



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

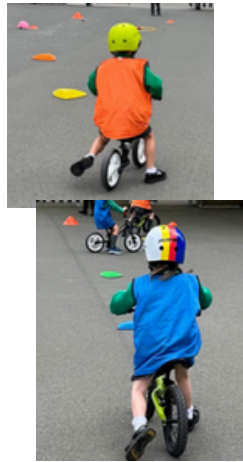
Issue No. 3 | 26th September 2025

What has been happening?

Year 1 Cycling in PE

The Year 1 children have continued their fantastic learning from reception and have cycling lessons this term. It is a great opportunity to learn and develop new skills but also a great way to develop core strength and balance. Believe it or not, these are vital developmental skills that support handwriting. The children love their sessions with Mr Baker.

Thank you to all the families that remember to send in a helmet each Wednesday.



Before and After School Clubs (Years 1 and 2)

Our clubs had a very successful start this term. We have sewing, choir, yoga, kickboxing, football, multiskills, gymnastics and, TechyTots, and maths. Some of the clubs still have some spaces so visit the Alwyn website for more information. The pictures are from our TechyTots club.



Smartphone Free Childhood Event

The evening was a great success with many parents attending from various local schools. It was a good opportunity to listen to some experts and think about our own approach to phone usage.

Parent Information Sessions

Thank you to all our parents that attended the information sessions on our different year groups. It was great to see so many of you attend and keen to support learning.

If you were unable to attend, the presentations are available on the [curriculum page](#) of our website.



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

LISTENING SKILLS

Listening is a life skill

- In life, we need to actively listen to take in information and respond well. It is an important social skill for all ages.
- Starting to work on children's listening skills at a young age can help them with communication as they grow up.






How to be listened to



- Face your child and try to be on their level.
- Do away with 'don't' - use positive reinforcement if you can - 'please sit sensibly' or 'please share with your sister'.
- Give commands one at a time (or at an age-appropriate level).







How to listen well

- Face your child and try to have eye contact.
- Look out for non-verbal clues such as body language and facial expressions.
- Try not to interrupt but ask questions.
- Show you are listening by smiling and nodding or saying okay.
- Summarise at the end to show you understood.



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 reading, sequencing and innovating the story of the three little pigs. In maths we have been subitising numbers 1, 2 and 3 and using the words same and different to describe objects. We have learnt the sounds t and p and are excited to now be sending home reading books for the children to enjoy. We have also sent home some 'All about me' books for you to add information and photos/pictures of your child, their family and their favourite things. Please do send these back into school when they are complete, so we can use them to support our topic this term.

Ask me a word beginning with the t sound.

Ask me a word beginning with the p sound.

Ask me to retell you the story of the 3 little pigs.

Ask me to collect objects that are the same and different e.g. conkers, pine cones, leaves etc

Ask me about my All about me books.

Next week we will be continuing our story about the three little pigs and will be describing the big bad wolf. We will be learning the sounds i and n and start to blend with the sounds we have learnt so far. In science we will be learning about our bodies and labelling the different parts.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

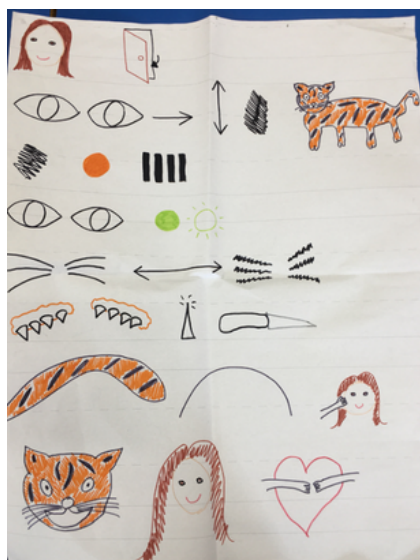
This week Year 1 have continued with their Science topic of materials, specifically looking at rocks and having opportunities to touch and describe different sorts of rock. In History they have also been thinking about materials, in relation to toys from the past and modern toys. In English we have introduced the story of The Tiger Who Came to Tea and the children have enjoyed opportunities to retell the story using puppets or masks, while also thinking about things a sentence needs - a capital letter, word spaces and a full stop.

Ask me to find something that is rough and something that is smooth.

Ask me to tell you the story of The Tiger Who Came to Tea.

Ask me to count backwards from 10, or challenge me to start from a higher number.

Ask me to write the numerals from 0 to 5.



Ask me to read the text map with the actions we learnt

KEY DATES!

**School Year 2025-2026
Autumn Term 1**

29th Sept - 3rd October
Kindness Week

29th September, 2.30pm
Parent/carer session on
phonics

30th September
Reception 'My First School
Photo' for the newspaper

6th - 10th October
Book Fair after school

7th & 9th October
Parent/carer and Teacher
Meetings

13th October
Children's individual school
photographs- full school
uniform, no PE kits

13th October, 2.30pm
Parent/carer session on
maths

24th October, 2.30pm
Year 2 Harvest Songs to
parents and carers

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have been busy this week! We started a new topic in English based around a brilliant book called The Flower by John Light. The book is about a world with no plants and how a boy called Brigg brings flowers back by finding an antique packet of seeds. We've learned lots of new vocabulary including carved and antique. In maths we've been looking at number lines to help us decide numbers that are greater than or less than each other.

