



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 3 | 25th September 2026

What has been happening?

Year 1 Cycling in PE

The Year 1 children have continued their fantastic learning from reception and have cycling lessons this term. It is a great opportunity to learn and develop new skills but also a great way to develop core strength and balance. Believe it or not, these are vital developmental skills that support handwriting. The children love their sessions with Mr Baker.

Thank you to all the families that remember to send in a helmet each Tuesday.



Before and After School Clubs (Years 1 and 2)

Our clubs had a very successful start this term. We have art, dance, football, kickboxing, Techytots, Nerf Battles, Gym, Sewing, Yoga and Fencing. Some of the clubs still have some spaces so visit the Alwyn website for more information.



Emergency Evacuation Procedures

We had our first 'Fire Drill' this week. The children were prewarned and listened out for the distinctive alarm that warns us to evacuate. They were absolutely amazing!

Upon hearing the loud sound, they left their classrooms quickly and quietly. They waited patiently in their classroom lines on the Courthouse playground (our assembly point) for the register and reassurance.

We were all so impressed with how sensible the children were throughout the whole process, particularly our younger children who were doing this for the first time.

Well done, Alwyn!

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 advance. The deadline for ordering lunches is 8am on the day the lunch is wanted.

If your child does not have a packed lunch or ordered a school lunch, they will be given a plain jacket potato with fruit for dessert.

Please talk about the menu with your child and check that they are happy with their lunch choice 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!

The Big Future Survey

Children and young people are taking part across England, to share their experiences and hopes for the future in this national survey. More information can be [found here](#).

The survey takes just a few minutes to complete and can be [accessed here](#).



Look out for more school news on our Alwyn facebook page or Instagram.

Responsible Behaviour Curriculum in Alwyn and Courthouse

Our vision is to develop well rounded, confident and responsible children who aspire to achieve their full potential. We want our children to do their best in all aspects of school life - work, play, friendships and behaviour, and to take pride in all they do. We want them to develop respect and a sense of responsibility for themselves, each other, property, the wider community and the environment. To support this aim, we follow a behaviour curriculum that is explicitly taught and also weaves throughout the whole of school life.

Each week, the classes explore a different theme. They have a Monday 'check-in' circle time to introduce it and set a goal to work towards throughout the week. On Wednesday, 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

COPING WITH EMOTIONS



Emotional regulation

- Emotional regulation is a hard part of growing up. We need to learn how to do it to keep ourselves and others safe and to have respectful relationships when we grow up.
- Children often mimic the emotional behaviour of those around them and so being a good role model and explaining your feelings is important.

Talking about emotions

- Children need to learn how to talk about their emotions.
- Anger, sadness or overwhelm are all normal emotions and we should talk about how we can try to regulate them but not feel bad for feeling them.
- Using lots of vocabulary about emotions helps children learn how to explain their feelings. E.g. don't just use angry, use furious, cross, annoyed etc.





Mindfulness

- Children in KS2 will have been talking about mindful breathing.
- This is a technique to practise every day that can help to regulate emotions when they occur. People who practise this are known to feel less stressed.
- Try practising mindful activities with your child/children such as mindful breathing or mindful colouring.

 **The Responsible Behaviour Curriculum** 

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.

BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
 sad	 happy	 frustrated	 angry
 tired	 calm	 worried	 terrified
 sick	 feeling ok	 silly	 yelling
 bored	 ready to learn	 excited	 hitting
I can try...  stretch	I can try...  drink water	I can try...  deep breaths	I can try...  take a break

What have Reception been learning this week?

We have had a very busy week in Reception. We have started to learn sounds in Phonics and have covered 3 this week - s, a and t. In Maths we have been representing quantities up to 3 on our fingers in different ways and making groups of 3. Our story of the week has been Mr Wiggle and Mr Waggle where we have enjoyed representing parts of it with noises and actions! In both PSHE and RE we have been exploring who is special to us and what fun things we like to do with our special people and toys. We are still working hard to remember to choose what we want to explore and to put it away after so it is reset for the next person.

Ask me to tell you a word that starts with s

Ask me what sound I can hear at the beginning of the word tap

Ask me to show you how to make 3, using two hands

Ask me to tell you about an object that is special to me

Ask me to tell you someone who is special to me

Next week we will be learning p, i and n in phonics and starting to blend sounds together. In maths we will be practising touch counting objects just once and exploring the concept of how many, more and fewer.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

What a fantastic week of learning and discovery in Year 1!

