



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 22 | 6th March 2026

What have we been up to?

Internet Safety Day

On Monday, the children enjoyed a day focused on internet safety with Paul Hay. In assembly, they all enjoyed talking about their favourite online games and watching a video which highlighted how easy it is to be tricked by someone you don't know when playing online.



This supported their understanding with our class discussion which then covered the four top tips for staying safe online. The children all asked Paul brilliant questions to better understand why we play games online and what they can do to keep safe whilst still having fun.

Paul also ran an informative parent session covering key points of online safety and the 4 top tips.

Further information and a recording of the previous years parents workshop can be found on our [school website](#)

Last Term's Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended the book fair last term. As you are so brilliant at supporting school events and buying so many books we earned £936 worth of books. This will really help to keep our library books relevant and up to date for our children. We are looking forward to next year's already!

Planned Government SEND Reforms

As you will have seen in the media a White Paper has been released with proposed changes to support children and families with additional needs. This is not statutory yet as must be agreed through parliament. If you are interested in knowing the key headlines from the huge SEND Reform document, [please click here](#).

Children's Toothbrushing Guidance

A new parent guide to brushing teeth has been released. If you are interested, [click here](#) to view it.



Staff Update

We are absolutely thrilled to share that Mrs. Francisco is expecting a baby! She will be heading off on maternity leave at the end of June. Please join us in wishing her a huge congratulations.



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 by 8am on the day.

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 choices with your child 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!

30 day Reading Challenge

When finished, children should bring in their completed poster to show their teacher. All children with completed posters will go into the Golden Book.

Berkshire College of Agriculture Performance

Thank you very much to the students at Berkshire College of Agriculture for performing to our children on World Book Day. Year 1 watched "A journey to the Golden City" based on the Wizard of Oz, and Year 2 saw "Charlie Cook and his friends" inspired by Charlie Cooks Favourite Book.

Look on our socials for the photos.



Look out for photos on our Alwyn facebook page or Instagram.

World Book Day Doors

We all decorated our classroom doors based on a book in Alwyn and Courthouse. The children then went on a tour of both schools to see them all, dressed in their book day costumes. The school council then voted on the best door in each year group.

Congratulations to our winning classes



Aren't they are absolutely amazing!

Every child contributed and worked together to create them. Great teamwork!

Important Upcoming Events

Parents/Carers Meeting with the Teacher

Our spring term progress meetings are coming soon so save the dates:

10th and 12th March

You will need to book a 10 minute appointment with your child's teacher. This time is for you to discuss your child's progress and future learning targets and ask any questions you may have.

Due to the number of children in each class, you will only be able to have a maximum of 10 minutes. If you are late, the missing time will not be made up as it will affect other families.

Grown Ups in School Afternoon

16th - 20th March, 2pm-3.15pm

One parent/carer from each family can sign up to spend some time in their child's classroom, to support the children's learning.

Due to the size of our classrooms, we are limiting the number to 5 adults during each daily session. There will be a sign up sheet outside the classroom door where you can choose one slot. If you are unable to visit the classroom door, you can email in a request to the class email address.

We are excited to share our learning experiences with you

Easter Bonnet Parade

Friday 27th March

We are inviting our children to take part in an Easter/Spring bonnet parade. Children are encouraged to design and make an Easter or Spring themed bonnet (hat) to wear to school on Friday 27th March. We will have a parade around the playground so they can all see each others' creations.

Please remember school finishes at 1.30pm as it is the end of term. The PTA will be selling treats on the playground at pick up time.

Easter holidays: 28th March until 12th April.

Children return to school on Monday 13th April



Join Our

Easter Bonnet Celebration

Friday 27th March

Create at home - Wear to school

**PTA - Ice cream treat stall after school on
Courthouse Playground**



Top Tip: Don't worry about perfection—recycled materials, paper flowers, bunny rabbit headband, or even a decorated baseball cap are all welcome.

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

HELPING CHILDREN TO WAIT




Why should we teach waiting skills?

Teaching children to wait is important because it helps them develop self-control and patience, which are essential life skills that will help them navigate many life events.

What can you do to help?

There are lots of things that you can do to support your child with waiting. These include


- giving your children age-appropriate waiting tasks including giving a time e.g. you can have the cake in five minutes.
- talking to your child about what waiting feels like and acknowledging that it is hard.
- model good waiting behaviour such as in supermarket queues and traffic jams.
- give your child some distraction techniques for when they have to wait for something such as finding something else to do for a while or playing games like I Spy.








