2025

Alwyn's Christmas lunch is on  
**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Orders are now closed.**

If you have not placed an order or if you place an order after this date, you will be asked to provide a your child with a packed lunch.

This date is also Christmas/own jumper day.



**Federation Parent Governor Vacancy**  
Applications are open until 3pm on 15<sup>th</sup>  
December 2025.



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

# The final week of term

## Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

### Christmas Jumper or Own Jumper

The children can come into school dressed in a Festive jumper or one of their own choice on this day. The only change is the jumper, so the rest of their clothing should be their school uniform.

### Year 1 Christmas Performance, 9.30am- need tickets

The Year 1 classes will be working together to perform 'Penguin Pete', one of our favourite school plays.. They will repeat the same performance on each of the days. This is a ticket only event. Paper tickets were sent home the children's book bags. There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.

### Christmas Lunch

This should have been pre-ordered via Parent Pay. If you have not ordered a lunch, please send your child into school with a packed lunch as there is not another school food choice on this day.

All the children will eat together in the hall with some festive changes so remember to ask your child about it at the end of the day.

## Wednesday 17th December

### Year 1 Christmas Performance, 9.30am- need tickets

The Year 1 classes will be working together to perform 'Penguin Pete', one of our favourite school plays.. They will repeat the same performance on each of the days. This is a ticket only event. Paper tickets were sent home the children's book bags.

### Festive Songs with Year 2, 17th December, 2.30pm

Our Year 2 parents are invited to come and listen to, or join in, with some festive songs and carols. This should be a jolly occasion and allow the children to demonstrate their singing talents.

There is no need for a ticket. Just turn up and sing.

There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.

## Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

This is the last day of term. We do finish early on this day.

The children will watch the staff pantomime during the morning and then finish off the term's learning. We will have a lovely lunch followed by a whole school assembly and then it will be home time.

All children should be collected at 1.30pm.

Have a fantastic Christmas break!

## 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

# PERSONAL SPACE

### What is personal space?

- Personal space is the comfortable distance between you and other people. If someone enters your personal space it means they are too close to you and you feel uncomfortable.
- Everyone's personal space need is different and can change depending on who we are with. We are happier to be closer to those we know best.



### Why is it important?

- The understanding of personal space is important so that children can express things that make them feel uncomfortable and is the first step in understanding consent.
- We want our children to be able to protect their personal boundaries when they grow up.








### What can you do?

- Talk to your child about personal space and what is comfortable for them. This will change as they grow up. Most toddlers are happy to climb on people's laps but some older children don't even really like hugs from close family.
- Give your child the language to be able to express how they are feeling about personal space. 'You feel too close to me, could you move back please?' or 'I don't like hugging, can we shake hands or fist bump instead?'
- Empower your child to set their own personal space boundaries and model respecting other people's personal space when you are out and about.




## 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?

We have had a very busy and exciting week in Reception this week. The children did an absolutely fantastic job with their Christmas performance and we are immensely proud of all their efforts.

They have been learning about the nativity story and sequencing the events. The children have enjoyed weighing and wrapping parcels during maths and during phonics have completed phase 2 sounds. The children have been focussing on the phonic sounds 'le' as in bottle and 'ss' as in dress.

**Ask me a word ending in 'le'.**

**Ask me to write a word ending in 'ss' e.g. dress, moss, floss.**

**Ask me to tell you about the Nativity story and who came to see baby Jesus.**

**Ask me to write the numbers 1-5.**

**Ask me what I put on my Christmas list.**

Next week is going to be very exciting and the children will be able to watch the Year 1 Christmas performance. Tuesday is Christmas jumper day and the Christmas lunch. Thursday there will be class Christmas parties in the afternoon. On this day we plan to ice and decorate biscuits-please let your class teacher know if you wish them to take part in this activity or not. Finally on Friday is Courthouse and Alwyn's Christmas panto, which the children will be invited to watch. We look forward to lots of fun and festive activities next week!

## What have Year 1 been learning this week?

What a busy week we've had in Year 1! The children are doing a marvellous job of learning the songs and their lines ready for our performances of Penguin Pete next week. They have had opportunities to rehearse on stage and to help prepare props and costumes - we can't wait to perform for a real audience! Our space theme has continued in English and the children have chosen an image to inspire their creative writing, all stemming from the book *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers. In Maths we have been using our part-part-whole models to help understand both addition and subtraction equations. The children have been learning to make 'fact families' with 3 numbers, using addition and subtraction. In Science we continued with our work on the senses. We used our sense of smell to smell different items - some we liked and some we didn't!

