



Summer News



Pen Mill Infant and Nursery Academy

24th May 2019

Issue 5

Message from Mrs Manning, Acting Head

Dear Parents and Carers

What a wonderful beginning to the Summer term, the weather has been warm and dry allowing the children more opportunities to be outside discovering and exploring our school grounds. The children and staff will be working hard next term to improve our school surroundings by continuing to grow plants and encourage wildlife into our setting. We would welcome any parents who can lend a hand or donate any plants to our school.

It has been a pleasure to take the Year twos in Jeffers class swimming this term and they have enjoyed every moment. The confidence of the children in the water and the improvements they have made in such a short time has been a joy to see. We look forward to taking Donaldson class on the second week back.

Our themed curriculum weeks continue to be a lovely opportunity for the children to learn and develop new skills, this week we have all enjoyed music and art across the school. The children danced, clapped and sang along to the Buckler's Mead Band and we all enjoyed getting messy and going wild with the artists from Yeovil Creatives Group. We hope you have enjoyed seeing the amazing art work on display in the Pen Mill Gallery and enjoyed the performance by our Year two drummers.

Thank you for all of the entries in the mask making competition, Iain Crabtree one of our Governors was given the difficult task of judging this! The children talked about how much they enjoyed making them with you and it was lovely to see so many different designs and ideas. Well done to the children who won first, second and third places.

Attendance at school continues to be high on our agenda and it has been good to see classes reaching 100% on some occasions, however overall attendance is 93% which is well below the school target of 96%. Please can I ask you to ensure your child is at school on time, in school if well and collected promptly at the end of the day. As always please come and see me if you feel I can help in any way.

Have a lovely May bank holiday with your families and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes
Mrs Manning

Weekly update - week commencing 20th May 2019

All of the information on this page can be found on:

- our website at www.penmillinfants.co.uk
- the playground screen
- the class noticeboards

Golden Book Pupils

Carle	Hollie & Bradley
Waddell	Hannah & Lexi
Sharratt	Matei-Nicolae & Freyja
Potter	Ivy & India
Donaldson	Fareeha & Ashton
Jeffers	Kyle & Dominik

Attendance

Pen Mill Academy attendance - 93%

Our Attendance Bear was awarded to Donaldson class who attained the highest class attendance this week with 96%

Team Points

Well done to Birch team who achieved the most team points this week with 80 points

Thank you

Thank you to all the parents that sent in items for musical instruments to be made.

Summer Fayre



We hope you will be able to join us for our Summer Fayre which will be held on Saturday 6th July between 2pm and 4pm.

Nursery - Carle class

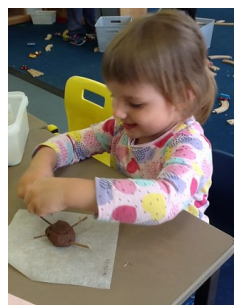
Nursery have had a busy half term. We have been learning about growing, so much so that we have our own beanstalk growing in the nursery with some very suspicious legs dangling down from the clouds and we hope the giant doesn't visit us again! The children really enjoyed this topic and it inspired them to do some fantastic writing.

The children have spent the last two weeks learning about mini beasts. We have been on a mini beast hunt in the field and found many woodlouse, worms, ants and spiders! The children have also made their own mini beasts with clay. This activity helped the children to be very imaginative and they produced some amazing mini beasts.

After the half term the children will be learning about Space. We hope to take them on adventure through space, learning about the different planets and making their own rockets to take them there.

Have a lovely half term.

The Nursery Team



Reception - Sharratt & Waddell classes

A mysterious creature inhabited our field one Monday. The children found where it had been sleeping, what it had been eating and what its feet were like. It also left us a present on the field too! Yuk!

It was so exciting and the talk of the school. We then used this as a writing opportunity and made missing posters to try and locate this creature. We never did find it so be careful!



The Year One children in Waddell and Sharratt classes had a wonderfully wild day at Axe Valley Wildlife Park earlier this half term.

They became Wildlife Rangers for the day, exploring the park and meeting all sorts of unusual creatures. The cheeky Ring-tailed Lemurs and the beautiful peacocks were a big hit with the children.

We were lucky enough to experience feeding the meerkats with Catherine, the education officer, and she also introduced us to some of the animals at the park.

The children were very brave and either stroked or held stick insects, a giant millipede, a bearded dragon and a royal python. We even stroked Archie the Armadillo!

The children were a credit to Pen Mill, listening carefully and behaving impeccably all day. Well done year ones!



Year 1 - Potter classes

This half term, Potter class have been going WILD and having lots of fun learning about the characteristics of different animals. Not only have the children been developing their reading and writing skills this term but they have also been developing collaboration skills by producing a group poster. Each group developed a poster about a specific category of animal; mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish and birds which are display on our science board.

The children were fascinated during our trip to Axe Valley and everyone loved feeding the meerkats!



The majority of children held stick insects, millipedes, a bearded dragon and even a snake. They also got to touch the armadillo and learnt that he was a mammal!



Potter class have also been enjoying planting vegetables and flowers in our garden and looking after them carefully. We raised an incredible £130 during our cake sale and bought our hedgehog house, bat and insect homes plus bird food for our beautiful birds that we enjoying watching at playtime and lunchtime.

Thank you for all your support with your child's learning inside and outside of the classroom. I hope that you all have a wonderful half term.

Mrs Fletcher



Year 2 - Donaldson & Jeffers classes

The children in Year 2 have had an extremely busy half term where there has been a focus on our Science based topic on 'Go Wild'.



One afternoon the children had to be detectives as they found some signs of a creature living on the school field. They found a shelter, some large, pointy footprints, some interesting looking food and large dollops of poo! The children suggested it may be a herbivore because of what they found in the poo. They also said it had to have sharp claws and due to the footprints ending suddenly the creature must be able to fly too. The children found out about animals that live in different habitats and what they need in order to survive. To complete our 'Go Wild' topic we went on our school trip on Tuesday to Ferne Animal Sanctuary. It was a lovely day where all the children were well mannered and showed excellent behaviour.



The children in Year 2 have completed their SATs. We have been amazed at the way they have applied their skills and understanding, demonstrating confidence and maturity. All of the children had a positive attitude towards their SATs and many were heard being excited at the thought of getting to do another paper.

We have been lucky to have some visitors from Nuffield every week to share with the children how to keep healthy. The children have learnt about the importance of drinking lots of water, doing exercise to keep our bodies and minds healthy and remembering to eat a well-balanced diet. Some of their exercises included push ups, squats and burpees. Jeffers class have thoroughly enjoyed their swimming this half term and have one session left after half term. Donaldson class will be pleased to hear that their turn will be the second week back after half term.

Art Week



Congratulations to all our Art Competition prize winners.



Upcoming Dates - all dates can be found on our website

Last day of term	Friday 24th May
Half term holiday	Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May
Children return to school	Monday 3rd June
Jeffers class swimming	Tuesday 4th June
Discovery week	Monday 10th June - Friday 14th June
Planetarium visit to school	Tuesday 11th June
Donaldson class swimming	Tuesday 11th June - Tuesday 16th July
Class Photos	Wednesday 12th June
Sports day	Friday 5th July 9am - 10.30am
Summer Fayre	Saturday 6th July 2pm - 4pm
Last day of term	Friday 19th July