



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 12 | 29th November 2024

What has been happening?

Thank you for your understanding and patience

Thank you to all our grown ups for their patience at the end of the school day on Wednesday. There was a minor incident in Courthouse which meant we had to delay opening our school gates. We were overwhelmed with the support and kindness we received throughout the time and the understanding that we were working together to keep our children safe and happy.

No Pens Day



This was an incredibly successful day.

The children came into school with their special object or photo and spoke confidently and proudly. Throughout the whole day they were able to think about and practise their communication skills and have fun. The different communication skills include: talking, tone of voice, gestures/actions, pointing, listening and understanding, facial expressions and pictures.

Thank you for your support.

Coffee Morning at Alwyn Infant School, 3rd December

We are delighted to invite you to a Coffee Morning on Tuesday, 3rd December, immediately after Morning drop-off until 9:30am. This event will be held in the school hall at Alwyn and is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet other parents, as well as some of the staff from both our schools.

We warmly welcome you to our school community and hope this informal gathering will help you feel more connected. Whether you are new to the school or have been with us for some time, this is a chance to chat, share experiences, and build relationships within our school family.

Refreshments will be provided, and we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

PTA Christmas Fair, 12-3pm, Courthouse Junior School hall.

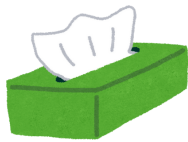
We hope to see you all at the fair tomorrow! It should be a fun way to get together and support the school, as well as our fabulous PTA. Come and join us for some festive fun.

Tokens will be accepted at all PTA run stalls.

If you can help, it is not too late sign up, just [click this link](#).

Plea for tissues

We would be really grateful if you could send in a box of tissues into your child's class. We go through them quite quickly so appreciate the donations.



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



CHRISTMAS LUNCH 2024

Alwyn's Christmas lunch is on Thursday 12 December.

Please place your child's order on Parent Pay by **MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER**.

Please note that there will not be any jacket potatoes available on this day.

If you do not place an order or place an order after this date, your child will need to bring in a packed lunch.

This date is also Christmas/own jumper day.



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.





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.

Elfridges

What a week it's been for the PTA and our wonderful army of helpers. There's been lots of happy, smiling children at Elfridges, with the final session for Alwyn Y1 & Y2 today. Don't worry if you missed the prebooking, we can accept card / cash / tokens today.



Christmas Fair - Christmas Fair

The main event is tomorrow and we can't wait to welcome you to the Christmas Fair. We have a coffee van, bar, the popular Bottle and Chocolate Tombolas, plus some amazing stall holders, it's going to be a fun afternoon for everyone. See you tomorrow at Courthouse Hall from 12-3

Christmas Raffle

With a top prize of £250 cash, you've got to be in it to win it! There's also a £100 restaurant voucher, children's Amazon Echo Dot, plus many more prizes to be won. Prizes will be announced at the Christmas Fair at 2.30. Don't worry if you're not there, we'll notify all winners. <https://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/event-info/christmas-fair-raffle-2024>



Auction

Our wonderful auction is low live!! With an amazing array of bids, including Sports Camps, Afternoon Tea and Family Adventure, there's something for everyone. Bidding closes on the 8th December so there's plenty of time. [Click here.](#)



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!

What have Reception been learning this week?

This week in Reception we have been reading 'Night Monkey, Day Monkey' and looking at things we can see at night and different things during the day. We have also looked at pictures of night monkeys. On No Pens day we really enjoyed bringing things in for Show and Tell. We talked about the things we brought with super confidence and our friends asked us some interesting questions about them. We have also been very busy learning all our songs for the Christmas Performance - we are sure you will be impressed.

