



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 15 | 20th December 2024

What has been happening?

Well done Year 1 and 2

Our Year 1 children performed a brilliant version of Humph the Camel. They sang and spoke confidently with some very expressive acting and dancing.



A very special well done to those children that had to take on new parts each day due to their friends being off school unwell. They were so professional that our audiences would never have known that they had not rehearsed and were given the role at the last minute. Year 1 were all super!

Thank you for the superb turn out at the Year 2 Christmas sing along. It was great fun and the children were absolutely awesome. They had worked so hard to learn the songs and their class poems and they thoroughly enjoyed showing off their talents to an appreciative audience. The actions for the 12 Days of Christmas used lots of energy and it was lovely for the children to see the adults joining in too - and trying to keep up!



Your donations at the end of all our performances were incredibly generous. We collected £905.01 for our chosen charities. Thank you!

Staff pantomime

Today, the children went to Courthouse and watched the adults from Alwyn and Courthouse perform the pantomime, Snow White and the Seven Tired Teachers. It was lots of fun, with great audience participation.

Good luck to Mrs Novelle who begins her maternity leave and to Miss Huyzer who has gone to further her career in a nursery setting. We will miss them both.

Visit from Santa

Our term ended with a fantastic assembly and a visit from Father Christmas. The children were able to ask him some questions and the school adults explained the many ways they contacted him throughout the year.

The assembly ended with Father Christmas giving the children a gift to take home. Look at our social media for some more photographs.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

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
- Always do our best



To all our families and friends,
We wish you a fabulous Christmas break full of fun and laughter.
Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2025

School Applications for Year 3 or Reception
The application portal is open between 11th November and 15th January. It is extremely important that you complete the form during this time to secure a school place. If you log onto the [RBWM](#) site or look in the Schools and Education section, you will find all the information you need. If you need any help with the application process, contact the school office. You will then be informed of the school offer on 16th April 2025.
Further information can be [found here](#).



Look out for more school news on our [Alwyn facebook page](#) or new [Instagram account @alwyninfantschool](#). If you haven't already, give us a like and a follow.

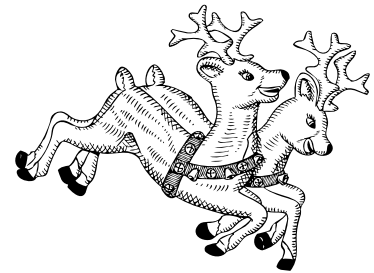


The Staff Panto



Snow White

AND THE SEVEN
TIRED TEACHERS



A special visitor in Alwyn





Our Fabulous Parent Teacher Association

Remember as a member of the school community, you are automatically part of the Parent and Teacher Association (PTA).

They run brilliant events throughout the year but need your help. Please get in touch with them if you wish to take part or have some great ideas to share.



BERKSHIRE ESTD 1957 ENGLAND
COPAS
VERY VERY SPECIAL TURKEYS

Christmas PTA Fundraiser!

Order an award winning turkey from Copas and raise funds for Alwyn & Courthouse PTA

Simply enter the code ALWS24PTA at checkout and Copas Turkeys will donate 5% of your order value to the school PTA.

WWW.COPASFARMSHOP.CO.UK
CALL: 01628 499 980

Raise funds and enjoy an award winning turkey!

ALWYN INFANT SCHOOL

January 21st 2025
6-7pm

DIGITAL LIVES AND SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOODS

GUEST SPEAKER
TANYA GOODIN

MAX 2 SPACES PER FAMILY

@ Courthouse Junior School

Smartphone Free Childhood

Join us on the 21st January, 6-7pm, to hear more about the Smartphone Free Childhood movement. It is a grassroots movement of parents who believe childhood's too short to be spent on a smartphone.

Guest speaker Tanya Goodin is a digital detox expert and will provide advice and information on achieving a Smartphone Free Childhood.

The event will take place in Courthouse School Hall and tickets are free so book a place here.

What have Reception been learning this week?

Ask me about my Christmas party and the games that we played.

Ask me to sound out cvc words e.g. pit, map, peg, nod, puff.

Ask me to describe and find examples of the following shapes: square, rectangle, circle and triangle.

