



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 29 | 8th May 2026

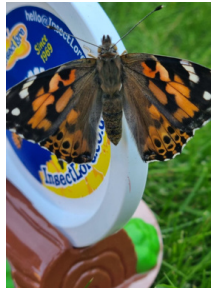
What have we been up to?



Year 1 Trip

Year 1 had a super visit to Bekonscot! The children had a lovely time exploring the model village, noticing the tiny details and watching the trains on their journeys.

We enjoyed spotting some funny shop names, such as Stan Still Photography. We spent time looking at the model houses and noticing how the different gardens looked. We had a fabulous workshop where we learnt about the history of the village. We also learnt about life in different types of houses in the 1930s. We spent some time in the playground and even had a ride on the Bekonscot Light Railway!



Butterflies Released

Over the last few weeks, the children have been enthralled with observing our tiny caterpillars grow in size and change into their chrysalis.

Over this week, many have emerged as beautiful butterflies and some have been released into the world.

The children loved watching them fly off!

These real life experiences really help our children to understand the idea of growing and changing as well as their knowledge of lifecycles. We have seen chicks hatch, caterpillars change into butterflies and we are looking forward to the farm visiting Little Alwyn later in the summer term.



On Friday 22nd 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.



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

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

Year 1 Shared Learning Afternoons

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 has been emailed to Year 1 parents.

Communication skills

Talking



Understanding



Tone of voice



Gestures/actions



Pointing



Listening



Facial expressions



Using pictures or a device to communicate




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.




What does the research say?

Research consistently shows that when parents and schools work together, the benefits are profound - students have higher grades, stronger wellbeing, and greater resilience. This does not mean that you have to agree with everything school says or does, it means that you have to be equal partners.

What could partnership with school look like?


School will offer opportunities for you to work with them to understand your child's learning, these opportunities mean a lot to your child and you should aim to attend a few through out the year. Sometimes these opportunities are difficult to attend because of work, speak to people at your school if you have a good idea to support working parents to attend events - but remember that school staff are paid for set hours, just as you are, and so evening or late events ask staff to work for free, this isn't always possible as staff have their own childcare responsibilities. School wants to work with you - please understand their limitations too.























What if you have a concern?

Your concerns and worries about your child's education or relationships are valid and can be emotionally charged. The way you feel about school can influence how your child feels if you allow them to see or hear your annoyance or upset and this can lead to school refusal or anxiety. Speak to school about your concerns, try to come to an agreement and let your child see that you are working together.

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...	I can try...	I can try...	I can try...
 stretch	 drink water	 deep breaths	 take a break

These zones of regulation are also a great way to help the children think about and identify their feelings, along with an idea to help manage them.

What have Reception been learning this week?

This week we have continued our learning about wonderful animals. In Talk 4 Writing the children have enjoyed reading the Tinga Tinga Tales "Why the Elephant has a trunk", where we have been looking closely at elephants and learning key facts to create our own fact file. In phonics we have learnt the sounds 'or' as in fork and 'ur' as in purse. During maths we have been revisiting previous learning of 5 and a bit, as well as numbers bonds for 10. In Ash class, 2 of the chrysalis have hatched and we now have butterflies, which the children have been very excited about. Oak class is still eagerly waiting and are hoping they will hatch over the weekend. On Friday we celebrated Sir David Attenborough turning 100 by watching clips and learning about his amazing work.

Ask me to tell you a word with the sound or.

Ask me to tell you a word with the sound ur.

Ask me to describe or tell you a fact about elephants.

Ask me to tell you a way of making 10.

Ask me to tell you who David Attenborough is.

Next week, we will be learning the sound ow and oi. In maths we will be looking at different ways of making patterns, as well as counting backwards and identifying whether a number is before or after. In Talk 4 Writing, we will be focusing on lions, where we will read the Tinga Tinga Tales "Why the Lion Roars" and the Aesop's Fable "The Lion and the Mouse", as well as learning key facts.

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

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

Year 1 had a super visit to Bekonscot! The children had a lovely time exploring the model village, noticing the tiny details and watching the trains on their journeys. We enjoyed spotting some funny shop names, such as Stan Still Photography. We spent time looking at the model houses and noticing how the different gardens looked. We had a fabulous workshop where we learnt about the history of the village. We also learnt about life in different types of houses in the 1930s. We spent some time in the playground and even had a ride on the Bekonscot Light Railway! At school this week, we have continued to observe the growth of our sunflower seeds and had lots of fun creating magical lands in shoeboxes.

