



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 25 | 27th March 2026

What have we been up to?

A visit from Perform

On Monday all our children took part in a drama workshop with Perform. The children had a wonderful time exploring the theme of Midnight in the Toyshop and using drama, dance and singing to help develop their confidence, concentration and social skills. We all loved it.



Easter Colouring Competition

Well done to everyone who took part in the colouring competition. We were blown away with the number of entries and the quality of the work. The PTA provided a first, second and third prize and the judges had a really difficult task of judging on Thursday afternoon. The prizes were given out in our final assembly.

Congratulations to our winners::

Reception: Louisa, Leonardo, Jack

Year 1: Hylton, Louie, Phoebe

Year 2: Evelyn, Amelia, Maria



Easter Bonnet Parade

All of the children in Alwyn and Courthouse came together on the school field to show off their Easter bonnets. Each class hopped, skipped and walked along the grass 'cat walk' with great style, confidence and pride.

We were all amazed by the fabulous, imaginative headwear. Well done everyone!

We hope families enjoyed working together to design and create their bonnets.



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



New Spring/Summer Menu

There is a new Spring/Summer Menu after the Easter holidays.

The new menu will be uploaded onto Parent Pay by Caterlink during the holidays.

Please ensure lunches are ordered before the start of next term.

If your child does not have a packed lunch or ordered a school lunch, they will be given a jacket potato with baked beans.

School lunches for infant age children are fully funded so parents do not pay for them. They are yummy!

RED NOSE DAY - FRIDAY 20th MARCH

Thank you to everyone who supported this event. We made an amazing £160.70

Have a fabulous holiday.

We are looking forward to the children returning back to school on Monday 13th April.



Look out for photos 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
RESPECT AND YOUR VOICE



A respectful tone


What we say to others is important but so is how we say it. Being able to use a respectful tone of voice is an important social skill that helps us have purposeful relationships with others. Our tone tells others our emotions, intentions and attitudes and is a key part of communication.


Understanding tone of voice.

Understanding and using the appropriate voice volume and tone, for a given situation, is an essential social skill.

Volume, rate (speed), pitch (high or low) are the main factors in tone of voice along with emphasis of certain words or phrases.

You are your child's main teacher of social and emotional skills and so your use of tone of voice will impact your children's use of it.

























How to speak

- From birth, your tone of voice has the biggest impact on your baby's wellbeing - they understand it even more than facial expressions.
- Studies have shown that raised voices and yelling can slow children's brain development.
- Therefore speak calmly and with a positive tone wherever possible, even if you are feeling cross. Use your facial expression to convey anger but aim to keep a loving and respectful tone.

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?

In Reception this week, the children have been revisiting the phonics sounds taught so far. We are so proud of how they are progressing with their blending and knowledge of the letter sounds that have been taught. We have been finding out about why Christians celebrate Easter by looking at the Easter story and understanding the symbols of Easter. The children have been creating Easter artwork, cards and even going on an Easter egg hunt! In Science, the children have been learning about sorting animals according to their features and in PSHE, they have learnt about how we need to take care of our planet.

Ask me to name a symbol of Easter.

Ask me to name an odd number and an even number.

Ask me how I can look after our environment/planet.

Ask me to name a character in the story 'Each, Peach Pear Plum'.

Ask me a word that rhymes with plum.

After Easter, the children will be learning the sounds 'ee' and 'igh' and we will be consolidating the helpful words taught so far. We will begin our new topic 'Amazing animals' and will start to form the curly caterpillar letters 'c' and 'a'. The children will be looking at the poet Michael Rosen as part of our talk for writing unit. We hope you all have an amazing Easter holiday!

PE day is on Tuesday (no PE kit needed).

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

Year 1 have enjoyed a week of discussing the changes in spring. We talked about what the weather is like in spring and how the daylight hours get longer and the darker hours at night get shorter. We looked for signs of changes in spring on our playground and spotted daffodils growing and trees with blossoms. Do go for a walk in the holidays and see if you can spot some of the spring animals out and about. We used lots of adjectives to describe a setting and a character and wrote some independent sentences using capital letters, full stops and word spaces. All three classes have now completed their units on measuring, and the children have had lots of practical opportunities to talk about length, height, mass, weight, volume and capacity. In Geography, we discussed that we live in Maidenhead and that Maidenhead is a settlement where people have chosen to live.

Ask me to name some things we could find outside in spring.

Ask me to use an adjective (describing word) to describe a spring flower or animal.

Ask me to use measure words to explain how full my glass of water is.

Ask me to compare two objects and use the words longer and shorter in sentences.

Ask me what the opposite of heavy is.

Ask me what a settlement is.

Ask me to give a reason for why someone might settle in Maidenhead.

PE days are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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

6 May
Year 1 Trip to Bekonscot

18th - 22nd May
Walk to School Week

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

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have had a busy week. On Tuesday, they were very excited to visit Courthouse to watch the year 3 Pirate show which was a 'r-oarrrring' success. In maths, they have been busy continuing to find fractions of an amount and shape and this week they have focused on finding one third. In English, our budding authors planned and wrote a balanced view discussing who was in the wrong - Mr Fox or the farmers. We had lots of discussions and the children gave reasons for their opinion. As scientists, the children looked at a desert habitat and the animals and plants which live there. They discussed why a desert habitat is not suitable for a polar bear.

The first week after the holidays is poetry week. We have a visiting poet and we will be writing our own poem.

Ask me to find one third of these numbers 6, 15, 21, 30

Ask me what a unit fraction is

Ask me how a cactus can survive in a desert habitat

Ask me to name the 4 things all animals need to survive.

