



# Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging      Show Kindness      Make Choices      Adventure

## OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 30 | 15th May 2026

### What have we been up to?



#### Alwyn Dancers

Well done to all our children from the morning dance club who performed at the theatre in Sir William Borlase's Grammar School, Marlow, last weekend.

They were confident performing in front of a full theatre audience. They smiled throughout their performance and looked like they loved it. We were so proud of them, especially as they were the youngest performers to take part.

#### Battery Collections

The School Council have been busy learning about the importance of battery recycling for the environment and have decided to take part in Duracell's Big Battery Hunt 2026. They decided to run an inter-class competition to see which class can collect the most used batteries! They have designed containers to collect them and will be counting the tally each week.

Please check at home to see if you have any used batteries to recycle. Your child can bring them in and place them in their class container.

The winning class will be announced during the week beginning Monday 6th July!



### 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 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



On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, we are having a No Pens Day. This means a day of focusing on our communication skills without writing.

#### Please help at home...

In preparation for this, please support your child in preparing a short talk (no more than 2 mins) that they will present to their class on the day. This is a great way for the children to practise their communication skills. They can bring in an object to talk about or send in some pictures via the class email address.

We look forward to listening to their talks.

#### Phonics Screening Information for Year 1 Parents Carers

The children in Year 1 will sit a phonics assessment after the half term. Come along on 18<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30 to hear all about it.



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

### Communication skills



#### Year 1 Shared Learning Afternoons with our grown ups

Maple Class - Tues 19 May: 2:50 - 3.10pm  
Beech Class - Weds 20 May: 2.50 - 3.10pm  
Hazel Class - Thurs 21 May: 2.50 - 3.10pm  
Further information was emailed to the Year 1 parents last week.

# Walk to School Week 2026.

## Next week is walk to schoolweek!

This is a 5 day walking challenge that takes place during the month of May to encourage us all to travel to and from school in a healthy, active way such as walking, scooting, cycling etc.

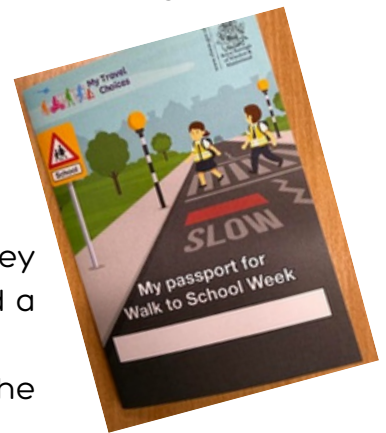
You don't have to walk all the way, especially if you live further away, however you could park away from the school and walk some of the way. This is also a great way to practice the Green Cross Code rules for crossing roads safely.



## A Classroom Poster

Each class will have a poster to record how they all travelled to school and also to record the weather. There is also an opportunity to use their statistics knowledge to interpret the chart and see if the weather affects how many people walk on particular days and also to total the number of how many walkers, scooters or motor vehicles are used.

The class with the most number of walkers will get a certificate at the end of the week!



## Walk to School Passports

Every child in Year 1 and 2 will be given a Walk to School Passport. They will fill these in each morning at school to track how they travelled and a daily activity about their journey.

These passports will be sent home at the end of the week but the different daily activities are shown below if you want to support this at home.

Happy travelling




## 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  
**RESPECTING OPINIONS**




**Why is this important?**

It is important that we teach children that other people can have different opinions to ourselves and that is okay! We don't all need to believe the same things. However, we do need to treat people with respect. Even if we disagree with someone else's opinion, we don't need to be rude.

**How to speak about others' opinions.**


- Teaching children to respect others and embrace differences is crucial for raising empathetic, open-minded individuals. In a diverse world, learning to appreciate others' backgrounds, perspectives, and choices builds stronger relationships and fosters a more inclusive society.
- Model respectful behaviour about other people's views - show open-mindedness. Teach the importance of listening and respecting other's opinions.
- Have family discussions where everyone gets to give their point of view.
- Talk about other culture's celebrations to show you accept and respect their traditions.