This week the children have been learning how to use descriptive adjectives to bring different characters to life in our writing. During Maths, we practiced comparing numbers up to 10, using the mathematical vocabulary "more" and "fewer" to explain differences. In Art, the children spent time looking closely at their features and sketching self-portraits. During History, we travelled back in time to explore history by sorting old and new toys, discussing how materials and designs have changed over time and ordering toys on a timeline.

Ask me to sound out words with the sounds ng, nk, ai and ee e.g. strong, wink, rain, wheel.

Ask me to use the vocabulary more than or fewer than to compare two numbers e.g. 7 is 1 more than 6 and 7 is 1 less than 8.

Ask me to tell you about an old toy that I have played with in class e.g. tiddlywinks, marbles and jacks.

Ask me to tell you what Bristly means.

Ask me to tell you about the BeeBots.

Next week the children will continue to improve our writing by using adjectives to describe nouns. We will be coming up with ideas for other animals to come to tea with Sophie and describing them. If you could please donate a box of tissues to your class that would be amazing!

This term, the Year 1 PE days are:

Tuesday: Mr Baker, bicycle skills so need a helmet

Thursday: Gymnastics with Miss White

KEY DATES!

School Year 2026-2027

Autumn Term 1

28th September, 2.30

Maths information session for parents/carers

**28th September - 2nd October
Kindness Week**

1st October

School Census Day

5th - 9th October

After school bookshop

6th and 8th October

Teacher/parent meetings (10 minute appointment)

8th October

Flu vaccinations

9th October, 9am

SEN parent/carers coffee and chat morning

19th October

Individual school photos

19th-23rd October

Harvest Week

Donations for the Food Bank

22nd October

Federation Firework Event

23rd October, 2.30pm

Year 2 Harvest Festival to their parents/carers

END OF TERM 1

26th - 30th October

Half Term Holiday- no school

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week, Year 2 have been busy developing their knowledge and skills. In English, they have been using alliteration and learning how to create an effective setting. They have thought carefully about descriptive language and how they can help their readers to imagine where a story takes place. In Maths, they have been developing their understanding of the value of numbers and practising how to estimate where numbers belong on a number line. In History, they have been learning about the Great Fire of London, exploring where the fire happened and how historians know about events from the past by using different sources of evidence. The children have also enjoyed using collage to make a Tudor house to add to our Year 2 Great Fire of London display board.

Ask me to retell the events of the Great Fire of London

Ask me to tell you how we know about the Great Fire of London

Ask me what alliteration is

Ask me to use alliteration to describe a: snake, ball, tree and house

Ask me to map out the story of 'The Flower' with actions

Next week in history we are learning why the fire spread so far and why it lasted so long.

This term, the Year 2 PE days are:

Spruce: Monday and Tuesday

Pine & Holly: Tuesday and Wednesday

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

Autumn Term 2

2nd November
Children back to school

11th November
Remembrance Day

13th November
Children in Need Day

16th - 20th November
Anti bullying Week
16th Odd Socks Day

28th November
PTA Festive Fete

8th & 9th December, 9.30am
Reception performances

10th December
Festive or own jumper day
and festive lunch

15th & 16th December, 9.30am
Year 1 performances

16th December, 2.30am
Year 2 Sing-a-long

18th December
Last day of term. Early finish
at 1.30pm

21st December - 1st January
School Holidays

4th January
Children return to school

Community Pages: What is happening in our local area?

Community Events Disclaimer: Please note that the events listed are organised by external parties and are not endorsed or recommended by Alwyn Infant School. We provide this information as a courtesy to our community. We advise families to exercise their own discretion and judgement when participating in any events or activities.



SONNING family GLOW RUN

Run the sights of Sonning under torch light and enjoy a BBQ and Silent Disco afterwards

SATURDAY 4TH OCTOBER
BERKSHIRE COUNTY SPORTS CLUB

SONNING GLOW RUN

KIDS FUN RUN (1.5K MIN AGE 4): **£5**
ADULT GLOW RUN (5K MIN AGE 11): **£24**
FAMILY TICKET (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN): **£50**

ALL ENTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A MEDAL AND GLOW STICKS

[SIGN UP HERE](https://bit.ly/sonningglowrun25)
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/SONNINGGLOWRUN25](https://bit.ly/sonningglowrun25)

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

EIGHT parkers | **Greenacre** FINANCIAL SERVICES | **WESTGATE** ASSOCIATES LTD | **Sabella** BARNES FITNESS



Rotary in Maidenhead Presents...