Ask me to tell you the meaning of the following words-

Antique

Carved

Ask me to tell you what a preposition is.

Ask me to show you these mathematical symbols with my hands-

Greater than

Less than

Equal to

Ask me which number is greater-

23 or 35

14 or 78

65 or 42

Ask me how I know which one is greater.

Ask me how the Great Fire of London started.

Ask me where the Great Fire of London started.

Ask what evidence there is to prove this.

Next week we will be learning about alliteration in English.

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

27th - 31st October

Half term holiday, no school

3rd November

All children return to school

6th November

PTA Quiz and AGM

10th -14th November

Anti-Bullying Week

10th November

Flu vaccines

Odd Socks Day

11th Remembrance Day

11am silence

13th November

Michael Rosen Day

14th November

Children in Need & Diabetes Day

17th - 21st November

Road Safety Week

27th & 28th November

PTA Elfridges after school

29th November

PTA Christmas Fete

9th & 10th December, 9.30am

Reception Performance

16th & 17th December, 9.30am

Yr1 Christmas Play

17th December, 2.30pm

Yr2 Festive Sing-a-long

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.

SONNING *family* GLOW RUN

Run the sights of Sonning under torch light and enjoy a BBQ and Silent Disco afterwards

SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER
BERKSHIRE COUNTY SPORTS CLUB



KIDS FUN RUN (1.5K MIN AGE 4): £5
ADULT GLOW RUN (5K MIN AGE 11): £24
FAMILY TICKET (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN): £50



ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A MEDAL AND GLOW STICKS

[SIGN UP HERE](https://bit.ly/sonningglowrun25)
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/SONNINGGLOWRUN25](https://bit.ly/sonningglowrun25)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Rotary in Maidenhead Presents... Maidenhead Boundary Walk



4.4k Family Walk too!

GROUP DISCOUNT
Register a group of 15 or more before 9th September 2025 and entry is just £30!

Sunday 5th October 2025
Starting from Boulters Lock Car Park - 9.00am to 10.30am

YOU CAN...
Raise funds for your own charity
Have fun, keep fit and make a difference

JOIN US at this fun event and participate in the history of the Maidenhead Boundary walk. Good luck!

All proceeds from the event donated to:  

Register online today at www.boundarywalk.org.uk



Virtual Coffee Morning Eating and food Autism and ADHD

Friday 17th Oct - 10:00 - 11:15am

25 spaces available!

Join our online informal discussion to cover the following areas:

- What works for your family at meal times?
- What are problematic areas around eating?
- How do you support your child with eating?



Please note this is not a workshop but support group for parent/carers and any medical advice should be sought from your medical practitioner.

Sign Up Today!

Available for families who reside in or have a registered GP in East Berkshire with a child who is Autistic/ADHD (suspected/pathway/diagnosed)

To book your place contact GEMS:

 Gems.4Health@nhs.net  0800 999 1342



MAKING, COOKING, BAKING, CRAFTING, SINGING, DANCING & GENERAL MERRIMENT

At the 11th Maidenhead Town Show in October 2024, we raised an amazing **£3,555 for Thames Valley Adventure Playground** - almost double our previous year's charity total! In addition the Nicholson's Centre enjoyed **footfall of 7666** (a 78.5% increase on average footfall and the highest since for a Sunday since Christmas Eve 2023). Footfall in the High Street was up 59% and overall in Maidenhead, footfall increased by 25% to **33,618 total visits!** The town was a-buzz!

The event was opened by Josh Reynolds, MP for Maidenhead and consisted of

- 28 craft competition categories - all free for children
- 6 dog show categories
- 40+ craft stalls, 30 local F&B providers and funfair rides
- 100+ participants of craft sessions (children and adults)
- 25+ volunteers to help set up
- Many local musicians, mum's dancers and a singing school
- Street entertainers, jesters, facepainters and also a retro ambulance to visit
- 1 main charity - plus 10+ community organisations
- In addition to sponsored petting zoo for children and Maidenhead's biggest ever raffle!

We loved receiving comments like 'It was fabulous and amazing to see so many people out and about' - plus the dog show is now becoming a key date for the diary!

We look forward to making the 2025 event - due to take place on **Sunday 19 October 2025** - even bigger and better! #SaveTheDate - plus a HUGE thank you to all involved!



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 **OCTOBER HALF-TERM**

Ofsted Registered | Let them play! Football

BOOK NOW

Price + Offers
 from £20 per day
 Sibling discount: 10% off
 Early Bird discount: PUM10- 10% off

Age 5-12-year-olds

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

Dates + Times
 Monday 27th – Friday 31st 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



MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP **OCTOBER HALF-TERM**

Ofsted Registered | Let them play!

BOOK NOW

Price + Offers
 from £25 per day
 Sibling discount: 10% off
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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.