Ask me about my favourite thing at Bekonscot.

Ask me to tell you what a half is.

Ask me to describe something that I put in my shoebox setting.

Ask me to read the following words: stripe, lends, shopper, theme.

PE days are Tuesdays and Thursdays.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2025-2026

Summer Term 5

13th May
Year 2 Trip to Maidenhead
Mosque and picnic lunch

18th May
Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Information Session @
2.30pm

18th - 22nd May
Walk to School Week

20th May, 9am
SEND Coffee Morning

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?

This week in English, Year 2 have enjoyed being an author and unleashing their creative flair to write a story using the skills they had learnt from Kassim and the Greedy Dragon story. They included similes, alliteration and repetition to engage the reader. In maths, the children revised o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past times. They then practised telling the time to the nearest 5 minutes. It would be really helpful for all children to continue to practise telling the time at home, to o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past the hour. In science, we looked at the lifecycle of a butterfly. We talked about the four stages of life, starting from eggs to caterpillars, then pupa and finally to a butterfly. We observed the pupa stage of our living butterflies in the classroom and completed our butterfly diary.

Ask me to tell you a simile I used in my story.

Ask me to describe my character in my story.

Ask me how many minutes there are in an hour.

Ask me where the minute hand points when it is o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past the hour.

Ask me how many stages there are in the lifecycle of a butterfly.

Ask me to name the four stages in the life cycle of a butterfly.

Next week, the children will be comparing a hospital in Scutari before and after Florence Nightingale's involvement.

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

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:

20th 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.



MAGIC



MUDDY



MAGNETIC

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 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

Age

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

WISE OWLS MAY HALF TERM CLUB

@ COURTHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL, MAIDENHEAD

May Half Term Holiday Club
Tuesday 26th May - Friday 29th 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
01628 620013
info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk
Pay by childcare voucher or tax-free childcare

Ready 'Net' Go! May Netball Camp



Fun, fitness, skills and matchplay

9am-12pm

Friday 29th May
ENGLAND NETBALL
Newland's Girl's School

www.readynetgo.co.uk/camp

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.



**BERKSHIRE
MUSIC TRUST**
Making music for everyone



SPACE TO THRIVE
COMMUNITY MUSIC CENTRE
A BERKSHIRE MUSIC TRUST AND BLOUNTS MUSIC SERVICE PARTNERSHIP

Come to Recorder Rookies!

A friendly Saturday morning ensemble for complete beginner recorder players!

- Ages: Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3
- When: Saturday mornings 11:05-11:35
- Where: Space to Thrive Music Centre, Newlands Girls School, Farm Road, Maidenhead
- Fee: £70 per term

SCAN HERE



[All About Fees](#)

[Register Now](#)

Free Trial Session

Come along and try a session for free to see if you like it!



Need more information?

If you have any questions, just let us know – we're always happy to help.

Email admissions@berksmusictrust.org.uk


You'll also find answers to many common queries on our website's FAQ page.

[View FAQs](#)

www.berksmusictrust.org.uk

0118 901 2370

admissions@berksmusictrust.org.uk



The Croft Clinic

Coffee Morning Event

Making Sense of Neurodiversity

Friday 5 June 2026 | 11:30am – 1:00pm

Wellness Suite, The Odney Club
Odney Lane, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 9SR


Guest Speaker: Masie Cass

Founder of Diversity Does
ADHD Speaker & Neurodiversity Consultant

Join us for a relaxed and welcoming morning of **coffee, connection, and conversation.**

This insightful session will explore ADHD and autism through a compassionate, real-life lens—helping you better understand experiences beyond labels and build greater clarity & confidence.

Open to individuals, families, and those in local schools, whether already part of our clinic community or joining us for the first time.





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20-ALWYN

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Join us to celebrate
10 years of The Baby Bank
and raise vital funds to support families at

THE Baby Bank Ball

Friday 18th September 2026 | 7pm - Midnight
The Castle Hotel, Windsor

£95 per person / £950 per table of 10
includes drinks reception, 3 course dinner and dancing
Dress code: Black Tie



Guest Speaker
Lorraine Kelly



Host
Kirsten O'Brien

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.