



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 4 | 2nd October 2026

What has been happening?

Well, what an incredibly busy week!

The OFSTED inspectors visited on Tuesday and Wednesday. Unsurprisingly, our children were warm, welcoming and chatty. We will hopefully be able to share the report before the Christmas break.

A huge highlight for us was the confidence our families put in the school as shown in the parent survey results, available online. 98% of parents/carers feel their children are safe in school and would recommend us. Thank you to everyone who supported the school by responding.

On Monday and Tuesday, we had mental wellbeing workshops delivered by a PSHE coach.

The children took part in interactive lessons in a huge inflatable tent. They absolutely loved it! Our Reception children focused on the message of 'Keep Trying', Year 1 explored ideas around emotional regulation and Year 2 thought about gratitude and appreciation.



Next Week...

We have our first **parent/teacher meetings** for this school year on Tuesday or Thursday. This is an opportunity to speak to your child's class teacher about how they have settled into their new year group and ask any questions. It is a 10 minute appointment. Please ensure you are on time for your appointment as we will not be able to fit you in at another time that evening due to the number of appointments.

If you haven't booked a slot yet, visit 'My Child At School' (MCAS) to do so.

After school, each day, we will have the **travelling book fair** where you can come and search the shelves for a new exciting book.



Look out for more school news 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 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!

Local News- Desborough College consultation.

Desborough College is consulting parents, staff and governors in Maidenhead on a proposal that the school, which is currently a boys school, should admit girls into Year 7 from September 2028. You can find out more details about the consultation on the [Desborough College website](#). This includes details on how you can make your views known. The consultation runs from 1st October 2026 to Friday 13th November 2026.

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
PROMOTING KINDNESS



Why is kindness important?

- Kindness creates a positive and safe environment and encourages others to be kind too.
- It is a positive feature of cultures all over the world and makes both the giver of kindness and the recipient feel good which promotes positive mental health.
- Mark Twain once said 'Kindness is a language the deaf can hear and the blind can see' - promoting kindness in our children is truly inspirational.

Random acts of kindness

- Put random acts of kindness on slips of paper in a jar and pull one out each day with your child to complete. Then report back to each other on when you did it.
- Ideas for the jar include
 - oGive someone a compliment
 - oDo a chore for someone such as washing up
 - oPick up five pieces of litter
 - oWrite someone a letter of appreciation
 - oDonate some pocket money or a toy to charity



Kindness is free

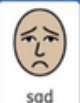
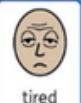
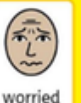
Kindness bookmarks

- Create kindness bookmarks with your children so that they see kindness affirmations all the time.
- Decorate them however you would like, be as creative as possible.
- Leave some at the library or take them into school for friends.
- Some affirmations are
 - oKindness begins with me
 - oKindness is free
 - oChoose kindness

Enchanted

The Responsible Behaviour Curriculum



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

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?

We have been learning about "The Three Little Pigs". acting it out, sequencing and changing parts of the story. In Maths, the focus has been comparing different amounts and sequencing numbers to 5, where we have sung number songs, counted objects and sounds. The children have been working really hard in phonics as we continue to remind ourselves of the sounds we have learnt so far s, a and t and our new sounds p, i, and n. In PSHE this week we had a our SCARF workshop where we learned how to "keep trying" and "we can't do it yet!"

Ask me to find objects beginning with the sounds "p, i and n"

Ask me to have a go at doing my zipper using the crocodile pinch

Ask me to find 5 objects around the home

Ask me to retell the story of "The Three Little Pigs"

Next week in Floppy's phonics, we will be learning sounds m, d, and g. In maths, we will be comparing sizes and the composition of 2 and 3. We will be continuing our learning about the three little pigs, where the focus will be on the wolf. We will also be talking about signs of autumn and harvest festival. If you are able to take your child on an autumn walk and bring in things that you find, such as conkers, pinecones, different coloured leaves, acorns etc, we would be very grateful.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

