



Weekly News



Pen Mill Infant and Nursery Academy

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

- our website at www.penmillinfants.co.uk
- our school jotter App

28th May
2021

Golden Book Pupils

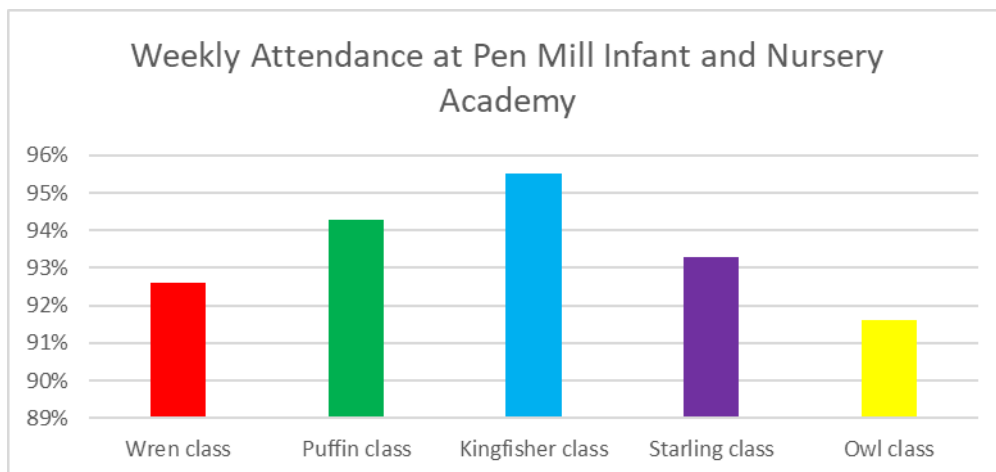
Awards were presented this week to the following children:

Cygnets	Kacie & Sonny
Wren	Maria-Helena & Ronan
Kingfisher	Abel & Eyan
Puffin	Arial & Lilian
Owl	Carla & Ethan
Starling	Aviela & Harley

Attendance Awards

Pen Mill Academy attendance - **95 %**

Our Attendance Bear was awarded to **Kingfisher Class** who attained the highest class attendance with **95.5%**



Team Points

Well done to **Sycamore Team** who achieved the most team points this week with **131 Points**

Message from Mrs Manning

This week the children have taken part in Science week with visits from Carymoor and Bugfest to enrich their learning. Thank you to Mrs Fletcher our Science lead for planning such a fun filled and exciting week. The children learnt all about the importance of reduce, re-use and re-cycle with Pirate Beth and were engaged in activities to help them think about sustainability.

Through investigative work the children have worked collaboratively to plan, investigate and evaluate. They have created volcanoes, lava lamps, rockets and bath bombs.

During Bugfest today it has been great to see the children observing, discussing and handling bugs within their classrooms. A favourite was definitely Twilight Sparkle the Tarantula who was very gentle but extremely hairy!

On behalf of everyone at Pen Mill Infant and Nursery School we wish you a happy half term and look forward to seeing you all after the break.

Best wishes
Mrs Manning

BUG FEST



**Vinnie holding
Vinnie the Vinegaroon**

BUG FEST Continued....



Wren Class



Year 1



Year 2



What have Year 1 been up to?

Puffin and Kingfisher class have had a very busy end to the half term!

On Tuesday we held our Victorian themed school day. The children were amazing! They behaved just like Victorians, working (mostly!) in silence, in separate classes for boys and girls. Whenever an adult entered the room, the children stood behind their chairs and waited to be spoken to before speaking... just as they would have all those years ago.



The boys activities for the morning included drill (which one boy described as like PE but not as fun!) handwriting with chalk on blackboards, gardening, nature study drawing and maths, reciting number sentences and writing them, again with the chalk. The girls were equally as busy, with handwriting, painting flowers, making spinning tops and dressing paper dolls.

We also explored a Victorian playtime, rolling hoops just as the children would have done, although they would have used metal hoops rather than plastic!



KS1 - Year 1 - Big Question? Continued.....

We have also enjoyed Science week this week. The children have learnt about recycling, thanks to Beth from Carymoor joining us via teams video call. They were all able to talk about the recycling we complete at home and in school. We used plastic bottle tops and old catalogues to make some lovely artwork, re-using to reduce waste.



