



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 11 | 22nd November 2024

What has been happening?

Is my child well enough for school?

As the weather changes, we see an increase in colds and illnesses that may cause you to feel less confident with knowing whether your child is well enough to be in school. It is usually appropriate to send your child to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. We would encourage you to visit the [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?'](#) for further information.



We monitor school attendance very closely in line with the new government rules. If your child's attendance falls below 90% at this point in the school year, we will contact you to discuss the reasons and see if we can offer any support or guidance. We accept that illnesses cannot be helped and if your child is not well enough for school then the call will just clarify illness so **please do not worry if you receive a phone call as it is part of our usual school procedure.**



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.

No Pens Day, Wednesday 27th November

Just a reminder, that each child should bring into school an item of their choosing and be ready to tell their class friends about it as part of the biggest-ever show and tell! This is a chance to practice their communication skills, listen and talk to others in their class about something that matters to them.

Throughout the day, they will be taking part in lots of activities to support their communication skills without a pen or pencil (or paintbrush) in sight. The different communication skills include: talking, tone of voice, gestures/actions, pointing, listening and understanding, facial expressions and pictures. We will have a great 'No Pens Day!', with your support.

Charity Donations Update

We raised £188.16 for the Foodbank at the Harvest Festival, and £218.30 from the non-uniform day for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped support these charities.

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 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).

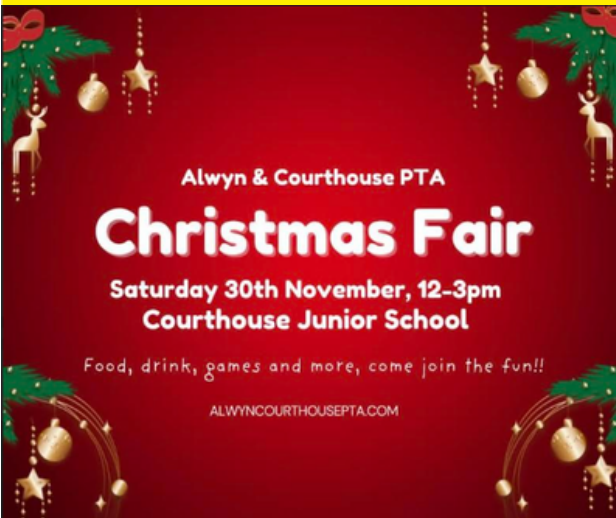
They run brilliant events throughout the year but need your help. Please get in touch with them if you wish to take part or have some great ideas to share.



Elfridges

It's back, the Kids Only Christmas Shop! Children select from a range of presents perfect for Mum, Dad, Granny or even Aunty Sue, then wrap them ready to hide under the tree for Christmas Day.

[Click here for more details.](#)



We need your help!

For these fabulous events to happen, the PTA need volunteers to help them set up, run stalls and clean up. Just an hour of your time will make a huge difference.

To sign up to help, [click this link.](#)

Please sign up to help at the Christmas Fair.

We are looking for donations for our popular annual Christmas auction. If you work for a company who might be able to donate a gift basket, experience or unique item please DM us or email alwynandcourthousepta@yahoo.co.uk.

All proceeds from the auction will directly support the schools. 🎄🎁



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!

Asda Shopping

Copas Farm Shop | UK Delivery

Christmas Turkey Code:

ALWS24PTA

It's never too early to start planning for Christmas! By getting a head start, you can enjoy a stress-free holiday season.

Plus, when you use the code **ALWS24PTA**, the PTA will receive a 5% donation from each turkey sold.

Happy planning and happy holidays!

<https://www.alwyncourthousepta.com/promotions/>

We've joined the Asda Rewards Cashpot for schools that has been advertise on television. If you shop at Asda, download the app, select Alwyn Infant School and raise funds for our school every time you shop.

What have Reception been learning this week?

This week we were very excited by the snow and sad it didn't settle. However we have had fun exploring ice and what happens to it! We have been sequencing the story Owl Babies and continuing to think about nocturnal animals. We have also been discussing our similarities and differences and thinking about how we are all special.

Ask me to tell you a word that starts with h and a word that starts with b

Ask me to tell you what I liked best in PE this week

Ask me to show you how many different patterns I can make with 4 bricks

Ask me to tell you how we feel when we give presents. Why do we give presents?

Next week Reception will learn the phonic sounds f and ff. In maths, we will be representing quantities to 5, beginning to represent quantities to 10 and recognising numbers to 5. On No Pens Wednesday we would like all the children to bring in something special to them for a special day of Show and Tell, e.g a photograph, object or a toy.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

It's been another busy week in Year 1. On Thursday the children visited Courthouse School to attend a fantastic Kindness workshop and enjoyed making something for someone special to spread our kindness. In Science this week the children have been thinking about the sense of Sight and what you need in order to see. They discovered how tricky it was to aim and throw when you can't see! In Geography the children have enjoyed looking at aerial photographs and comparing these to maps, noticing what is the same and what is different. During PSHE lessons the children have discussed rules, thinking about what they are and why we have them. In English the children have thought of super describing words for different animals and continued to develop their understanding of subtraction in Maths. Well done!

Ask me to tell you about our school rules.

Ask me to tell you about Human features and Physical features around where I live.

Ask me to tell you 3 words to describe a lion.

Ask me to show you how to work out $8 - 5$ using the crossing out method.

Ask me whether 9 is an odd or an even number.

Ask me to tell you the new sounds in Phonics ('ay' as in tray, 'oy' as in toy).

Ask me to write these words: play, stay, boy, enjoy.

Next week, we will be learning more new sounds in Phonics and enjoying our trip to the park on Wednesday.

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2 2024-2025

27th November

No Pens Day

Year 1 trip to the park

28th & 29th November

PTA Elfridges

29th November

Non uniform day for a tombola gift

30th November

PTA Christmas Fair

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

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

What have Year 2 been learning this week?

This week in year 2 we have enjoyed being geographers and learning about the physical features in the UK. We have named different physical features in each of the countries and had an interesting discussion about the Loch Ness monster. In English, we continued with Kassim and the Greedy Dragon. We completed an activity called conscience alley which is where we paused at a moment in the story and thought about three questions for Kassim to consider. We thought about whether he should go into the cave, take the treasure and finally fight the dragon. We had a great discussion around these questions and what was the right thing to do.

Ask me to describe a triangle, square and a pentagon using the words: sides and vertices.

Ask me how I can tell if a shape is symmetrical.

Ask me to describe a physical feature in geography.

Ask me to name a physical feature in each country of the UK.

Ask me to name the three qualities of kindness that we learnt from Greg from 52Lives.

Ask me how I can show kindness to those around me.

Next week we will continue with our Science topic of materials and explore the properties of paper and cardboard.

Kindness Workshops with Year 1 and 2

Our children went to Courthouse to take part in a kindness workshop. They were beautifully behaved and answered some very thought provoking questions.

Ask your child what act of kindness and creative artwork they did to complete the challenge.



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!**



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 holidayscamps@emrc.coachlog.com

HAF funded spaces available



COURTHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL

OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Come and find out more about our wonderful school and hear from Senior Leaders, Parent Teacher Associates, Governors and our amazing pupils

TUESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER
At 9:15 AM - 10:45 AM

COURTHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL
Blenheim Rd, Maidenhead SL6 5HE

MORE INFORMATION

01628 626958

www.courthousejunior.co.uk



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



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.](#)