Ask me to tell you a word that starts with f and a word that has ff at the end

Ask me to tell you what bird a night monkey looks like

Ask me to make a group of 5 toys or build a tower of b bricks

Ask me to tell you what Harold the giraffe said to make his friends happy

Next week Reception will learn the phonic sounds /l/ and /ll/. In maths, we will be looking at circles and triangles and using positional language.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

It's been another packed week of activities in Year 1! On Wednesday we all enjoyed a squelchy, muddy walk to Oaken Grove Park. The children used their keen eyes to spot the features pictured on their group's sheet and then had to work out whether it was a Human or a Physical feature. Well done to the children for their brilliant behaviour on their first trip out of school, and a big Thank You to the grown-ups who were able to come along and help. Wednesday was also No Pens Day and the children enjoyed lots of different activities involving talking and listening, including Show and Tell, as well as other describing and listening games. It was great fun!

Ask me to tell you how I described my chosen animal in English.

Ask me to tell you about our new story Dear Santa.

Ask me about my favourite activity from No Pens Day.

Ask me to tell you what 10 - 2 is.

Ask me to tell you what I noticed on our trip to the park.

Ask me to tell you what the 5 senses are.

Ask me to tell you something kind I could say or do.

Next week, we will continue to work on addition and subtraction in maths and begin using a question mark in our writing in English.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2 2024-2025

3rd December @9am
Parents/carers/helpers coffee morning with school leaders

10th December @9.30am
Reception performance for Ash class parents/carers

11th December @9.30am
Reception performance for Oak class parents/carers

12th December @9.30am
Reception performance for Elm class parents/carers

12th December
Festive or own jumper day
Christmas lunch

16th, 17th, 18th December,
9.30am
Year 1 Christmas Performance

18th December, 2.30pm
Year 2 Festive Songs with Parents/Carers

19th December, 3.30pm
Carols in Courthouse playground

20th December
End of term, 1.30pm finish

23rd December- 3rd January
School closed

6th January
INSET Day (no children in school)

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

Year 2 have been carrying on their learning about shape this week. We have sorted shapes according to their properties realising that some shapes have shared properties such as straight sides and no curved sides. We use a Venn diagram to sort the shapes.

We have also enjoyed innovating the story of Kassim and the Greedy dragon to Sam and the Grumpy Wolf. We had to think about changing the main character, setting and problem of the story. In Science we investigated the properties of wood, cardboard and paper. We discussed which of these materials were most suited to certain objects, for example, chairs and doors.

Ask me to tell you what 2D shapes you can see on the faces of the following 3D shapes-

- Cuboid
- Square based pyramid
- Cylinder
- Cone

Ask me to tell you a suitable use for the following materials-

- Paper
- Cardboard
- Wood

Ask me to retell you our innovated story- Sam and the Grumpy Wolf

Ask me to tell you what the warning was that Dad gave to Sam

On Wednesday we had a great time during No Pens day. Our activities included a lego barrier game where we had to tell our partner how to build a shape using lego. This really tested our communication skills as we had to give very clear instructions. We also played Guess Who? We used questioning skills to work out who our partner had chosen. This was made even trickier because the questions had to have a yes or no answer. We ended the day by learning some songs with sign language, we learnt the signing for The UK, countries and the ocean.

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

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

10th-14th February
Book Week and Book Fair
Visiting authors/poets/illustrators

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

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 Evening

17th-21st March
Grown Ups into School
Afternoons

25th March
Year 2 Trip - TBC



Alwyn performance time is coming!



Reception Christmas Performances, 10th-12th December, 9.30am

Our three reception classes will perform some fantastic seasonal songs, usually with actions, to their parents and families. The performances are the same on each day, however one class will take the centre stage at the different performances.

**Ash class on 10th December, Oak class on 11th December,
Elm class on 12th December**

There is no need to request tickets for these performances.

There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.



Year 1 Christmas Performances, 16th-18th December, 9.30am

The Year 1 classes will be working together to perform 'Humph the Camel'. They will repeat the same performance on each of the three days however you will need to order tickets in advance using [this order form](#).

The numbers for each performance are limited due to Health and Safety reasons so put in your requests promptly. Each performance will be the same and include all of the three classes in Year 1.

We can allocate up to 2 tickets per family (in total, not per performance), however there is an option of requesting further tickets if they become available. The extra tickets are not guaranteed so if you do not receive confirmation then your request has not been successful.