**Ask me to tell you an addition equation (number sentence) using the numbers 3, 5 and 8.**

**Ask me to tell you a subtraction equation using the numbers 3, 5 and 8.**

**Ask me to tell you what I wrote about in English this week.**

**Ask me to tell you which was my favourite smell in Science this week.**

**Ask me to tell you which sound(s) I have been working on in Phonics this week.**

**Ask me to tell you which was my favourite song from the Reception children's performance.**

## KEY DATES!

**School Year 2025-2026**

**Autumn Term 2**

16th December  
Christmas/own jumper day  
Christmas lunch

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

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

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

**Enjoy the break**

**Spring Term 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**

## What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have been enjoying learning about statistics in maths. They have answered questions using the data provided and they also enjoyed creating graphs, tables and tally charts. In English, they let their creative ideas flow and wrote their own Great Fire of London diary entry using plenty of descriptive language and time adverbs. As scientists, they explored a range of materials including glass, plastic and metals. They thought about the materials properties and why they are suitable for certain objects. They used the words transparent, translucent and opaque to describe different plastics.

**Ask me to draw tally marks to represent the following numbers - 8, 16, 21, 34**

**Ask me why tallying is a good way to record a large number**

**Ask me to describe how I felt in my diary entry when the fire started**  
**Ask me to tell you what I buried to save it from the fire**

**Ask me to tell you what transparent and opaque mean**

**Ask me to tell you why plastic is a suitable material for the following-**  
**Water bottle**

**Carrier bag**

**Children's building blocks**

Next week we are practising our songs for the year 2 Festive sing-a-long.

**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**

**Spring Term 4**

23rd February  
Children return to School

23rd - 27th February  
Art/DT Week

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

5th March  
World Book Day

10th & 12th March  
Parent/carer consultations

11th March  
Year 2 Trip: Look Out Centre

16th-20th March  
Grown ups into school  
afternoon

20th March  
Non-uniform for Comic Relief

23rd March  
Drama Workshops

27th March  
Last day of term.  
Children home at 1.30pm

30th March - 10<sup>th</sup> April  
Easter holidays

**Summer Term 5**

13th April  
All children back to school

# 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	8.45am	8.50am	8.50am
Lunch	11.45pm - 12.45pm	12pm - 1pm	12.20pm - 1.20pm
Finish	3.15pm	3.20pm	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.

# Community Pages: Christmas Holiday Activity Clubs

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.



**FOOTBALL CAMP** **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Click here to book! **Ofsted Registered** **LET THEM PLAY!**

**Price + Offers**  
 from £20 per day  
 Sibling discount: 10% off  
 Early Bird discount (10% off) Code: snow10

**Age**  
 5 - 12 Years Old

**Venues**  
 Newbury: Winchcombe School  
 Maidenhead: Alwyn Infant School  
 Reading: Calcot Junior School

**Dates + Times**  
 Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd December & Friday 2nd January  
 Standard day: 9am-3pm  
 Extended day: 9am-5pm

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WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!  
 For Holiday Camp Enquiries- Email [holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com](mailto:holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com)



**MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP** **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Click here to book! **Ofsted Registered** **LET THEM PLAY!**

**Price + Offers**  
 from £20 per day  
 Sibling discount: 10% off  
 Early Bird discount (10% off) Code: snow10

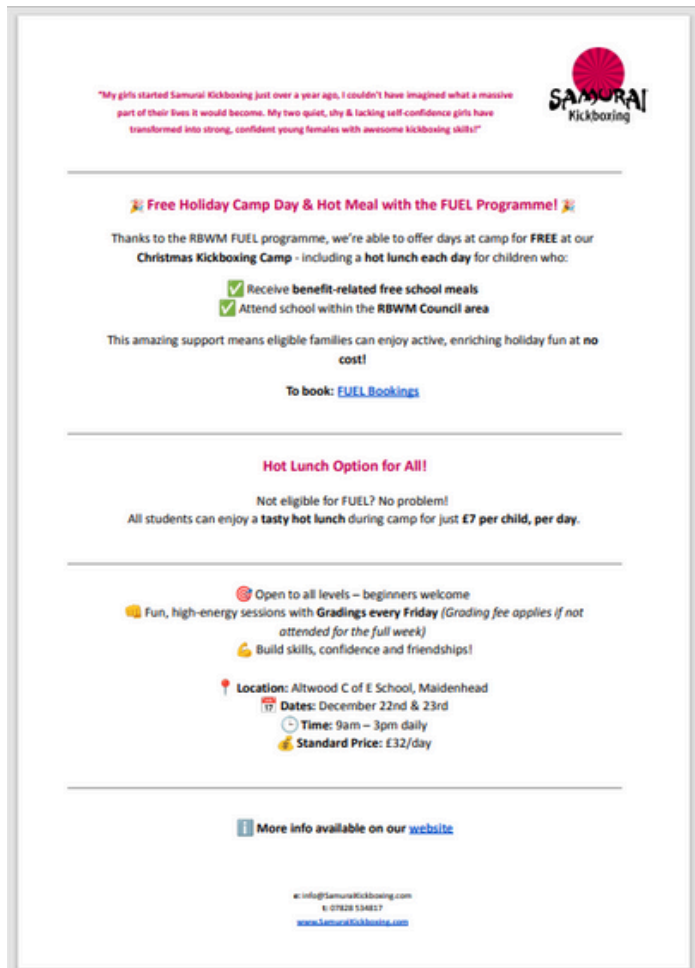
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WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!  
 For Holiday Camp Enquiries- Email [holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com](mailto:holidaycamps@mnrcoaching.com)



