



# Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

## OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 7 | 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025

### What has been happening?

#### Diwali

Blessings and happiness to all families who celebrated Diwali this week. Our children have enjoyed learning about this festival of lights. If you would like to know more about it, and share the story of Sita and Rama with your child, click [this link](#). There is also a really good [audio story](#) which features two friends debating which event is better- Bonfire Night or Diwali. Spoiler alert- they realise its both!



#### Harvest

Our Year 2 children were wonderful leading the Harvest Assembly with the school on Thursday and to their families on Friday. They sang beautifully and spoke well, sharing their thoughts and poems. They were very clear in sharing the main messages of thankfulness and gratitude.

#### Harvest Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated an item of food, as part of our Harvest learning, to donate to [Maidenhead FoodShare](#). We were blown away by your generosity and the school council enjoyed their first activity of bagging it up ready for collection. A real whole community effort.



#### Year 1 Museum

On Tuesday, the year 1 children set up a Toy Museum to showcase what they've been learning in history. There were a variety of different old toys including; dolls, teddy bears, moving toys and wooden toys. They presented to the reception children, showed them how to play with some toys and talked through what materials they were made of. The year 1 children were really excited to share what they've been learning and the reception children were a brilliant audience.



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

All 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!*



#### Open Door Policy

Here at Alwyn, we have an 'open door' policy so if you have any questions or concerns about anything at all to do with your child's education or well being, please do not hesitate to talk to the class teacher. The beginning of the day is not always the best time as the teachers will be focusing on getting the children settled, but a quick email requesting a chat or sharing information works well.

## 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

# UNDERSTANDING EMOTIONS

There are many excellent books to read about emotions and many are available as read-a-longs on Youtube.




























### Talking about emotions

- It is important that children learn how to understand their own emotions and how they affect them. It is also important for children to recognise the emotions of others and how it may affect their behaviour.
- Talking about emotions is sometimes difficult but many children's books lend themselves well to looking at how people react because of their feelings as well as giving a starting point for emotions discussion at home.
- Rather than going into fight or flight mode, people with emotional regulation skills are able to identify their feelings and use strategies to handle them. This is what we want for our children and the younger they start to understand their emotions, the better able to handle them they will be as they get older.

## 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?

This week in Reception we have been learning the phonic sounds c and k. We have started to recognise the helpful words I and A and using these to make a simple sentence. In Maths this week we have been recognising, copying and making our own repeated patterns using colours, shapes and natural objects. We have also been comparing more than and fewer than amounts. In Science we have been exploring pumpkins and describing what they look and feel like. The children have been enjoying learning about Diwali and can retell the story of Rama and Sita.

**Ask me a word beginning with the /c/ sound.**

**Ask me a word beginning with the /k/ sound.**

**Ask me to tell you the story of Rama and Sita.**

**Ask me to create a repeated pattern using objects.**

**Ask me to say a number more than 4.**

**Ask me to describe a pumpkin.**

After half term, we will be finding out about Guy Fawkes and how people celebrate bonfire night. We will create some firework poems and start to learn about night and day.

Our new topic will be Dark and Light.

Have a super half term break!

## What have Year 1 been learning this week?

Year 1 have had a busy week making robots in DT. They designed their robot and then made it out of junk modelling.

The children have worked on writing party invitations to an animal in Talk for Writing lessons. They have revised 3D shape names in maths and practised reading numbers up to 10 written as words. We had our last balance bike and cycling lesson this week. We are so proud of the progress the Year Ones have made with cycling! We hope they can enjoy some good cycles over half term.

**Ask me what food I chose to include in my party invitation.**

**Ask me to tell you which 3D shapes are good to use at the bottom of a shape tower and why.**

**Ask me to read these words to you: zero, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten.**

**Ask me what I like about my robot that I built.**

**Ask me what I might change if I were to build another robot.**

After half term, we will be starting our maths unit on adding and subtracting by learning about parts and wholes.