Maidenhead Boundary Walk

4.4k Family Walk too!

GROUP DISCOUNT
Register a group of 15 or more before 5th September 2025 and entry is just £30!

Sunday 5th October 2025
Starting from Boulter's Lock Car Park - 9.00am to 10.30am

YOU CAN...
Raise funds for your own charity
Have fun, keep fit and make a difference

JOIN US at this fun event and participate in the history of the Maidenhead Boundary walk. Good luck!

All proceeds from the event donated to: **Thames hospice** | **ageUK**

Register online today at www.boundarywalk.org.uk



GEMS
Autism & ADHD Support Group East Berkshire

Virtual Coffee Morning Eating and food Autism and ADHD

Friday 17th Oct - 10:00 - 11:15am

25 spaces available!

Join our online informal discussion to cover the following areas:

- What works for your family at meal times?
- What are problematic areas around eating?
- How do you support your child with eating?

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 | 0800 999 1342



MAIDENHEAD TOWN SHOW

MAKING, COOKING, BAKING, CRAFTING, SINGING, DANCING & GENERAL MERRIMENT

At the 11th Maidenhead Town Show in October 2024, we raised an amazing **£3,555** for **Thames Valley Adventure Playground** - almost double our previous year's charity total! In addition the Nicholson's Centre enjoyed **footfall of 7684** (a 78.5% increase on average footfall and the highest since for a Sunday since Christmas Eve 2023). Footfall in the High Street was up 39% and overall in Maidenhead, footfall increased by 25% to **32,618 total visits!** The town was a-buzz!

The event was opened by **Josh Reynolds, MP for Maidenhead** and consisted of

- 28 craft competition categories - all free for children
- 6 dog show categories
- 40+ craft stalls, 30 local F&B providers and further rides
- 100+ participants of craft sessions (children and adults)
- 25+ volunteers to help set up
- Many local musicians, Morris dancers and a choir school
- Street entertainers, jesters, facepainters and also a retro omnibus to visit
- 1 main charity - plus 10+ community organisations
- In addition to sponsored petting zoo for children and Maidenhead's biggest ever raffle!

We loved receiving comments like 'It was fabulous and amazing to see so many people out and about' - plus the dog show is now becoming a key date for the diary!

We look forward to making the 2025 event - due to take place on **Sunday 19 October 2025** - even bigger and better! #SaveTheDate - plus a HUGE thank you to all involved!

Community Pages: What can we do at half term?

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Multi-Activity Holiday Camp

Camp Timings

SIGN IN + GREETING - Games Stations
SESSION 1 - Dodgeball
SESSION 2 - Inflatables
BREAK
SESSION 3 - Archery
LUNCH
SESSION 4 - Quidditch
SESSION 5 - Art Attack
BREAK/SIGN OUT 3pm
SESSION 6 - Mini Fencing
FINAL GAME - Games Stations
SIGN OUT 5pm

Camp Checklist

*No fizzy drinks or nuts please

Dates

AUTUMN 2026	The Winchcombe School, Newbury	Calcot Junior School, Reading	Alwyn Infant School, Maidenhead
OCTOBER HALF TERM Mon 26th - Fri 30th October	Mon-Fri	Mon-Fri	Mon-Fri

Day Option and Prices:
Standard Day: 9am - 3pm from £25 per day
Extended Day: 8:30am - 5pm from £35 per day

Discounts:
 Sibling discount: 10% off
10% Early Bird Discount!
 Book online by 5th October and use code: OCT10

How to Book:
 Scan QR CODE or www.mnrcoaching.com

Freaky Friday!

Get Friday for just £5

- 1 Book ANY camp day Monday - Thursday
- 2 We'll send you a discount code
- 3 Use your code to book Friday for just £5

Football Holiday Camps

Camp Timings

SIGN IN + GREETING - Games Stations
SESSION 1 - Ball Mastery - 100 Club
SESSION 2 - Shooting & Goalkeeping
BREAK
SESSION 3 - Lighting Challenge
LUNCH
SESSION 4 - You Know the Drill!
SESSION 5 - Tournament
BREAK/SIGN OUT 3pm
SESSION 6 - Inflatables
FINAL GAME - Games Stations
SIGN OUT 5pm

Camp Checklist

*No fizzy drinks or nuts please

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CALLING ALL LITTLE MONSTERS!