In the afternoons, we have completed lots of different experiments, exploring friction, magnetism and physics, through building and strengthening bridges. We even launched our very own rocket on the playground! It has been wonderful to listen to them sharing their predictions and discussing their results. The children are using some excellent scientific vocabulary in their discussions.



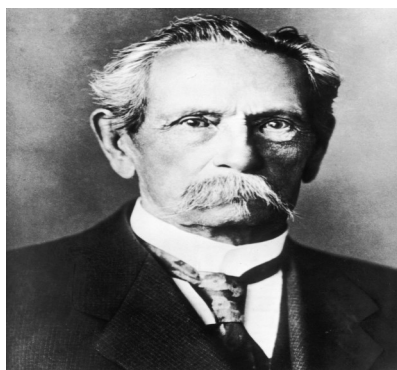
The children are sure to enjoy our visit on Friday from Bugfest and will be able to tell you about all sorts of different insects!

We are very proud of all the children and hope you all enjoy a lovely half term break.

KS1 - Year 2 - Big Question?

What have Year 2 been up to?

In Year 2 this half term we have been learning about Victorian inventors. Thomas Edison, Alexander Graham Bell, Karl Benz and Brunel. The children have explored electricity by investigating how to make their own circuit using batteries, wires, bulbs, motors and switches. They have designed and made their own cars using cardboard boxes, wheels and axels. The children used plastic cups and string to explore the use of a basic telephone. They investigated how to make a strong bridge by folding paper in different ways to make it stronger.



Karl Benz



Our history this half term has been about Queen Victoria, we discovered lots of facts about Queen Victoria, her reign and her family.

Did you know that Queen Victoria had 9 children and 42 grand children? When she visited the classes, we asked her questions about her life, we found out that she wore black in memory of her husband, Prince Albert.



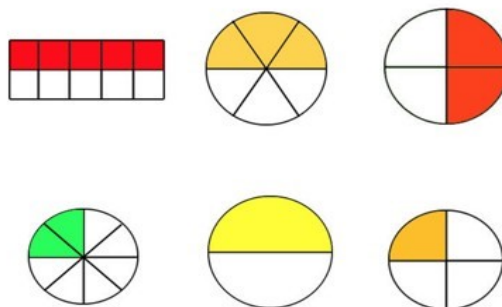
KS1 - Year 2 - Big Question? Continued.....

We have also discovered that being a child during the reign of Queen Victoria was not much fun. During our Victorian school day, the girls and boys learnt in separate classrooms. The children had to stand when an adult entered the room and the teachers were very strict. If the children misbehaved, they had to wear the Dunces hat and stand in the corner. We all agreed that we were glad that we go to school in the 2020's!



In maths this half term the children have been learning about fractions and time, both can be very tricky to grasp! The children had lots of 'hands on' experiences of finding out $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{4}$. We shared cakes, sweets, counters and even made fractions using leaves and twigs. This concrete way of learning really helped to secure their mathematical knowledge of fractions and then we used the same method with time. Children had their own clocks and using the clock in the classroom. They also made clocks and watches and used these to support their learning in the classroom.

Please keep asking your child to tell time so you can help to really secure their knowledge of time.



Upcoming Dates - all dates can be found on our website

BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 31st May 2021
HALF TERM	Tuesday 1st June - Friday 4th June

School uniform

REMINDER!

Can we please ask that **ALL** children's uniform and belongings are labelled with their names.

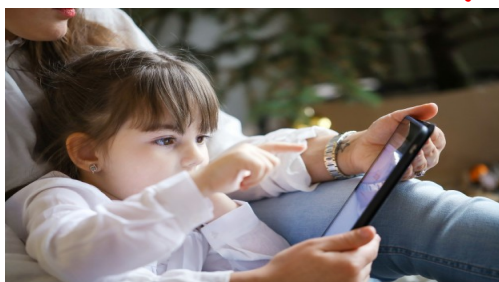
Teachers and TA's do their very best to reunite lost clothing with the children, however this is not always possible when they are very often unnamed.

Thank you!



Online Safety Newsletter

New SEND Online Safety Hub



NetAware have recently launched a new hub for parents of children with special educational needs, to support families with keeping their children safe online and to get the best out of their online experiences.

The new hub includes top tips, activities and guidance. You can also sign up for a regular newsletter.

Find the hub at:

<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/send-online-safety-hub/>