**SAMURAI Kickboxing**

"My girls started Samurai Kickboxing just over a year ago, I couldn't have imagined what a massive part of their lives it would become. My two quiet, shy & lacking self-confidence girls have transformed into strong, confident young females with awesome kickboxing skills!"

**Free Holiday Camp Day & Hot Meal with the FUEL Programme!**

Thanks to the RBWM FUEL programme, we're able to offer days at camp for FREE at our Christmas Kickboxing Camp - including a hot lunch each day for children who:

- Receive benefit-related free school meals
- Attend school within the RBWM Council area

This amazing support means eligible families can enjoy active, enriching holiday fun at no cost!

To book: [FUEL Bookings](#)

**Hot Lunch Option for All!**

Not eligible for FUEL? No problem!  
 All students can enjoy a tasty hot lunch during camp for just £7 per child, per day.

Open to all levels – beginners welcome  
 Fun, high-energy sessions with Grading every Friday (Grading fee applies if not attended for the full week)  
 Build skills, confidence and friendships!

**Location:** Altwood C of E School, Maidenhead  
**Dates:** December 22nd & 23rd  
**Time:** 9am – 3pm daily  
**Standard Price:** £32/day

More info available on our [website](#)

[info@samuraikickboxing.com](mailto:info@samuraikickboxing.com)  
 01753 534817  
[www.samuraikickboxing.com](http://www.samuraikickboxing.com)



**SIGN UP TODAY EARLY BIRD OFFER** **ENDS MIDNIGHT 7TH DECEMBER 2025**

**IPRO FOOTBALL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CAMPS**

**2 DAY CAMP 22ND & 23RD DECEMBER**  
**1 DAY CAMP 2ND JANUARY**

**FURZE PLATT SENIOR SCHOOL 3G**

**GREAT NEWS!** **CAMP DAYS ARE NOW RUNNING FROM 8:30AM - 5:00PM**

**SCAN ME TO BOOK**

CALL 07908 172175, VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR EMAIL US AT [OFFICE@IPROFOOTBALLCOACHING.CO.UK](mailto:OFFICE@IPROFOOTBALLCOACHING.CO.UK)

[IPROFOOTBALLCOACHING](#) [IPROFOOTBALL](#)

# 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.

**Saturday 13 - Wednesday 24 December 2025**  
**Braywick Leisure Centre, Maidenhead**

# Snow White

**£5 OFF YOUR PANTO TICKET!**  
 Valid for adult and under 16s tickets on Sun 14 Dec (5pm) and Tue 23 Dec (2:30pm). Offer ends Fri 21 Nov 2025.  
**CODE: AMSSP-2025**  
 Book online at [www.maidenheadpanto.co.uk](http://www.maidenheadpanto.co.uk)

dk productions

## 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"

## Help light up little lives this Christmas

Help Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service light up little lives this Christmas.

This Christmas, your generosity can help families with children who have life-limiting and life-threatening conditions enjoy the support and magical festive moments they deserve.

### Can you make a difference with a donation?

- could make a child's Christmas brighter with a festive arts and crafts session.
- could bring light and wonder to a child's world with a session in our sensory room.
- could give families precious time together at a Christmas respite session sparking joy and festive magic.

Or scan to donate a different amount

FR REGISTERED CHARITABLE TRUST REGULATED BY THE CHARITY COMMISSION  
 Reg. charity number 118947