



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 14 | 19th December 2025

What has been happening?

Well done, Year 1 and Year 2

Our Year 1 children performed a brilliant version of Penguin Pete. They sang and spoke confidently with some very expressive acting and dancing. A very special well done to those children that had to take on new parts due to their friends being off school unwell. They were so professional that our audiences would never have known! Year 1 were all super!



Thank you for the superb turn out at the Year 2 Christmas sing along. It was great fun and the children were absolutely awesome. They had worked so hard to learn the songs and their class poems and they thoroughly enjoyed showing off their talents to an appreciative audience. The actions for the 12 Days of Christmas used lots of energy and it was lovely for the children to see the adults joining in too - and trying to keep up!

Your donations at the end of all our performances were incredibly generous. We collected £666.58 for our chosen charities. Thank you!

A great last day!

Today, the children went to Courthouse and watched the adults from Alwyn and Courthouse perform a unique version of the Wizard of the Oz. It was lots of fun, with great audience participation.

The day ended with a fantastic assembly and a visit from Father Christmas, who gave each child a gift to take home.

Staff Farewells

It is with mixed emotions that we say a fond farewell to three cherished members of our staff. We wish a very happy retirement to Mrs. Harris, who, after her invaluable service as a Class Teacher, Year Leader, and SENCo, is setting off on many fabulous travels around the world. We also send our best wishes to Mrs. Kyle and Mrs. Booth as they leave us to pursue further career opportunities suited to their home circumstances. All three will be hugely missed for the fantastic dedication, passion, and enthusiasm they brought to our school every day. As exceptional teachers and colleagues, they have had a profound and positive impact on so many children, staff members, students, and aspiring teachers. We thank them for their hard work and wish them the very best in their new adventures.

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



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

RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR ACTIONS

Your child's choices

- As a parent you have tried your best to teach your child about emotions and how to regulate them, you have been a great role model in showing how to solve conflict, you have assisted your child in sharing and cooperation and you have supported school and their rules, but your child has still made some poor choices. This is okay, it happens! Your role now is to teach them about taking responsibility for those choices.






Your feelings in your child's choices

It is easy for parents to think that their child's choices are their fault, but as a parent if you are getting things right with your parenting only 50% of the time then you are doing a good job. Research has shown that 'good enough' parenting happens if you make the right decisions and model the right things at least 50% of the time. Sometimes children will still make poor choices! They are human!







What can you do?

- Praise and reward good choices! It works both ways.
- Ensure you follow through on any consequences that your child knew about before they made the poor choice.
- Support school in front of your child if their poor choices were made there. You may think that you are helping your child by protecting them from school consequences but what you are actually teaching them is that they don't have to be responsible for their poor choice.
- Talk about the incident when everyone is calm so that your child has alternative ways to deal with that situation if it occurs again.
- Put poor choices behind you and your child and move on - we all make them!



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 exciting week this week and have especially enjoyed watching the KS1 Christmas performances, the Panto and of course our Christmas parties!

The children have been busy crafting many Christmas treats including making decorations, cards and decorating iced biscuits. Our class parties were a huge success- lots of dancing, games and festive fun!

We have been continuing to practise learning our phonic sounds and are getting super confident at blending cvc words now.

Ask me what my favourite party game was.

Ask me how I decorated my biscuit.

Ask me to sound out the words pot, red, hat, log, bed, cup.

Ask me to count a set of up to 10 decorations and say the numbers in order correctly.

Ask me where the class elf has been hiding.

We hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and will look forward to welcoming the children back in January. Our new topic will be 'Wonderful Winter' and we will be looking at winter poems and writing our own acrostic poems. We will also be learning the new sounds 'j' and 'v' in phonics and will start to write the long legged giraffe letters during handwriting, starting with 'l'.

Have an amazing holiday!

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

All the children in Year 1 gave an incredible double performance of 'Penguin Pete' on Tuesday and Wednesday. They sung, smiled and acted beautifully. The staff were really proud of each of them, and I'm sure grown ups at home were too.

