



Alwyn Infant School



Build Belonging

Show Kindness

Make Choices

OUR SCHOOL NEWS

Issue No. 14 | 13th December 2024

What has been happening?

Well done Reception

Our children in Reception performed brilliantly this week. They sang confidently without any backing music and were super smiley. Their performances demonstrated their love of learning. My favourite part was when they had to stop and wait in one of the jingle songs,



Thank you to the reception families who donated so generously to our two charities. We will 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](#).

Good luck to Year 1 and Year 2

We are looking forward to the Year 1 and 2 performances next week. There is a cash collection at the end of all performances to add to our total for the two chosen charities.

Staffing Update

We welcome Mrs Azam and Miss Latif to the TA reception team. They have made a cracking start and are getting to the know the children quickly.

Next week we will be saying goodbye to two members of staff. Mrs Novelle will be starting her maternity leave and Miss Huyzer is leaving to continue her career in nurse education. We wish them both lots of luck.

Mrs Andrade will be covering the maternity leave in Maple class. She is a very experienced teacher and we look forward to her joining the team. We have also employed a new TA to support Hazel class.

From the start of next term, Mrs Harris will no longer be teaching in Hazel Class on Mondays and Tuesdays. This change will allow her to dedicate additional time to her role as our SENDCo. I am delighted to share that we have found a fantastic teacher to join Hazel Class in her place: Mrs Moal. Mrs Evans will continue to teach the class on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

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

The children had a fabulous time at the Christmas dinner. There were Christmassy tablecloths and decorations as well as music- along with some impromptu sing-a-longs.

It was extra special as the children were wearing their own jumpers.

Thank you to our wonderful ladies in the kitchen for preparing such a lovely feast.



School Applications for Year 3 or Reception

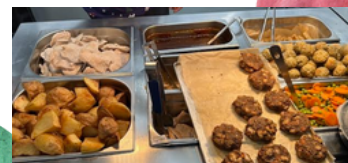
The application portal is open between 11th November and 15th January. It is extremely important that you complete the form during this time to secure a school place. If you log onto the [RBWM](#) site or look in the Schools and Education section, you will find all the information you need. If you need 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.



A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS LUNCH & JUMPER DAY





Alwyn performance time is coming!



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.

Tickets have been sent home in your child's book bag.

The numbers for each performance are limited due to Health and Safety reasons. Each performance is the same and include all of the three classes in Year 1.

We allocate up to 2 tickets per family (in total, not per performance). If we have been able to allocate any additional tickets, they would have been sent home in your child's book bag.

The extra tickets are not guaranteed so if you have not received a ticket then your request has not been successful.

Please read the tickets carefully as some are for one person and some are for two. It will state this on the ticket.

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!

All the Alwyn performances will have 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](#).







Carols in the Courthouse playground, 19th December, 3.30pm

After school, join in with some carol singing in the Courthouse playground, led by their fabulous choir.

Staff pantomime for the children

On the last day of term, the children will watch the federation staff panto in the Courthouse School hall. This is a great opportunity to watch a fun panto in a relaxed environment and celebrate the last day of term.





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.



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?

This week in Reception we have been very enthusiastic about our Christmas performance and are very proud of our achievements this term. We have been preparing for Christmas by making decorations and decorating trees in our classrooms. We have been practicing writing our names so please remember to do the same over the holidays. We had our Christmas dinner this week and most of us enjoyed it. We loved wearing our Christmas jumpers and then designing our own!

Ask me to tell you what word the sounds b-o-tt-le make

Ask me to sing you my favourite song from the Christmas Performance

Ask me to tell you or show you the difference between a square and a rectangle

Ask me who Christians believe Jesus is

Next week, Reception will be assessing and consolidating the phonic sounds we have learnt this term. We will also be playing lots of number games to consolidate counting and subitising to 6.

What have Year 1 been learning this week?

Excitement has continued to mount in Year 1 as the final week of term approaches. Rehearsals have been going from strength to strength and the children have been singing and narrating brilliantly. They have also had a busy week of learning. In Science they continued their work on the senses by conducting experiments using their sense of taste and sense of smell. In English everyone has been writing their own version of the Dear Santa story, whilst Maths lessons have involved describing the properties of 3D shapes. The new sound in Phonics this week was 'ew' as in 'screw'. Well done Year 1!

Ask me to tell you about what I tasted in my Science lesson.

Ask me to tell you which was my favourite smell in the Science lesson.

Ask me to write the words 'drew' and 'chew' using this week's new sound.

Ask me to tell you my version of the Dear Santa story.

Ask me to write the Helpful Words 'one' and 'out'.

Ask me to describe a 3D shape - can you guess what it is?

KEY DATES!

School Year 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2 2024-2025

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

Spring Term 1, 2024-2025

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

10th-14th February

Book Week and Book Fair
Visiting authors, poets,
illustrators

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 learning about statistics in maths. They have answered questions using the data provided and they also enjoyed creating graphs, tables and tally charts.

In English, they let their creative ideas flow and wrote their own warning story following the structure of a familiar story.

As scientists, they explored a range of materials including glass, plastic and metals. They thought about the materials properties and why they are suitable for certain objects. They used the words transparent, translucent and opaque to describe different plastics.

**Ask me to draw tally marks to represent the following numbers -
8, 16, 21, 34**

Ask me why tallying is a good way to record a large number

**Ask me to describe the appearance of my bad character using a simile
Ask me to retell my story using story language**

Ask me to tell you what transparent and opaque mean

Ask me to tell you why plastic is a suitable material for the following-

Water bottle

Carrier bag

Children's building blocks

Next week we are practising our songs for the year 2 Festive sing-a-long.

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 2 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 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

Summer Term 1, 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

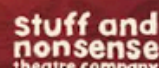
Tuesday 26 November - Saturday 28 December

Tickets
From £14

For Ages
3+ Years



01628 788997
nordenfarm.org



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

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



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."

wise owls childcare

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

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

let them play!

Winter HOLIDAY CAMPS

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		
Maidenhead: Alwyn Infants School	Newbury: Winchcombe School		
Newbury: Winchcombe School			

DISCOUNT CODE: SNOW15 15% OFF

HAF funded spaces available

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@mnrcocsblog.com

CHRISTMAS TOUCH RUGBY CAMP

2 & 3 JAN 2025

AGES 5-17

Hosted by Regional and National Qualified Touch Rugby Coaches.

Cost: £35 for 1 day (9.30am - 3:00pm) or £60 for 2 days. 10% sibling discount.

Includes FREE hot chocolate!!

Venue: Maidenhead RFC, Braywick Park, Braywick Road, Maidenhead SL6 1BN

REGISTER

To register your junior or for more information, please email sammie@in2touch.com

Camps in association with England Touch's West Region @wildcatstouch
wildcatsjuniortouch@gmail.com

STAND OUT FOR AUTISM PRESENTS

STAND OUT FOR AUTISM

OFF THE TAP CRAFT BEER BURGER BAR

CHRISTMAS SENSORY BUS

DEC 14

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

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

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.