Ask me about the pantomime.

Next term we will be starting our new topic 'Wonderful Winter'. Please discuss the season of winter with your child and compare it to other seasons.

We will observe and discuss seasonal changes in winter, such as cold, freezing temperatures and that some trees have no leaves. We will talk about how winter clothing is important to keep us warm. We will learn about other climates, such as polar climates, where temperatures are low.

We will explore the features of animals in these climates and how these help animals survive, such as polar bears having thick fur, The children will learn about animals that go into hibernation and our next story will be 'Foxes in winter'.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas holiday!

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

What a fantastic term we have had in Year One!

The children have worked really hard and learned alot. They have settled into the new routines of Year One and have made their teachers really proud.

It was such a special end to the term this week with our three performances of 'Humph The Camel'. The children shone like the brightest stars their teachers have ever seen!

We hope the children of Year One and their families have a restful Christmas break.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

Spring Term 3 2024-2025

23rd December- 3rd January
School closed

6th January
INSET Day (no children in school)

7th January
Children back to school

13-17th January
Music Week

21st January, 6-7pm
Smartphone Free Childhood
Talk at Courthouse

7th February
NSPCC Number Day- non uniform & wear something with a number on it

10th-14th February
Book Week visiting authors, poets, illustrators.
Book Fair after school

13th February
Yr2 Church Visit

17th-21st February
HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED
Reading Challenge

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have been enjoying creating cards and calendars this week.

We've revisited the four seasons and discussed what trees would look like during the four seasons. We hope you enjoy using your lovely calendars.

We have also been busy rehearsing for our Christmas singalong, our teachers are very proud of how many words we have managed to learn in a short amount of time.

Finally we took part in an author talk with Axel Scheffler, who works with Julia Donaldson, the author of many famous children's books, including The Gruffalo. He talked about what inspires him to create the characters he draws and we then had a go at drawing his latest creation Jonty Gentoo, a penguin who goes to the wrong Pole.

[Ask me to name the four seasons](#)

[Ask me to tell you what a tree would look like during the four seasons](#)

[Ask me to tell you how to combine text and graphics using Purple Mash](#)

[Ask me to show you how to draw a penguin](#)

[Ask me to tell you about the story Jonty Gentoo](#)

Congratulations!

Children are enjoying Golden Book Assembly in Year 1 and 2.

In Little Alwyn, they love to have their special stickers and certificate.

A huge **'well done'** to all the children who were in the Golden Book for their achievements this week. **We are very proud of you!**

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

17th-21st February
HALF TERM - SCHOOL CLOSED
Reading Challenge

Spring Term 4 2024-2025

24th February
Children back to school

24th-28th February
Art/DT Week

6th March
World Book Day- dress up as something book related

11th & 13th March
Parents'/carers Evening

17th-21st March
Grown Ups into School Afternoons

21st March
Comic Relief/Red Nose Day

24th-28th March
NSPCC Safety Week

25th March
Year 2 Trip to The LookOut

4th April
End of term, 1.30pm finish

7th April- 21st April
School closed

18th April - Good Friday
21st April - Easter Monday

Summer Term 5, 2024-2025
22nd April
INSET Day (no children in school)

23rd April
Children back to school

YOU SHALL GO TO THE BALL... MAIDENHEAD PANTO STYLE!

SATURDAY 14 – TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2024



BAYLIS THEATRE, BRAYWICK LEISURE CENTRE
BRAYWICK ROAD, MAIDENHEAD, SL6 1BN



TICKETS FROM £17*
BOX OFFICE 0333 666 3366
MAIDENHEADPANTO.CO.UK
*CHILDREN AND SENIORS VILS APPLY

Supported by



LEISURE FOCUS



You shall go to the ball! Oh yes you are ... oh no you're not ... oh yes you are!!!
What better way to celebrate the end of a long year, than some good old fashioned family fun at this year's Maidenhead panto "Cinderella" at the fabulous Baylis Theatre at Braywick Leisure Centre.

Our families can get £3 off every ticket for pupils using the code AMSSP-2024_PUPIL. Valid at 5pm on Sunday 15 December 2024 and 5pm on Saturday 21 December 2024 ONLY

EARLY BOOKING OFFER expires on 22 November 2024.