In maths we have been looking into the properties of 2D shapes, using vocabulary about straight and curved sides. Each child has designed a bauble requiring careful fine motor skills for some very intricate detail and made a Christmas card with a sweet Winter robin. Also, we have been practising our helpful words which everyone needs to learn to read and spell in Year One. We finished off the week with a class party where we enjoyed lots of fun, games and dancing!

Ask me to name 4 different 2D shapes.

Ask me the difference between a square and a rectangle.

Ask me which shapes have straight sides.

Ask me to spell the helpful words: my, her, was and they,

Ask me to share my favourite thing I've learnt at school this week.

Ask me a way I have been kind or polite at school this week.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026

Spring Term 3

5th January 2026

Children return to school

12th-16th January

Music Week

9th - 13th February

Book Week

Book Fair after school

16th - 20th February

Half Term Break &
Challenge

Enjoy the break

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

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have had a very festive week making all sorts of things including cards, Santa's and calendars. Make sure you check book bags! We even made wreath hats with candles representing hope, peace, joy and love. We thoroughly enjoyed performing our festive songs and having fun at our party!

Ask me what the four candles on my wreath hat represent.

Ask me what the four seasons on my calendar are and in the correct order.

Ask me how I made a card using Purple Mash.

Ask me what text and graphics are.

After the holidays we will be starting a new history topic of Brunel.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026

Spring Term 4 cont.....

20th March
Non-uniform for Comic Relief

23rd March
Drama Workshops

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

30th March - 10th April
Easter holidays

Summer Term 5

13th April
All children back to school

4th May
Bank Holiday - School Closed

22nd May
Last day of term
Normal finish time

25th - 29th May
Half Term Break

Summer Term 6

1st June
INSET Day (2) - School Closed

2nd June
All children back to school

5th June
Class Photographs

Congratulations!

A huge 'well done' to all the children who have been in the golden book, this week.

We are very proud of you!



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.

CHRISTMAS AT NORDEN FARM
StoryDen presents

The Comet



Nyla has moved to the city. When a comet comes soaring through the city streets and starts to glow and grow, Nyla can't resist following it...

An extraordinary story about welcoming the new, with songs, puppetry and plenty of magic. Based upon the book *The Comet* written and illustrated by Joe Todd-Stanton.

TICKETS
£16 | £14 under 16s
£56 Family & Friends (4 people)
£52 Early Bird Offer!
Family & Friends Offer ticket, if booked before Sunday 31 August

RELAXED PERFORMANCES ★
Ideal for families with babies or toddlers and children with SEND. Everyone is welcome at this friendly format. Look for the star.

BSL SIGNED PERFORMANCE
The performance on Saturday 27 December at 2pm will be signed.

COMPETITION
Enter for your chance to win! See website for details.

Performances

Tues 25 Nov	10.30am	1pm
Wed 26 Nov	10.30am	1pm
Thur 27 Nov	10.30am	1pm
Fri 28 Nov	10.30am	1pm
Sat 29 Nov	★ 11am	2pm
Sun 30 Nov		
Mon 1 Dec		
Tues 2 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Wed 3 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Thur 4 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Fri 5 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Sat 6 Dec	11am	2pm
Sun 7 Dec		
Mon 8 Dec		
Tues 9 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Wed 10 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Thur 11 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Fri 12 Dec	10.30am	1pm
Sat 13 Dec	11am	2pm
Fri 26 Dec	2pm	4pm
Sat 27 Dec	11am	2pm
Sun 28 Dec	★ 11am	2pm
Mon 29 Dec	11am	2pm
Tues 30 Dec	11am	2pm
Wed 31 Dec	11am	2pm
Thur 1 Jan		
Fri 2 Jan	11am	2pm
Sat 3 Jan	11am	2pm

Text and illustrations © by Joe Todd-Stanton.

Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Maidenhead
01628 788997 Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF
nordenfarm.org

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

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?

Or scan to donate a different amount

- £25 could make a child's Christmas brighter with a festive arts and crafts session.
- £52 could bring light and wonder to a child's world with a session in our sensory room.
- £100 could give families precious time together at a Christmas respite session sparking joy and festive magic.




FR Financial Regulator Reg. charity number 1188947