



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

Adventure

OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 7 | 23rd October 2026

What has been happening?

Our Year 1 scientists have been extremely busy this week with a freezing and melting experiment. They tested different clever ways to melt an ice cube as fast as possible! They also used their class cameras to record their ideas and results. Such super scientists!



We are very proud of our children in Reception for settling in so well and finishing their first term with us. They have learnt lots of new routines and took part in their first whole school event this week by watching the Year 2s perform.

We are so impressed with them all!

Harvest

Our Year 2 children were wonderful leading the Harvest Assembly with the school on Thursday and to their families on Friday. They sang beautifully and spoke well, sharing their thoughts and poems. They were very clear in sharing the main messages of thankfulness and gratitude.

Harvest Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated an item of food, as part of our Harvest learning. This will now be packed up and taken to Maidenhead FoodShare. We were blown away by your generosity. A real whole community effort.

Also well done to our artists who made a harvest basket of paper mache fruit and vegetables. It was a brilliant addition to our display!



Half Term, 26th - 30th October

We all deserve a week of chilling, family time and fun. We will all return to school on Monday 2nd November.



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!

Importance of Punctuality

Please ensure your child arrives on time each day. The start of the day is vital to engage in transition activities; adjusting from home to school. Arriving late leaves children feeling unsettled and affects their emotional well-being. They will also miss the plans for the day and possibly phonics, which is vital to support reading and writing.

Please remember that late arrivals are officially recorded on the school register, and persistent unexcused lateness may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine).

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

ACCEPTING OTHERS



Accepting others

Being able to accept others is one of the keys to a peaceful and happy life. When we accept others, we release our judgments and fears towards them. This can be a difficult thing to do as humans are naturally judgemental beings, but it is worth aiming to accept other people as they are even if we don't agree with their opinions.

What children see.

In today's world, it is so important that we recognise and embrace the beauty of individuality. Each person has their own set of experiences, perspectives, and beliefs. Yet, despite our differences, we are all part of the rich tapestry of humanity. And we all deserve acceptance and respect. However, children are constantly bombarded with images of people not accepting each other on TV and social media. Arguments, bullying and threats because of different opinions are prevalent.





What can you do?

Teach children the following life lessons.

- practise empathy – try to see things from another's point of view, this doesn't mean you have to change your opinion!
- avoid judgement – don't judge others for their opinions, we all know how it feels to be judged, why do that to others?
- be kind – don't ridicule, bully or threaten others with different opinions in real life or online.



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...	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 been comparing the capacity of different sized boxes and comparing two sets of objects in our maths sessions and continuous provision. We have been writing loop and bridge patterns in handwriting. We have continued telling the story of the Billy Goats Gruff and innovating to make our own story. We read the story Dogger and discussed how the characters felt and how we would feel for PSHE. On Thursday we went to see the Year 2 children practise their Harvest Festival singing which we enjoyed. It was especially fun to see our friends and brothers and sisters perform.

Ask me to tell you some words that end in /ck/

Ask me where the /u/ phoneme is in the words under, bus, mug

Ask me to build 2 towers from bricks and ask me to tell you which tower has more bricks and which tower has fewer bricks

Ask me to draw you some loop patterns

Ask me to tell you how I changed the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff

After half term, we will be learning r, h and b in phonics and continuing to blend sounds together. In maths we will be concentrating on making groups of objects up to 5, counting them and then using counters to represent up to 5. We will be practising joining straight lines in handwriting.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

It has been another extraordinarily exciting week of learning and hands-on discovery in Year 1! In English, our brilliant authors picked up their pencils to write official tea party invitations to their chosen animals, carefully including all the important details about where, when and what delicious treats will be served. In maths, we've been busy sharpening our foundational skills—practicing counting forwards and backwards, reading numbers up to 10, and recapping the names of our favorite 3D shapes. Science took a cool turn with a freezing and melting experiment, where we tested different clever ways to melt an ice cube as fast as possible! In Design and Technology, we brought history to life by crafting our own vintage-style split-pin teddy bears, while in R.E. we reflected on the Harvest Festival and explored what it means to be truly grateful. Finally, in PSHE, we had some wonderful discussions about the special qualities that make a great friend.

Ask me which animal I invited to tea and what delicious food I offered them!

Ask me to name a 3D shape or count backwards from 10.

Ask me about our ice experiment and the best way we found to melt an ice cube!

Ask me how I made my vintage split-pin teddy bear move.

Ask me what things I am grateful for and what makes someone a good friend.

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 2

26th - 30th October

Half Term Holiday- no school

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 November

Odd Socks Day

26th November

PTA Elfridges shop for Year 1 & 2

27th November

Non-Uniform Day- bottle for tombola

PTA Elfridges shop for Reception

28th November

PTA Festive Fete

8th & 9th December, 9.30am

Reception performances (same performance each day)

10th December

Festive or own jumper day and festive lunch

15th & 16th December, 9.30am

Year 1 performances (same performance each day)

16th December, 2.30am

Year 2 Sing-a-long with parents/carers

18th December

Last day of term.