## KEY DATES!

**School Year 2025-2026**

**Autumn Term 1**

**27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> October**

**Half term holiday, no school**

**Autumn Term 2**

**3<sup>rd</sup> November**

**All children return to school**

**6<sup>th</sup> November**

**PTA Quiz and AGM**

**10<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> November**

**Anti-Bullying Week**

**10<sup>th</sup> November**

**Flu vaccines**

**Odd Socks Day**

**11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day**

**11am silence**

**13<sup>th</sup> November**

**Michael Rosen Day**

**14<sup>th</sup> November**

**Children in Need & Diabetes Day**

**SEND Coffee morning,  
2.15pm**

**17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> November**

**Road Safety Week**

## What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week, Year 2 have been putting the finishing touches to their Harvest celebration. We are so impressed with the amount of words and lyrics that the children have managed to memorise. We have also been finishing off science and history units. The knowledge that the children have remembered is impressive. Well done everybody!

Ask me to tell you how my machine works

Ask me to name three adverbs that I have used

Ask me to tell you a subordinating conjunction I have used

Ask me to add 10 more and 10 less to these numbers:

23, 45, 67, 36, 89

Ask me to use my number bonds to work out the following calculations:

$23 + 9$

$34 + 8$

$76 + 5$

Ask me to sequence the events of the Great Fire of London

Ask me to name the architect that redesigned London

Ask me to tell you what all animals' four needs for survival are

Ask me to tell you what a reptiles' fifth need is

Next term we will be starting our geography topic about the UK. Please note changes to PE days on the posters outside the classrooms.

**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

#### Autumn Term 2

27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> November  
PTA Elfridges after school

29th November  
PTA Christmas Fete

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

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

#### 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  
Enjoy the break

23rd February  
Children return to School

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



## 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

### Clothes Collection

A brilliant effort from both schools in the clothing donations. Thank you!

What happens to the clothes?

The clothing will make journeys all over the world starting their new life! This can be a purpose built second hand store in Eastern Europe or South America, or a market stall in East or West Africa, providing valuable employment for importers, warehouse staff, transport companies and stall holders as well as affordable clothes for local people.



**THURSDAY 6TH NOVEMBER**

**DOORS OPENS 7.15PM. AGM STARTS AT 7.30PM**

**QUIZ STARTS AT 8PM**

**VENUE: ALWYN SCHOOL HALL**

**TICKETS £3 EACH**

**TICKETS CAN BE BOUGHT HERE**

**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 25/26 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.**

**PTA Events and Dates for your diary**

**Quiz night - 6<sup>th</sup> November**

**Elfridges Y1 / Y2 - 27th November after school**

**Elfridges Reception - 28th November after school**

**Bring a bottle for the Tombola - 28th November**

**Christmas Fair - 29th November**

**As always, we can't run these events without you.**

**If you can spare an hour to help, [sign up here](#)**

These events are an important part of school life but also help to raise money for the school. Thanks to the PTA and your support we have some excellent resources such as the new library, playground markings and posters and exciting new play equipment.

# 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.

## Be part of a child's village

Join our community of local foster carers, experienced and new, as you shape the life and future of a child together. Share knowledge, share skills, come together and be part of a child's village.

Local authority  
**Fostering SOUTH EAST**  Funded by  
 UK Government



Enquire or check out the website for more information

E: [info@lafosteringse.org.uk](mailto:info@lafosteringse.org.uk)

T: 0300 131 2797

W: [achievingforchildren.org.uk/contact-fostering](http://achievingforchildren.org.uk/contact-fostering)



**achieving for children**

I didn't think I could...



...but now I am

Enquire or check out the website for more information

E: [info@lafosteringse.org.uk](mailto:info@lafosteringse.org.uk)

T: 0300 131 2797

W: [achievingforchildren.org.uk/contact-fostering](http://achievingforchildren.org.uk/contact-fostering)

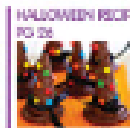


You could be exactly the right person, no matter your background, culture, religion, ethnicity, sexuality or relationship status to be a great foster carer!

Enquire today to find out how fostering could be right for you.

Local authority  
**achieving for children**

Local authority  
**Fostering SOUTH EAST**  Funded by  
 UK Government



MAGAZINE & WEBSITE

THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

[raring2go.co.uk](http://raring2go.co.uk)

AUTUMN 2025

<https://magazines.raring2go.co.uk/maidenheadandwindsor/autumn2025/>

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>TH</sup> NOVEMBER AT 9.00AM**

MEET AT YOUR SCHOOLS RECEPTION

# FREE KICKBOXING TOURNAMENT

For age 4 - Year 2



**Sunday 16th November 2025**

Join our Annual Kickboxing Tournament!