**Harmful opinions.**

Sometimes, other people have harmful opinions which are racist or homophobic. Encourage your child to talk to you, as their trusted adult, if someone says something that makes them feel uncomfortable. In school, children are told that we have freedom of speech but that speech should not hurt someone else.

**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 Year 2 been learning this week?

On Wednesday, the children headed off to Maidenhead mosque as part of their Religious Education curriculum. It was a wonderful experience for the children as most of them had never been to a mosque before. They enjoyed learning about and seeing all the different features of the mosque. This week in English, the children have been experimenting with exclamation marks. They have enjoyed practising reading with expression and choosing whether to put a full stop or an exclamation mark at the end of a sentence. They have also been working on persuasive adverts for magical flying objects. In Science, the children were introduced to the processes of growth in animals. They learned the term "offspring" for the first time and identified that "offspring" refers to an animal's young. They had great fun sorting animals into the correct parent and offspring and comparing the groups.

**Ask me why some mosques have a dome.**

**Ask me how many times muslims pray.**

**Ask me what direction the mosque faces and what direction muslims pray to.**

**Ask me to read this sentence "Wow! Your hair looks amazing!"**

**Ask me to name a parent and an offspring.**

**Ask me what my group has chosen as a magical flying object**

**Ask me to persuade you to buy my magical flying object.**

Next week, we will be presenting our persuasive advert to the class in groups.

**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

26<sup>th</sup> June, 9.15-11am  
Sports morning with Grown Ups (Sports Day)

29<sup>th</sup> June  
New parent meeting 6pm

3<sup>rd</sup> July  
Reports being sent home

4<sup>th</sup> July  
PTA Colour Run

8<sup>th</sup> July  
Open School Event, 4-5pm

15<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30am  
Year 2 Performance to their grown ups

17<sup>th</sup> July  
Last day of term, 1.30pm finish

# ☀️ COFFEE MORNING ☀️



A Community Morning for  
Parents & Carers of Children  
with SEND at Alwyn Infant  
and Courthouse Junior  
School.

Raising a child with additional needs has unique rewards and challenges. You don't have to navigate them alone. Join us for a relaxed, informal morning to meet other parents who 'get it.' This is a safe space to build friendships, share your experiences, and offer ideas to support one another.

## Where and when:

20<sup>th</sup> May 26

9AM

Courthouse Junior School

Staffroom

Coffee, biscuits, and a warm welcome await you.

# URGENT: WE NEED AN ALWYN YEAR 2 PARENT TO JOIN COURTHOUSE'S PLAY REVOLUTION!



## COURTHOUSE IS PLATINUM!

We are officially a leading OPAL school! Help us keep our play status shining as an Alwyn Year 2 Parent Representative

## WHAT DOES AN AMBASSADOR DO?



Half termly meeting (45mins) to think of new ideas or zones for play



Help source 'loose parts' (like toys, art equipment, fancy dress)



Advocate for the power of play with our parent community and share positive updates and initiatives



## CONTACT DETAILS

### WANT A "PLAYFUL" VOLUNTEER ROLE?

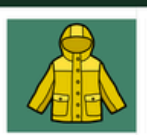
Come and have a chat with **CLEO** (Play Lead) or **MR HYATT** at the school gate.



Click or Scan the QR code or email [office@courthousejunior.co.uk](mailto:office@courthousejunior.co.uk).



**MAGIC**



**MUDDY**



**MAGNETIC**

# 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 issued 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 Lunch Finish	8.45am 11.45am - 12.45pm 3.15pm	8.50am 12pm - 1pm 3.20pm	8.50am 12.20pm - 1.20pm 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.

# May Half Term: Holiday Camps and 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

Click here to book!