There will be a cash collection after each performance for our chosen charity.



Festive Songs with Year 2, 18th December, 2.30pm

Our Year 2 parents are invited to come and listen to, or join in, with some festive songs and carols. This should be a jolly occasion and allow the children to demonstrate their singing talents.

There is no need to request a ticket for this. Just turn up ready to sing!

At all of our performances there will be a cash collection

This year we equally divide the donations between our school fund and the charity, 'Children's Hospital Pyjamas'. The charity provides pyjamas for children who have been admitted into hospital and have not had time to pack the essentials needed for a hospital stay. Further details about the charity can be [found here](#).





Caterlink Christmas Lunch Menu

Thursday 12th December 2024

(also Christmas Jumper Day)

Roast Turkey and Pork Chipolata Sausage (beef casing)

or

Roast Halal Turkey and Vegan Christmas Chipolata

or

Sweet Potato/Parsnip Loaf and Vegan Christmas Chipolata

WITH

Roast Potatoes, Sage & Onion Stuffing, Garden Peas and Carrots

DESSERT

Christmas Pudding Rice Krispie Cake

**Please order on Parent Pay by
Monday 25th November 2024**

Please note that there will not be any Jacket Potatoes on this day

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.](#)

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

SCAN ME



TICKETS FROM £17*
BOX OFFICE 0333 666 3366
MAIDENHEADPANTO.CO.UK

*CONDITIONS AND BOOKING FEES 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.

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

Monday 18th November - Bingo Fun - Bracknell

Monday 2nd December - Christmas Quiz - Online

Monday 16th December - Big on Bouncing - Slough - Small fee applicable

*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



Winter HOLIDAY CAMPS

let them play!

Multi-activity

Football

BOOK NOW


Holiday Camps run from 9am-3pm*, Ages 5-12 years old.
Week 1: 23rd December, Week 2: 2nd & 3rd January, Inset day camp: 6th Jan*

MULTI-ACTIVITY		FOOTBALL	
Reading: Calcot Junior School	Reading: Calcot Junior School	Newbury: Winchcombe School	Newbury: Winchcombe School
Maidenhead: Alwyn Infants School			
Newbury: Winchcombe School			

DISCOUNT CODE: SNOW15 15% OFF

Discount offer ends 1st December
Extended day 8:30am-5pm & Inset day camp* Newbury Camp only
Christmas Party day 23rd December at ALL venues
For Holiday Camp enquiries - email holidaycamps@emrc.coachlog.com

HAF funded spaces available



Roots and Branches
Building the community together

Maidenhead PCN Roots and Branches proudly present a Children and Young People's seminar where you can come and talk to our CYP and Family Social Prescribers to build a profile of your child as supportive evidence for school/EHCP's and strategies and tools to help support those with neurodivergence or any challenges that may be arising in school or at home.

Tuesday 17th December from 10-12

St Marks Hospital Maidenhead in the large conference room. (Head to the Courtyard café and a member of the team will meet you there).

If this is of interest, please respond to this poster via email with confirmation that you would like to attend to:

be-pct.socialprescribing@nhs.net

If for any reason you cannot make this seminar, please give 48 hours' notice so we can offer your place to another parent in the community.

We look forward to seeing you there,
Roots and Branches (Maidenhead PCN)



Lei Lani Fitness

FAMILY FIT TOGETHER

Join us for an exciting opportunity to have fun & be active with your kids. Laugh & bond while getting Fit Together through exercise & sports games.