What an extraordinarily exciting week of hands-on learning we've had in Year 1! In English, our imaginations ran wild as we reinvented The Tiger Who Came to Tea, replacing the tiger with our very own animals and using brilliant adjectives to describe three of their unique body parts. In maths, we became shape detectives, exploring 3D shapes and testing their properties to see which ones roll and which ones stack! Our history investigations took us deeper into comparing toys from the "past" and "present," discovering how older toys were physically powered while modern toys often rely on batteries. Creativity was at an all-time high in art as we crafted portraits using a vibrant mix of oil pastels, paint, and 3D shapes. Meanwhile, our young programmers took control of our Bee-Bots in computing, successfully coding them with 1-2 turns. To wrap up our week, we had a wonderful SCARF workshop in PSHE, where the children explored different feelings and learned fantastic strategies to manage them. We can't wait for next week, when we'll be using our fabulous adjectives to write full sentences about our animals!

Ask me which animal replaced the tiger and what adjectives I used to describe it.

Ask me which 3D shapes are great for rolling and which ones are best for stacking.

Ask me how toys from the past work compared to the battery-powered toys of today.

Ask me what steps I programmed into the Bee-Bot to make it turn.

Ask me about one helpful thing I learned in our SCARF workshop about managing my feelings.

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

5th - 8th October
After school bookshop

6th and 8th October
Teacher/parent meetings (10 minute appointment)

8th October
Flu vaccinations

9th October, 9am
SEN parent/carer 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

Every book
you buy earns
**FREE
BOOKS**
for our school*

COME TO OUR BOOK FAIR

And find your next favourite read!



3 for
£10.00



NEW BOOKS. NEW WORLDS. NEW FAVOURITES.

DISCOVER
BOOKS FROM
£3.99



2 for
£15.99



Includes
your own
wands!



4 for
£10.00

DISCOVER MORE BOOKS ONLINE!

www.travellingbooks.co.uk/books



All books subject to availability.

Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You may pay by card at the Fair via our digital till or card reader machines if your school has one, or by using the online link at www.travellingbooks.co.uk/pay and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to www.travellingbooks.co.uk/gift-vouchers to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List - please ask your school for details.

HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



COME ALONG TO BROWSE OR BUY A BOOK

TAKING PLACE AFTER SCHOOL ON

MONDAY 5TH OCTOBER

TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY 7TH OCTOBER

THURSDAY 8TH OCTOBER

CARD OR ONLINE PAYMENTS PREFERRED

AS WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OFFER CHANGE.

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

We have been continuing to develop their writing skills. They have been using noun phrases and prepositions to create detailed settings, painting fantastic images in the mind of the reader. In Science, they have been learning all about fish and their needs for survival. As mathematicians, the children have been busy comparing numbers, using mathematical vocabulary and practical resources to explain their thinking. They have also continued their learning about the Great Fire of London, investigating why the fire spread so quickly through the narrow streets. Excitedly, Harold the giraffe put in an appearance at the PSHE workshop, and helped to teach the children the importance of gratitude and recognising the things they can be thankful for. What a busy week of learning!

Ask me to compare and order the numbers 58, 41, 62

49, 32, 12

53, 65, 38

Ask me to name the 4 needs for survival for fish

Ask me to name 3 reasons why the Great Fire of London spread so quickly

Our words of the week are - pretty, again. Ask me to use them in an interesting sentence.

Next week we are learning about amphibians in science

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



Alwyn & Courthouse Federation FIREWORKS

Thursday October 22nd 2026

Gates open 5.30pm. Fireworks at 6.40pm approx., event closes at 7.15pm

Pre-sale tickets only using the QR code

Family tickets available from £20

Adults £7.50 / Children £5.00

No admission for under-16s without an adult

Entrance through Courthouse Junior School

Bar, food & drink stalls and souvenirs



No refunds available - all tickets will be rolled over to the next fireworks date

Community Pages: What can we do at half term?

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.

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



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

SCAN TO BOOK



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

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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...



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!
THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

<https://www.hunterdon.co.uk>
<https://www.mishmashcreative.co.uk>

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