Ask me my opinion about whether the farmers or Mr Fox are in the wrong and why

Ask me to describe the design for my egg cosy

PE days: HOLLY: Wednesday & Friday

PINE: Wednesday & Friday

SPRUCE: Monday & 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 6

1st June

INSET Day (2) - School Closed for children.

2nd June

All children back to school

5th June

Class Photographs

8th-12th June

Phonics Screening Check for Year 1

11th June

Farm visit to Little Alwyn

15th June

Yr2 Trip to Wellington Country Park

26th June, 9.15-11am

Sports morning with Grown Ups (Sports Day)

29th June

New parent meeting 6pm

3rd July

Reports being sent home

4th July

PTA Colour Run

8th July

Open School Event, 4-5pm

15th July, 9.30am

Year 2 Performance to their grown ups

17th July

Last day of term, 1.30pm finish



PLAYTIME DONATIONS



🌱 Help Our Playtime Bloom!

🌸 We are restocking our OPAL play zones and need your "loose parts"! If you're spring cleaning! we would love:

- **Dress Up items:** Capes, hats, costumes
- **Scooters:** Scooters no longer being used
- **Fabrics:** Large fabric throws or covers
- **Kitchen equipment:** Old pots, pans and wooden spoons
- **Flowers:** Donations of plants, bulbs or wildflower seeds
- **Planters:** Wooden planters or plastic plant tubs
- **Small world:** Old toys, figurines, dolls, trucks and cars, board games

Special Request:

🪵 **Tree Surgeons:** If you have access to log offcuts to help create paths for stepping stones on our muddy areas or stumps for seats

Any donations can be dropped off at Courthouse Junior School outside the front office between now and the Easter holidays.



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.

FOOTBALL CAMP

EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP

Click here to book

Price + Offers

from £20 per day

Sibling discount: 10% off

Early Bird discount (10% off)
Code: EGG10

Age

5 - 12 Years Old

Dates + Times

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Standard day: 9am-3pm
Extended day: 9am-5pm

Venues

Newbury: Winchcombe School

Maidenhead: Alwyn Infant School

Reading: Calcot Junior School

HAF ELIGIBLE SPACES!

MNR COACHING
Reading - Maidenhead - Newbury

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!
For Holiday Camp Enquiries - Email admin@mnrcoaching.com www.mnrcoaching.com

MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

EASTER HOLIDAY CAMP

Click here to book

Price + Offers

from £25 per day

Sibling discount: 10% off

Early Bird discount (10% off)
Code: EGG10

Age

5 - 12 Years Old

Dates + Times

Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April

Standard day: 9am-3pm
Extended day: 9am-5pm

Venues

Newbury: Winchcombe School

Maidenhead: Alwyn Infant School

Reading: Calcot Junior School

Lambourn: Lambourn School

HAF ELIGIBLE SPACES!

MNR COACHING
Reading - Maidenhead - Newbury

WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!
For Holiday Camp Enquiries - Email admin@mnrcoaching.com www.mnrcoaching.com

Easter Swim Intensives

Wednesday 8th - Friday 10th April

3 morning course: £45 (30mins)
at Claire's Court Girls' School

TIME	CLASS 1	CLASS 2	CLASS 3	CLASS 4	CLASS 5
9.00AM	SWIM FIN Beginners aged 4-6 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
9.30AM	STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke	STAGE 3 ADVANCED Can swim 10m in each stroke	SWIM SQUADS (Starts and Turns) Working on diving, tumble turns	PRIVATE LESSONS 1:1 or 2:1. Please email for booking and prices	PRIVATE LESSONS 1:1 or 2:1. Please email for booking and prices
10AM	STAGE 1 ADVANCED Age 4+, can put face in water/swim with noodle	STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke	10.15 AM EASTER ACTIVITIES Swimmers Stage 3 upwards	10.15am HOLIDAY CLUB 11.15am Stage 3 advanced upwards	
10.30AM	STAGE 1 ADVANCED Age 4+, can put face in water/swim with noodle	STAGE 2 ADVANCED Can swim 5m in each stroke	10.45 STAGE B SYNCHRO Artistic swimming for stage 4 upwards		
11AM	SWIM FIN Beginners aged 4-6 years		11.15 ROOKIE LIFE GUARD swimmers Stage 3 Advanced + Learning self rescue and water safety		
11.30AM	PRIVATE LESSONS 1:1 or 2:1. Please email for booking and prices	PRIVATE LESSONS 1:1 or 2:1. Please email for booking and prices			

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

wise owls 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.



Reading Operatic Society presents...

READING OPERATIC SOCIETY musical theatre

The family-friendly Broadway musical inspired by Dr. Seuss!

Seussical!

6 performances during the Easter holidays!

1st-4th April 2026

At the Kenton Theatre, Henley-on-Thames

Book your tickets now!

THE KENTON
HENLEY-ON-THAMES



2go!
Raring2go!

EASTER FUN PG 8
QUIZ & PUZZLES PGS 14 & 15
RARING2GO! PG 21

QUICK GUIDE

SPRING

MAGAZINE & WEBSITE THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

raring2go.co.uk SPRING 2026



NORDEN FARM

QUEST FAMILY FEST

TUES 31 MAR - SAT 11 APR 2026

• SHOWS • FILMS • WORKSHOPS •
• GALLERY • CAFE BAR •

Norden Farm
Centre for the Arts Maidenhead

01628 788997 nordenfarm.org

Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Alwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF

[CLICK HERE](#)

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.