Early finish at 1.30pm

21st December - 1st January

School Holidays

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

It has been a busy and exciting final week of term 1. The school has been filled with wonderful music as we prepared for our Harvest celebration. The children have been practising their songs enthusiastically and yesterday, enjoyed performing in front of the whole school. In Science, the children have been learning about humans as mammals. They have looked at humans' basic needs for survival. In English, the children wrote a set of instructions ensuring they used sequencing language, imperative verbs and wrote the steps in order. In Maths, they have been sharpening their addition skills by using their quick-recall number bonds to 10 as a handy tool to help them solve addition problems. It was great to see them spotting patterns, using physical resources and building their confidence in mental arithmetic.

Ask me to recall the steps of my instructions.

Ask me to recall my number bonds to 10

Ask me to work out the following calculations using the calculation $3 + 4 = 7$

$13 + 4$, $23 + 4$, $33 + 4$, $43 + 4$, $53 + 4$

Ask me to name a humans' four basic needs for survival

Ask me to name an animals' four basic needs for survival

After the holidays, we will be learning about the United Kingdom in geography.

Please take a note of the PE days as Pine and Spruce days have changed after half term:

Pine - Mondays and Tuesdays

Holly and Spruce - Tuesdays and Wednesdays

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 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2

4th January

Children return to school

11th-15th January

Music Week- family members who play instruments invited in to perform

8th - 12th February

Book Week

Book Fair after school

10th February

Story Bus Visit

15th - 19th February

Half Term and Reading Challenge

22nd February

Children return to school

22nd - 26th February

Art/DT Week

4th March

World Book Day

9th & 11th March

Parent/teacher meetings

15th - 19th March

Grown Ups into School afternoons

19th March

Comic Relief/Red Nose Day

25th March

Last day of term
early finish at 1.30pm

26th March - 9th April

School holidays

12th April

Children return to school

26th April

IT Workshops with 3

3rd May

Bank Holiday- no school

PTA Festive NEWSLETTER



It's Christmas!!

The Autumn term is in full swing, and the PTA is already gearing up for a festive November. We've planned a fantastic run of events and hope families will join in and help us make the season magical for the children.

Christmas Fair-28th Nov

Our biggest event of the season. Expect stalls, games, festive treats, raffles, crafts, and plenty of Christmas cheer. It's a wonderful community event and a key fundraiser for both schools.

And don't forget to Bring a Bottle or Chocolate to school on the 27th November

Elfridges



Elfridges is back –our festive pop-up shop where children can choose a special gift for someone they love. Each gift is £3.

- 24th November – Y3 and Y5 Elfridges – [Buy Tickets](#)
- 25th November – Y4 and Y6 Elfridges – [Buy Tickets](#)
- 26th November – Y1 and Y2 Elfridges – [Buy Tickets](#)
- 27th November – Reception Elfridges – [Buy Tickets](#)

Can you help?

Our Christmas events rely on the support of our amazing parent volunteers. Whether you can spare an hour at the fair, help set up Elfridges, donate items, or assist behind the scenes, we'd love to have you involved.

You can sign up to help here – [SIGN UP HERE](#)



Contact us

alwynandcourthousepta@yahoo.co.uk

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

*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

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

Camp Checklist

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WISE OWLS HOLIDAY CLUB

SALE

\$5 OFF

**BE QUICK!
SALE ENDS
MIDNIGHT
18 OCT**

NO TRICKS JUST TREATS...

JUNIORS

~~£43.50~~

NOW ONLY

£38.50

DISCOVERY

~~£41.50~~

NOW ONLY

£36.50

26-30TH OCTOBER
8:30AM-5:30PM
COURTHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL
MAIDENHEAD

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

MISH MASH

creative

CREATIVE FUN

RECLAIMED & RECYCLED MATERIALS

TAKE HOME YOUR MONSTER & BIRTH CERTIFICATE!

£10 PER CHILD
Accompanying adult free

LIMITED SPACES - BOOK ONLINE!

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/monster-mash-workshop-tickets-777644444444>

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/monster-mash-workshop-tickets-777644444444>

@MishMashCreativeUK

@MishMashCreativeUK

★ LET YOUR CREATIVITY RUN WILD! ★

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A message from Maidenhead United Football Club

Maidenhead United Women are playing in the Women's FA Cup First Round proper tie against Andover New Street, this is to be played at York Road, Maidenhead on Sunday 25th October (2pm KO).

For this big fixture we are offering a COMPLIMENTARY family ticket, 2 adults and 2 children can watch this match for FREE.

This offer applies only to tickets ordered online via our ticketing portal up to midday on the day of the match. You can order your Family ticket via our online ticketing portal [HERE](#). Simply select a 'Family Ticket', which will issue four separate e-tickets to be scanned individually at the turnstiles on the day!

Tickets on the day are £5 per adult and £2 Under18/Over65



TO READ: 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 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.