Where does waiting fit into improving behaviour?

Being able to wait improves your child's impulse control which means that they have a better control over their emotions and actions. Children and adults with better impulse control are better able to keep their temper and make good choices in life. They are also able to resist the temptations that may come as they get older such as smoking or drugs.

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 the children have been learning the sounds 'dge' and 've' and the helpful words 'are and my'. We have been innovating the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and enjoyed creating our 'War of the Doors' doors. The children had a fantastic 'World Book Day' and looked amazing in their fabulous costumes! In Science this week the children have planted runner beans that they will watch grow over the next few weeks. During maths they have been learning about 3D shapes and their properties.

Ask me a word ending in 'dge'.

Ask me a word ending in 've'.

Ask me to find and name different 3D shapes in the environment e.g. cereal box as a cuboid, dice as a cube etc.

Ask me what beans or seeds need in order to grow.

Ask me to retell you the story we created in class based on Jack and the Beanstalk.

Next week the children will be learning the sounds 'wh' and 'tch' and the helpful words 'said and have'. We will be continuing to learn about 3D shapes and start to describe 2D shapes on the faces of 3D shapes e.g 6 square faces on a cube. We will also be looking at the number 7 and ways that it can be made e.g 5 and 2 more.

PE day is now on Tuesdays (no PE kit needed).

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

We had a brilliant trip to Odds Farm on Wednesday. Year 1 were so well behaved and we were very proud of them. They were really sensible on the coaches and at lunch time and during the dreaded time consuming toilet times! We saw a cow being milked and found out about calves and different names for cows. We also had the chance to pet and feed goats, sheep and pigs and we saw lots of baby animals suckling from their mothers. There were many different chickens and rabbits and we were able to stroke the rabbits. We remembered to wash our hands every time we touched the animals!

We also had the fun of dressing up in our costumes for World Book Day. It was fun to see who we had all come as! During the day we went and looked at all the book story doors that each class had created both in Alwyn and Courthouse which caused much excitement. We also did a lot of reading and fun book and reading based activities.

Ask me to tell you how long a cow is pregnant with a calf

Ask me why the sheep and lambs have numbers painted on them

Ask me to read you the words from my phonic sheets from this week

Ask me to count from 0-100 in tens and then count on in tens and ones to make some numbers e.g 10, 20, 30, 31, 32, 33 etc

Ask me to tell you when we use a question mark in our writing

Next week in Year 1 we are continuing our exploration and consolidation of place value, using tens and ones up to 50. In Geography we are looking at our town Maidenhead and continuing to look for human and physical features.

PE days are now Tuesdays and Thursdays.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026

Spring Term 4

10th & 12th March
Parent/carer consultations,
please make an
appointment

11th March
Year 2 Trip: Look Out Centre

16th-20th March
Grown ups into school
afternoon

20th March
Non-uniform (wear
something red) for a
donation to Comic Relief

23rd March
Drama Workshops

24th March
Reception Health Checks

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

30th March - 10th April
Easter holidays

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week in Maths, the children in Year Two have continued to brush up on their multiplication skills by learning the 10 times tables. They then explored the relationship between multiplication and division. In English, they were practicing adding commas to a list and wrote fabulous sentences based on our focus text 'Fantastic Mr Fox'. In Science, the children have learned all about habitats around the school. They took a walk outside to the pond area to search for animals and discussed why animals might live in that habitat. In PSHE, the children were learning what to do when they feel like their emotions are erupting like a volcano.

Ask me why a habitat is suitable for an animal.

Ask me what 10×3 is.

Ask me what the division related fact is for 10×5

Ask me what 10×7 is.

Ask me about odd and even numbers.

Ask me where the comma would go in this sentence: The farmers were bullish ugly and mean.

Ask me what I am looking forward to most about the school trip next week.

Next week, the children will be going on their school trip. They are so excited!

PE days: HOLLY: Monday & Friday

PINE: Wednesday & Friday

SPRUCE: Wednesday & 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

Summer Term 5

13th April

All children back to school

13th-17th April

Poetry week & visiting authors

27th April

IT workshops with 3

4th May

Bank Holiday - School Closed

18th May

Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Information Session @ 2.30pm

22nd May

No Pens Day

Last day of term

Normal finish time

25th - 29th May

Half Term Break

Summer Term 6

1st June

INSET Day (2) - School Closed
for children.