Saturdays 11.30am-12.30pm
*£5 each per session
50% sibling discount

Woodlands Park Hall, Manifold Way,
Maidenhead, SL6 3GW

f Lei Lani Fitness or Natalie Lei Lani
@lei_lanifitness
07598440922
natalieleilani27@gmail.com

*Block bookings, term time only
Certified Gym Instructor & Personal Trainer
Bootcamps - Legs, Bums & Tums - Sports Birthday Parties - Parent & Baby Classes

STAND OUT FOR AUTISM PRESENTS

CHRISTMAS SENSORY BUS

DEC 14

SENSORY BUS SANTA'S GROTTTO, FAKE SNOW, CHRISTMAS SENSORY TOYS & GIFTS TO BUY PLUS LIVE MUSIC, FOOD & DRINK

OUTSIDE OFF THE TAP, HIGH STREET, MAIDENHEAD SL6 1EA

Autism Sensory Bus

During November and December a new sensory bus, for autistic children, will be attending multiple Christmas events throughout Maidenhead.

They will be offering an autism friendly Santa's Grotto and sensory room to provide a safe space and calming experience for children who may be feeling overwhelmed at the event so they and their families can attend.

Saturday 23rd November -
Maidenhead Christmas Lights
11am - 5.30pm
Outside Knead, St Ives Road

Sunday 24th November -
Christmas Fair
1pm - 5pm
Desborough Bowls Club

Saturday 14th December -
Christmas Sensory Bus
12 - 4pm
Outside Off the Tap, High Street

CHRISTMAS DRAWING COMPETITION

The theme for the competition is "A Magical Christmas."

We will be using the winning piece of artwork to advertise & promote our Sensory Bus Santa's Grotto running through November and December.

The winner will also win
A free day visit from our Sensory Bus for their school in 2025 plus Christmas treats!

We're encouraging children to use their imaginations & depict what Christmas means to them to this year!

All entries will appear in our online gallery

TO ENTER, SIMPLY SUBMIT YOUR CHILD'S DRAWING ALONG WITH THEIR NAME & AGE BY NOVEMBER 21ST AT STANDOUTFORAUTISM@OUTLOOK.COM

We're encouraging all parents to

Think Pharmacy First



Earache
(Children
aged 1 to 17
years)

Did you know that community pharmacies can now offer clinical appointments with medication available (if required) for **five clinical conditions** particularly relevant to school age children?

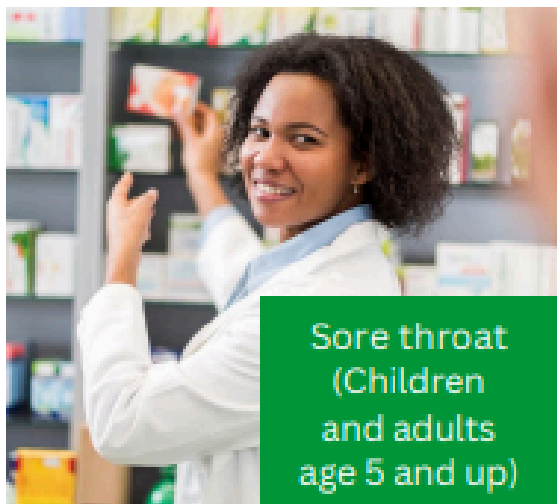
- Ear ache (children aged 1-17)
- Sore throat (over 5s)
- Infected insect bites (over 1s)
- Impetigo (over 1s)
- Sinusitis (over 12s)

GP practices are busy and making an appointment with them is not always necessary!

When your child is ill with any of these conditions, head straight to your a local community pharmacy where you can have a consultation with a trained clinical professional and receive advice, guidance and even medication if it's needed. Lets get your child on the road to recovery as soon as possible.



Infected Insect Bite
or Impetigo
(Children and adults
age 1 and over)



Sore throat
(Children
and adults
age 5 and up)

The majority of Frimley Health and Care community pharmacies offer the Pharmacy First service.

Remember – if your child has an ear ache, sore throat, impetigo symptoms or a suspected infected insect bite think **Pharmacy First**.



For more information visit:
www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/pharmacies



GOOD FOOD
FAMILY P2



LOVE TO VISIT
P7



BUTLE CHRISTMAS
APPEAL P19



MAIDENHEAD & WINDSOR



MAGAZINE & WEBSITE

THE GO-TO GUIDE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD

raring2go.co.uk

WINTER 2024

[CLICK HERE FOR LINK to the magazine.](#)