LOOKING FOR SOME SPOOKY FUN THIS HALF TERM?

Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October
8:30am - 5:30pm
Courthouse Junior School, SL6 5HE

Join us for creepy crafts, ghoulish games and frighteningly good fun!

- Children aged 3-14 years
- From just **£4.61 per hour***
- Home cooked, healthy all day menu only **£7.20**
- Activities to suit all interests and abilities!

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

BOOK NOW!

your spooky adventure awaits...

fun trips!

themed disco!

exciting activities!

01628 620013
wiseowlschildcare.co.uk
info@wiseowlschildcare.co.uk

MAKE. IMAGINE. RECYCLE!

MONSTER MASH!

A CREATIVE WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN AGED 4-10

Join us for a fun, hands-on morning of creative play!

Choose your monster shape, rummage through our Mish Mash treasure and let your imagination run wild.

Create, decorate, build and transform rescued materials into a monster that's completely yours!

Bring your imagination (and a little treasure to swap!), leave with a monster to be proud of and an official Monster Birth Certificate!

TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER
THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER
10:30AM - 12:00PM

ST LUKE'S COMMUNITY HALL
 Norfolk Road, Maidenhead SL6 7AT

£10 PER CHILD
 Accompanying adult free

MISH MASH creative

CREATIVE FUN | RECLAIMED & RECYCLED MATERIALS | TAKE HOME YOUR MONSTER & BIRTH CERTIFICATE!

LIMITED SPACES - BOOK ONLINE!
 TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER | THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

<https://www.facebook.com/mishmashcreative>
<https://www.instagram.com/mishmashcreative>
<https://www.tiktok.com/@mishmashcreative>

LET YOUR CREATIVITY RUN WILD!

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.

The school gates are locked at 8.55am. If your child arrives to school after this time, your child will receive an unauthorised late mark- this affects your child's attendance.

If arriving late, you must bring your child into the school office and sign them into school with a reason for the lateness.

School Day

Year Group	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Start Lunch Finish →	8.45am 11.45pm - 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 8.55am and 3.10pm until 3.35pm

The opening times allow movement between our two schools and provide different points of access which should help with traffic and parking in our area.

The gate opening times are different from the time your child is required to be in school.

The Importance of Being on Time

Reception children need to be in school by 8.45am.

Year 1 and 2 children need to be in school by 8.50am.

The classroom doors will open at these times and close as soon as the last child in the line enters the classroom; this usually takes less than 3 minutes. Any child arriving after the classroom door is shut, will be marked as late. Knocking on the classroom door once it is closed is disruptive to the children as their teacher is having to keep opening the door instead of settling their class for the morning.

Please be on time every morning. It can be worrying for a child to enter a classroom late especially when their classmates are sat on the carpet ready to learn. All children should have come into school, put their belongings in the cloakroom, their book bag in their drawer and their water bottle in the tray and have been registered before 9am each morning.

Attendance Matters

Being in school every day is extremely important for all children in order to receive the best possible start to their learning. Your child's attendance is vital to a successful education, as this is the foundation for lifelong learning. Lessons are planned in sequences and if a child misses a part of this sequence, they are at a disadvantage when it comes to committing that learning to long term memory.

If your child is slightly under the weather, but well enough to come into school, send them in and mention it to the class teacher. They will keep an eye on your child and phone you if there are any concerns.

Reason for absence

Please let the office know the specific reason for your child's absence rather than feeling unwell or ill. This helps us monitor any small outbreaks of similar virus' and supports the recording of absence.

Medical Appointments

If you have a medical appointment during the school day, inform the school before the appointment and provide a GP/Hospital appointment card or letter.

Leave Requests

Holidays during term time will not be authorised. Any other exceptional circumstances will require supporting evidence that shows the child has to attend something that results in missed school days.

Fixed Penalty Notices (fines) may be triggered if your child misses 5 consecutive days of school or 10 sessions in 10 weeks. A session means a morning or afternoon, not a day.

Please ensure that you make all reasonable efforts to send your child into school.