2nd June

All children back to school

5th June

Class Photographs

30

DAY

READING

Read to your teddy or pet



CHALLENGE

*Read
in your
pyjamas*



Read under the covers or duvet with a torch

Read a book with a horse in it

Read outside

Read as fast as possible

Read a book to someone else

Read some poetry

Read in the car

Tell someone about a book in 5 words or less

Ask someone to read to you

Write a different ending for a story

Reread your favourite book

Read a book with a girl as the main character
Then read a book with a boy as the main character

Choose a book and design a new book cover for it

Read the first book in a series

Think of a new title for a book and explain why

Read a book by an author who begins with D, J, M or R

Read a book that is your favourite colour

Read a fact book (non-fiction)

Read some instructions and follow them

Read a book someone else chooses for you

Read out loud using silly voices

Read in a whisper voice (whisper read)

Ask others what their favourite book is

Read whilst balancing on one foot

Read whilst eating a snack

Make a book mark and use it when reading

Read a comic book or magazine

Colour in the book covers as you complete each challenge.

CATERLINK'S

BIG FOODIE WALL ART PICTURE



EATE VIBRANT FOOD ART PICTURES FOR OUR WALLS!

FANTASTIC PRIZES!

FOR THE PUPIL WINS:



£20 BOOK VOUCHER!

FOR THE WINNING SCHOOL:



OR



A completed, VIBRANT FOOD ART PICTURE (e.g. A mural) FOR YOUR SCHOOL WALL or £200.

Winning artwork featured in primary marketing!

HOW TO ENTER:



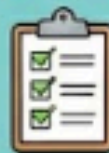
POST:

Caterlink Competition,
Hop House,
Lower Green Road,
Pembury, Kent,
TN2 4HS



EMAIL:

info@caterlinkltd.co.uk



DETAILS:

IMPORTANT: Keep original artwork. Include Pupil Name, Age & School (on back/filename) plus full School Name, Address & Contact!

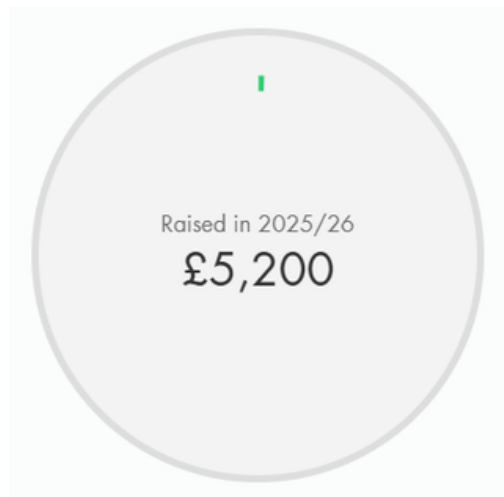
DEADLINE: 5pm, 31st March 2026.
WINNERS NOTIFIED: End of May 2026.

WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR AMAZING IDEAS!



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



The PTA works tirelessly to boost fundraising efforts and the dedication from the school community truly shines. Through a vibrant mix of events like lively Discos, festive Christmas and Summer Fairs, competitive Quiz Nights, and creative colouring competitions, we've managed to not only raise substantial funds but also bring our community closer together. The money raised through the PTA is spent by Alwyn and Courthouse on all sorts of things that enhance school life at Alwyn and Courthouse schools.

Match funding

We have some amazing parents who, through their work, have added to the funds we raise via Match funding; where their company match the amount raised on the event/stall they have helped run. We have had support from Microsoft, Barclays and Heathrow. Does your company match fund?

<https://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/matchfunding>

Easter Holiday Camps/Activities

Holiday 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.



Easter Swim Intensives

Wednesday 8th-Friday 10th April
3 morning course: £45 (30mins) or £52 (45mins)
at Claire's Court Girls' School

| TIME | CLASS 1 | CLASS 2 | CLASS 3 | CLASS 4 | CLASS 5 |
|---------|---|---|--|--|--|
| 9.15AM | SWIM FIN Beginners aged 3-6 years | STAGE 1 ADVANCED Age 4+, can put face in water/swim with noodle | STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke | STAGE 3 ADVANCED Can swim 10m in each stroke | STAGE 4 ADVANCED FINS Can swim a length in each stroke |
| 9.45AM | SWIM FIN Beginners aged 3-6 years | STAGE 2 Can swim on front and back 3m+ | STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke | STAGE 3 ADVANCED Can swim 10m in each stroke | STAGE 3 ADVANCED FINS Can swim 3/4 of a length in each |
| 10.15AM | SWIM FIN Beginners aged 3-6 years | STAGE 1 ADVANCED Age 4+, can put face in water/swim with noodle | STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke | Plus holiday club activities | |
| 10.45AM | STAGE 1 ADVANCED Age 4+, can put face in water/swim with noodle | STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke | STAGE 3 SYNCHRO (45 MINS) Artistic swimming for stage 4+ |  | |

www.letsdivein.co.uk

Book your preference on your client portal or
Contact:
bernice@letsdivein.co.uk for more info



