



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 2 | 19th September 2025

What has been happening?

Oops, first mistake of the year! Last week we said the school gates were closed at 9am. It is actually 8.55am every morning. If you arrive after this time, you will need to go to the school office to sign your child in as late.

Mr Gray will be at the closed gates to allow any delayed parents to leave, not to let in anyone who is late.

Celebrate Achievements and Golden Book

Look out for stickers on clothing and certificates in your child's book bags. Don't forget to ask them why they have earned one!



On Friday afternoons we have a special 'Golden Book' assembly for Years 1 and 2 where we celebrate each others' achievements and highlight children who have been exceptionally polite or kind.

Our reception children will start having golden book stickers once they have settled in to school routines.

If your son or daughter has done or achieved something special outside of school, let us know so we can recognise and celebrate their achievements during this special assembly.

Outdoor Clothing

As the weather is getting chillier and a little drizzly, the children will need a coat, preferably one that is waterproof. The children, in all year groups, will still go outside for playtimes, learning and PE lessons in all weathers so they need appropriate outdoor wear.

Name Everything

We are already collecting missing jumpers and cardigans around the school. Everything your child wears or brings to school MUST be clearly named. Please do not put initials as one child can often have the same as another child. This includes; lunch boxes; water bottles; coats & shoes



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.



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

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

CLASSROOM RULES

What are classroom rules?

- This week your child will have worked with their class mates to create a set of classroom rules that they have all agreed to stick to.
- These rules will be based around classroom safety and getting the most out of the learning opportunities at school.






Your role in the rules


- Knowing these rules can help you to reinforce the expectations and values of the school, and foster a respectful and cooperative environment in the classroom.
- Sending your child to school is a social contract and so supporting the rules of the school is part of that.







What if you have a worry?

- If you have a worry or concern about anything that happens in school around rules and consequences, please speak to the teacher or another adult at school.
- Showing your child that you are not happy with school can be harmful as it can create anxiety about going to school for your child.
- School staff are there to help you and your family, so reach out with any queries.



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, we have been continuing to settle the children into their new routines and getting them to understand our Alwyn aims. During continuous provision we have been creating autumn artwork, making dotted paintings linked to our handwriting theme on dots and exploring our indoor and outdoor environments. During our Talk for Writing sessions we have been learning the story Mr Wiggle and Mr Waggle and acting it out. During PSHE we have been finding out about what makes us similar and different. We have also begun learning our first two phonic sounds S and A. We have sent home the phonics homework sheets for you to do with your child. Please go through this with them each week.

Ask me a word beginning with the s sound.

Ask me a word beginning with the a sound.

Ask me to retell the story of Mr Wiggle and Mr Waggle with actions.

Ask me what my favourite healthy food is?

Ask me about ways I can keep fit.

Next week we will be thinking about how we are special and learning what makes us a good friend. We will be starting our Maths mastery lessons and continuing to learn the next two sounds in phonics.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

This week, the Year 1 children have enjoyed looking at some old toys and thinking about how they would have been played with. They have sorted toys into toys from 'then' (the past) and toys we play with 'now.' We have continued to look at materials in Science and enjoyed recording what we learnt in our brand new Science workbooks. The weather was better and the children enjoyed using the balance bikes this week. We have discussed classroom rules and why it is important to have rules.

Ask me to tell you what materials my toys are made from.

Ask me to count some toys and tell you the counting rules we revised.

Ask me what the word subitise means.

Ask me to say what things I could see, smell, taste, hear and touch at school.

Next week, we will be starting a new story in English, called 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea.'

This term, the Year 1 PE days are:

Tuesday: Mr Baker

Wednesday: Bikes (remember helmets)

Thursday: Gymnastics with Miss White

KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026

Autumn Term 1

22nd September, 2.30pm
Parent/carer session on life in Year 1

25th September, 6.30pm
Smartphone Free Childhood session at Courthouse

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?

This week, year 2 have been busy following the routines and rules. In english, they have created a colour spine poem. They focused on the colours red, yellow and green. They planned their work by thinking of lots of nouns based on their chosen colour, (dragon), then they used adjectives to describe the noun (fierce dragon) and finally they added verbs and more information (fierce dragon breathing fire in the forest). In science, the children followed on from their lesson about mammals by learning about birds. They learnt that the birds' needs for survival are the same as mammals. They have brought home a bird checklist so they can become twitchers and tick their list when they spot one of the birds.