Discover the thrill of Kickboxing, fun challenges like High Kick & Flying Kick!

Non-competitive morning of fun activities - every child receives a participation medal

SCAN TO BOOK



Venue  
**St Piran's School,  
Maidenhead**



07828 534817

info@samuraikickboxing.com

www.samuraikickboxing.com



## 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.co.uk | Search: "Kidwells Park Skatepark Project"

Lei Lani  
Fitness



## FAMILY FIT TOGETHER MINIS

Saturdays 11.30pm-12.15pm

Perfect for families with toddlers and younger children

Join us for an exciting opportunity to have fun and be active with your children. Make memories, stay fit, and have fun together. Laugh, bond and burn some energy with exercise and fitness games the whole family will enjoy!

## FAMILY FIT TOGETHER

Saturdays 12.30pm-1.30pm

Woodlands Park Centre  
Manifold Way  
SL6 3GW

£5 each per session  
50% Sibling discounts  
Family price £15 per session  
(family of 4)



f Lei-Lani Fitness or Natalie Lei-Lani  
i lei\_lanifitness or leisworkout  
t 07538440022  
e natalie@lei-lani.co.uk

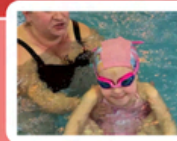


Bootcamps - Legs, Bums & Tums - Burnnn - Sports Birthday Parties - Mama Fitcamp - Flex n Core

spaces available

Term time only  
warm pools  
small classes

## SWIMMING CLASSES



Dive into confidence and fun with Let's Dive In! Swimming lessons. Offering baby/toddler sessions through to learn to swim, swim squads water fit, adults and synchro!

Contact us to find the right session to thrive in the pool

07966 937101

www.letsdivein.co.uk

info@letsdivein.co.uk

## Community Pages: What can we do at half term?

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** Ofsted Registered **let them play! Football**

Click Here Click Here Click Here  
**BOOK NOW**  
Click Here Click Here Click Here

**OCTOBER HALF-TERM**

**Price + Offers**  
from £20 per day

**Sibling discount:** 10% off

**Early Bird discount:** PUM10- 10% off

**Age** Your partner's age  
**5-12-year-olds**

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

**Dates + Times**  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October  
Standard day: 9am-3pm  
Extended day until 5pm

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



**MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP** Ofsted Registered **let them play!**

Click Here Click Here Click Here  
**BOOK NOW**  
Click Here Click Here Click Here

**OCTOBER HALF-TERM**

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



**WISE OWLS CLUBS**  
**OCTOBER HALF TERM**

**A FRIGHTFULLY FUN CLUB**

27 - 31 October  
8:30AM - 5:30pm  
Courthouse School, Maidenhead, SL6 5HE

Pay by Tax-Free Childcare

**SPOOKY ART & CRAFT**  
**SPOOKY SPORTS**  
**PUMPKIN CARVING**  
**PARK TRIPS**  
**CINEMA TRIP**  
**BAKING**  
**PARTIES**  
**TRICK O' TREATING**

**BOOK NOW**

JUNIOR CLUB: 3-6 YRS  
DISCOVERY CLUB: 7-14 YRS  
facebook/wisewiseclub  
wiseowlschildcare.co.uk

**wise owls childcare**

### To all Maidenhead artists...

Josh Reynolds, our MP, is asking all budding artist to create a Christmas card that really captures the essence of Christmas in Maidenhead.

The suggested size is A5. Designs need to be bold and bright and preferably done in paint, felt tips or crayons as coloured pencils do not reproduce well when printed. Two-dimensional designs are preferred as materials like glitter and cotton wool do not work when printed.

The competition is for children aged 11 and under who live in his constituency. The winning entry is personally chosen by him and will be printed and sent out with Christmas wishes to people across Maidenhead as well as politicians, royalty, and leaders across the world.

Entries for the competition should be marked 'Josh Reynold's Christmas Card Competition' and sent to Maidenhead Advertiser, 48 Bell Street, Maidenhead, SL6 1HX. Entries should also include the full name, age and school or organisation (such as a cub or brownie pack) of the entrant as well as a parent's name, address and phone number. The closing date for entries is **Tuesday, November 4** and there will be a prize.

# 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.