WISE OWLS EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

@ COURTHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL, MAIDENHEAD

BOOK NOW

Easter Holiday Club
Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April
8:30am – 5:30pm
Courthouse Junior School, SL6 5HE

Our Easter programme is packed with seasonal excitement, hands-on activities, outdoor adventures and memorable themed experiences. With a carefully designed timetable and flexible free-choice zones, children enjoy the perfect balance of structured sessions and independent exploration.

- Children ages 3-14 years
- From just £39.50 per day* (only £4.38 per hour)
- Home cooked, healthy all day menu only £6.85
- Activities to suit all interests and abilities

Every child has a pastoral care worker to ensure their wellbeing

"My favourite thing about holiday club is they give us lots of free time to do what we want."

BOOK ONLINE
wiseowlschildcare.co.uk
01628 620013
info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk
Pay by childcare voucher or tax-free childcare



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.

Girls

Want to Get Active & Have Fun?
Come and Play Cricket
at
Boyne Hill CC

"ALL ABILITIES WELCOME"
Just come along on a Friday night.
No kit or equipment required.

**BAR & BBQ
FRIDAY NIGHTS**





All Ages from
Under 4 (Reception)
up to U15 (Year 10)

Girls Training
Fridays U8-U9 6.00pm-7.00pm (Softball)
U10-U15 6.00pm-7.00pm (Softball & Hardball)
Saturdays U4-U7 All Stars 9.30am-10.30am (Softball)

Contact
Jack Spencer Jones
jackspercijones@yahoo.co.uk 07595463584

GOYALS

@BoyneHill CC Boyne Hill CC boynehillcc1890
Address: BoynGrove, HighwayRoad, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 5AE

GET MOVING WITH
MAIDENHEAD'S BIG READ

SATURDAY 7TH MARCH & SUNDAY 8TH MARCH
AT MAIDENHEAD LIBRARY

COME AND JOIN THE BOOKISH FUN! FROM 10 AM ONWARDS

FEATURING
MAIDENHEAD MAGPIES
ONCE UPON A BUS

**THE GREAT
BIG POETRY PARTY**
FEATURING SIMON MOLE

AUTHORS, ILLUSTRATORS, AMAZING
STORIES AND CRAFT ACTIVITIES
FREE FOR 3-13 YEAR OLDS

SCAN FOR FULL DETAILS



[Click here](#) for further
information on the Big Read

GEMS

Virtual Coffee Morning
Eating and Movement

Friday 13th March - 10:00 - 11:00am

Join our online informal discussion.
What to expect?

**25 spaces
available!**

Respectful and supportive discussion including:

- What works for your family at meal times
- What are your concern areas around eating
- How do you support your child with eating
- How you handle food centric activities and celebrations
- Encouraging affirming movement
- Eating out

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/awaiting assessment/diagnosed)

To book your place contact GEMS:
Gems.4Health@nhs.net 0800 999 1342



TISKA

**TRADITIONAL INTERNATIONAL
SHOTOKAN KARATE**



A FUN & FRIENDLY COMMUNITY FOR CHILDREN,
ADULTS & FAMILIES WITH AMAZING BENEFITS:

**BUILD CONFIDENCE, RESILIENCE, GAIN FOCUS,
IMPROVE SELF DISCIPLINE WHILST
IMPROVING FITNESS & LEARNING SELF DEFENCE**

2 WEEK FREE TRIAL

LOCATED IN
Furze Platt Leisure Centre
Furze Platt Road
MAIDENHEAD

SESSIONS
Sunday 8th March 2026
2:15pm
then every Sunday thereafter

CONTACT US

SENSEI SEHMBI
07960699762
n_sehmbi@hotmail.co.uk
@tiskakarate_senseisehmbi
TISKA Karate Maidenhead

SCAN FOR OUR WEBSITE



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.

If your child arrives to school after these times, your child will receive an unauthorised late mark- this affects your child's attendance. The school gates are locked at 9am.

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 | 11.45am - 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 9.00am 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.