**Price + Offers**

from £20 per day

Sibling discount: 10% off

Early Bird discount (15% off)  
Code: MHT15

**Venues**

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

**MAY HALF-TERM**

**Age**

5 - 12 Years Old

**Dates + Times**

Tuesday 26th - Friday 29th May

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



WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!  
For Holiday Camp Enquiries - Email [admin@mnrcoaching.com](mailto:admin@mnrcoaching.com) [www.mnrcoaching.com](http://www.mnrcoaching.com)

## MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

Click here to book!

**Price + Offers**

from £25 per day

Sibling discount: 10% off

Early Bird discount (15% off)  
Code: MHT15

**Venues**

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

**MAY HALF-TERM**

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WE ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS!  
For Holiday Camp Enquiries - Email [admin@mnrcoaching.com](mailto:admin@mnrcoaching.com) [www.mnrcoaching.com](http://www.mnrcoaching.com)

## WISE OWLS MAY HALF TERM CLUB

@ COURTHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL, MAIDENHEAD

**May Half Term Holiday Club**  
Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May  
8:30am - 5:30pm  
Courthouse Junior School, SL6 5HE

Our May Half Term programme is packed with 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 NOW**







**BOOK ONLINE**

[wiseowlschildcare.co.uk](http://wiseowlschildcare.co.uk)  
01628 620013  
[info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk](mailto:info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk)  
Pay by childcare voucher or tax-free childcare

## TRAMPOLINING AT BRAYWICK LEISURE CENTRE

Join us this May Half Term and Bounce, jump, and soar – endless fun for every little one!



**TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

9AM - 9:55AM: Age 5+  
10AM - 10:55AM: Age 7+  
11AM - 11:55AM: Age 10+

## 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.



### Virtual Coffee Morning: Eating and food

**Friday 22nd May - 10:00 - 11:00am**

Join our online informal discussion. **25 spaces available!**

**What to expect?**

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
- 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](mailto:Gems.4Health@nhs.net) 0800 999 1342



### Virtual Coffee Morning - Family, siblings and homelife

**Friday 19th June - 10:00 - 11:00am**

Join our online informal discussion to cover the following areas: **25 spaces available!**

- Creating a home that works for everyone's needs and rhythms
- Supporting sibling bonds
- Navigating family tensions with empathy and realistic expectations
- Letting go of 'perfect' parenting

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](mailto:Gems.4Health@nhs.net) 0800 999 1342

# CONFIDENCE STARTS HERE FOR LIFE!

COME AND SWIM WITH US AT PIRANHAS!

LEARN. IMPROVE. THRIVE. IN A FUN, SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT!

## PIRANHAS SWIMMING CLUB - ST PIRAN'S

Come and join us at Piranhas!

We are based at St Pirans School, Maidenhead.

- 30 MINUTE LESSONS** - The perfect length of time to learn and progress
- MAXIMUM OF 6 CHILDREN PER CLASS** - More attention, greater confidence, better progress
- TERM TIME ONLY** - Lessons run during term time for consistency and progress
- HOLIDAY CRASH COURSES** - During the holiday periods, we have crash courses for all abilities


**ALL ABILITIES WELCOME!**

From first splashes to strong swimmers - we're here to help your child reach their full potential.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE EMAIL** [piranhas@stpirans.co.uk](mailto:piranhas@stpirans.co.uk)

We can't wait to welcome you to the Piranhas family!

**CONFIDENT IN THE WATER. CONFIDENT FOR LIFE.**




## June 2026 Taplow United Youth Open Trial Days

*Calling all Girls*

Are you looking to join a football team for the 2026/27 season?

*We would like to meet you, come join us for training.*

Select your age group and register now at [www.taplow-utd.co.uk](http://www.taplow-utd.co.uk)

Or scan the QR code below

Taplow United FC, Berry Hill, Taplow, SL6 0DA

**Girls U8 & U9**

Tuesday 2nd June - 18:15 - 19:30  
Saturday 13th June - 09:30 - 10:30

Coaches - Football cannot happen without you. We are always on the lookout for more coaches. Please get in touch to find out more.