Ask me to name a bird's 4 needs for survival.

Ask me if it is true or false that all birds can fly.

Ask me why some birds can't fly.

Ask me to tell you how many Tens and Ones are in the following numbers: 26, 65, 38, 41, 19, 76, 63 and 45

Ask me to tell you which 2 primary colours make orange.

Next week we are learning about fish in science.

This term, the Year 2 PE days are:

Holly: Monday and Friday

Pine & Spruce: Wednesday and Friday

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 1

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

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

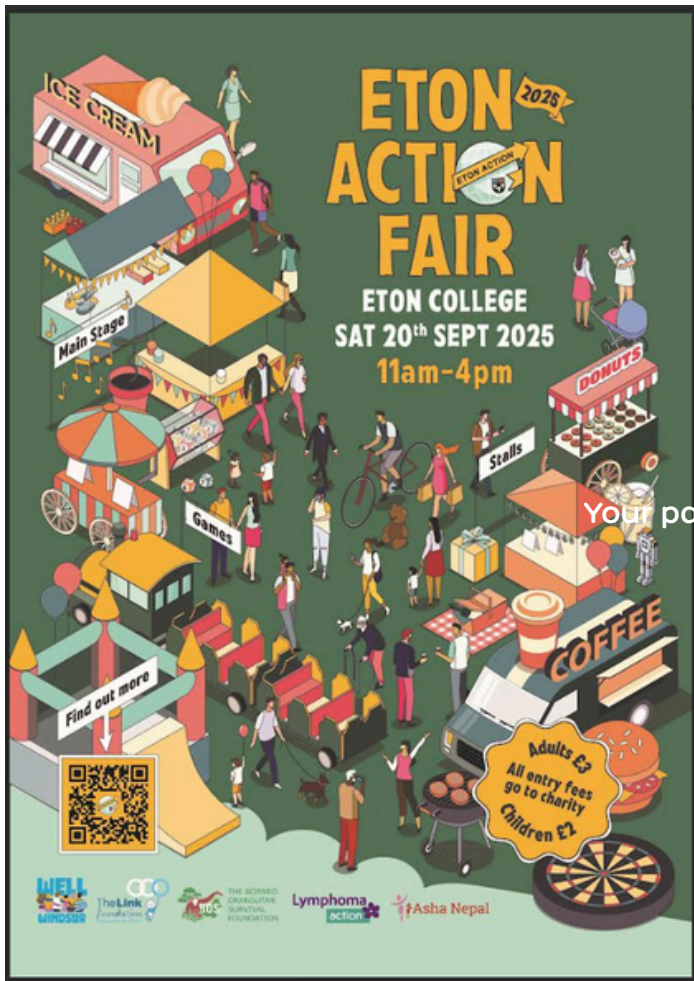
Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Any other exceptional circumstances will require supporting evidence that shows the child has to attend something that results in missed school days.

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: 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.



ETON ACTION FAIR 2025
ETON COLLEGE
SAT 20th SEPT 2025
11am-4pm

ICE CREAM, Main Stage, Stalls, Games, COFFEE, Donuts, Adults £3, All entry fees go to charity, Children £2

Find out more

WELL Windsor, The Link, The Borneo Foundation, Lymphoma Action, Asha Nepal



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

SONNING GLOW RUN

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)

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Rotary in Maidenhead Presents...

Maidenhead Boundary Walk

4.4k Family Walk too!

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: **Thames hospice** **Age UK**

Register online today at www.boundarywalk.org.uk



MAIDENHEAD TOWN SHOW 2025

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

At the 11th Maidenhead Town Show in October 2024, we raised an amazing **£3,555** for **Thomas Valley Adventure Playground** - almost double our previous year's charity total! In addition the Nicholas Centre enjoyed **Footfall of 7686** (a 76.5% 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 **33,648 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
- 4 dog show categories
- 40+ oratorios, 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, Morris dancers and a choir school
- Street entertainers, jesters, facepainters and also a retro ambulance to visit
- 1 main charity - plus 10+ community organisations
- In addition to sponsored getting 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!