Discount applies to adult and under 16s tickets only.

Christmas at Norden Farm

Norden Farm and Stuff & Nonsense Theatre Company present



Directed by Niki McCretton

Tuesday 26 November - Saturday 28 December

Tickets From £14

For Ages 3+ Years



Norden Farm Centre for the Arts, Altwood Road, Maidenhead SL6 4PF

01628 788997
nordenfarm.org

stuff and nonsense
theatre company

Community Pages

What is happening in our local area?



Bear cubs

Ages 5 to 10

First and third Monday of the month - 4pm to 5pm

6th January 2025 - Make a bookmark and read a story! - Online
20th January - Talent Show- Bracknell
3rd February - Big on Bouncing - Slough- Small Fee Applicable
17th February - Disney Quiz - Online
3rd March - Sensory Bus - Windsor
17th March - Park Play - Maidenhead

**Please note activities may be subject to change*

Registration:
Gems.4Health@nhs.net
0800 999 1342

Criteria:
Children with or likely to have
ADHD and/or autism and
living in East Berkshire

For more information: Call 0800 999 1342 or visit www.Gems4Health.com



OFTED REGISTERED CHILDCARE VOUCHERS & TAX FREE CHILDCARE

BREAKFAST CLUB 7:30AM AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TO 6:15PM



BREAKFAST, AFTER SCHOOL CLUB & HOLIDAY CLUBS
AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS FROM COURTHOUSE SCHOOL AND ALWYN INFANT SCHOOL

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S SPACE NOW FOR THE SPRING TERM 2025

"My daughter is delighted and eagerly looks forward to attending the club each and every day."

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



There are still some places available at Wise Owls for the Spring Term.

Penalty Notice Changes

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Attendance, Punctuality and Penalty Notices on 19th August 2024 there are significant changes in the way that Penalty Notices are to be issued and an increase in the charges associated with them. These are nationwide changes implemented for consistency across all Local Authorities. **Term Time Leave is only allowed in exceptional circumstances communicated in advance with evidence provided as soon as possible to the Head of School or Headteacher.**

First Offence

For 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 of the first offence. The second 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.
- 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 magistrate's 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

DfE Blog for Parents

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>



10 sessions in 10 weeks

Penalty Notices will be considered for any 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 weeks. **5 Consecutive days** of term time leave can trigger a Penalty Notice

[Link to DfE Blog for Parents](#)



Providing Children's Services for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead



[Link to the attendance page on the Alwyn website.](#)

E-SCOOTERS

What you need to know



It's illegal to ride a privately owned electric scooter in public

Did you know it's illegal to ride a privately owned electric scooter (e-scooter) in public?



That's because e-scooters are classed as motor vehicles in law. So, in theory, this means that you need an MOT, road tax and insurance to use one, however it isn't currently possible to register e-scooters in this way.

Privately owned e-scooters can only be used on private land, with the permission of the landowner.

You cannot use a privately owned e-scooter on the road, pavement or in a public space. If you do then you risk receiving a large fine, points on your driving licence and your e-scooter could be seized.

Some parts of the UK are running government trials of rental e-scooters. If you're over 16 and have a full or provisional driving licence, then you can use these on public roads and cycle paths.

Just check that your driving licence covers categories AM, A or B.



E-BIKES

What you need to know



You can only ride an e-bike if it (and you!) meet certain requirements.

Did you know you can only ride an e-bike if it meets certain requirements and you are 14 years or over?

Electric bikes are also known as 'electronically assisted pedal cycles (EAPC)' or e-bikes. E-bikes must have pedals that can be used to propel it, and it must show either the power output, or manufacturer of the motor **and** either the batteries voltage, or maximum speed of the bike.

The electric motor must have a maximum power output of 250W, and should not be able to propel the bike when it is travelling more than 15.5mph.

If an e-bike does not meet these requirements then it is classed as a motorcycle or moped, and needs to be registered, taxed and insured, you also need a driving licence and to wear a helmet.

If you are riding an e-bike which does not meet these requirements and it is not registered, taxed or insured, your e-bike could be seized.

