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

- the playground screen

Golden Book Pupils

Awards were presented this week to the following children:

Carle	Lacey G & Isabella
Waddell	Ronnie & Alexia
Sharratt	Scarlett & Oscar
Potter	Amelie & Adiella
Donaldson	Claire & Mason
Jeffers	Mollie & Katie

Attendance

Pen Mill Academy attendance - 93%

Our Attendance Bear was awarded to Potter class who attained the highest class attendance this week with 98%

Team Points

Well done to Maple Team who achieved the most points this week with 100 points.

Payments

Our preferred method of payment is through the 'School Gateway' service although payment can also be made by cash or cheque at the school office.

To activate a School Gateway account please follow the instructions below:
Download the app: If you have a smartphone, please download School Gateway from your app store (Android and iPhone).
OR
Visit the website: www.schoolgateway.com and click on 'New User'. You will receive a text message with a PIN number. Use this PIN to log into School Gateway.

Outgoing telephone calls from the school office

Please note that all outgoing telephone calls from the school will be made from the following number 07415 326727.

However this number will not be monitored for incoming calls or text messages.

If you are returning a call or wish to contact the school please call the school office on 01935 474224.

Technology & Learning

This half term we will be sharing parents guides to various apps and games your children may use to support you in keeping your children safe online. We hope these will be helpful.
If you have any comments or concerns about your children's use of technology or any aspect of e-safety, please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Hayden.

What parents need to know about
The App Store

Full size copies of these information sheets can be found at the end of the weekly update.

Egg-citing News

Our eggs have started to hatch in the Nursery with the first chick, named Carle, born on Wednesday 13th March.

Visit from Cat Weatherill - author and story teller

The visit from author, Cat Weatherilll was a great success and the children had a lot of fun listening to stories and joining in with songs and rhymes.

The children in Key stage 1 began to think about making their own stories, by using a story mountain format.

As usual our Pen

Upcoming Dates - all dates can be found on our website

Sports Week *Activities to include:* *Jive, Football, Yoga*	Monday 18th March - Friday 22 March
Themed Curriculum Day for Nursery children *'People who help us'*	Wednesday 20th March
Fire Engine to visit the Nursery	Wednesday 20th March
Books at bedtime *Please remember to return your reply slip*	Thursday 21st March
Adventure Babies visiting the Nursery children	Friday 22nd March
Rock The Sport CD *Deadline to return your order to the school office*	Friday 22nd March
Celebrate and Evaluate *Parents invited into classes to view their child's work*	Tuesday 26th March 8.30am-9.15am or 3.15pm-3.30pm
Easter bonnet parade *Children invited to make a bonnet at home for the parade*	Monday 1st April
Nursery visit to Sunningdale Lodge	Tuesday 2nd April
Easter Service at St Michael's Church Year 1 to lead - *parents welcome*	Wednesday 3rd April 2pm
Themed Curriculum Day for Reception and Year 1 children *'Fairytale Day'*	Thursday 4th April
Themed Curriculum Day for Year 2 children *'Castle Day'*	Thursday 4th April
Last day of term	Friday 5th April

'Apps' are designed to run on certain devices and are written for a specific operating system, such as Apple iOS, Windows, or Android. The official store for the Apple iOS operating system is known as the 'App Store' and it's where you can browse and download more than 2 million apps and games to use on the iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch and other Apple devices. When your children are using the app store, you need to be aware of the risks...

What parents need to know about
The App Store

IS YOUR CHILD 13+?
To download and buy apps from the App Store, your child will need an Apple ID. If they have used other Apple services, such as iCloud, they can sign into the App Store with the same Apple ID. If they are aged 13 and under, they cannot sign up for an Apple ID on their own, but an adult can create an Apple ID for a child.

IN-APP PURCHASES
Apps are either free, paid-for or free with in-app purchases. In-app purchases are optional transactions that can unlock extra functionality, virtual goods or unique content. Unless you change the settings, once your child has entered a password to make an in-app purchase, they can make additional purchases for 15 minutes without re-entering a password. This makes it extremely easy for children to accidentally run up huge bills.

LOOKALIKE APPS
Some developers release apps that copy the functionality, user interface and even product names and branding of popular apps, in an attempt to trick unsuspecting users to install them. By downloading an app from an unknown developer, your child could find their device compromised. Experts warn that through app permissions, hackers can potentially take photos using the camera and access media remotely, track your child's location, record any passwords they enter for other accounts, and send text messages from phones.

INAPPROPRIATE APPS
Some apps and games have content that is unsuitable for younger children – even the most popular or innocuous looking apps may feature adult-themed content, violence or cruelty to other people or animals, unmoderated chat, pornographic or sexual content.

THIRD-PARTY APP STORES
Because the official Apple App Store has a very stringent policy about what apps it approves, children may look elsewhere for apps and games they've heard about from friends. As well as the Apple App Store for iOS, there are hundreds of other third-party app stores, but the danger is they may not apply the same level of scrutiny toward the apps they allow to be listed. There's a higher chance of apps that infect devices with malicious codes or put user privacy at risk by extracting sensitive information.

Top Tips for Parents

CREATE YOUR CHILD'S ACCOUNT
You can create an Apple ID for a child under 13 and add them to your family group to keep an eye on their activity. Go to Settings > [your name] > Family Sharing > Add Family Member > Create a Child Account > Next. Enter your child's birthday and tap Next. Review the Parent Privacy Disclosure and tap Agree. With Family Sharing, you can add up to six family members to share App Store purchases, as well as iTunes and Apple Books.

SWITCH ON 'ASK TO BUY'
If you have a child that is over 13 years of age and has their own Apple account, make sure that you only allow them to make purchases with gift cards. You can also activate the 'Ask to Buy' feature if you are using Family Sharing, so that whenever a family member who isn't an adult initiates a new purchase, a request goes to the account organiser. You can also limit what content your child can access on the devices they use.

RESTRICT IN-APP PURCHASES
You can restrict your child's ability to make in-app purchases. On an iOS device, open Settings, tap General and then Restrictions. Tap 'Enable Restrictions.' You can put a limitation that requires a password every time there is a purchase made in the App Store or iTunes Store.

BROWSE APPS BY AGE
To find apps and games that are right for your children, check the age ratings. On an iPhone or iPod Touch, this can be found in the information section on an app's product page, and on an iPad or desktop, the age range is near the Buy button. On the Kids page, you can find apps for age ranges, including 5 and under, 6 to 8, and 9 to 11.

AVOID OTHER APP STORES
Put a rule in place that your child can only use the official App Store to download apps and games. Explain why it is wise to only install applications from a trusted source to ensure their device is not affected by security issues or virus attacks.

HOW TO KNOW AN APP IS SAFE TO INSTALL
Advise your child that just because they're downloading an app from an official store, it doesn't make it safe. Fake or copycat apps will often include misspelt words and poor grammar, so always read the app description, and double check the developer name and title for warning signs. Be wary of apps that come with a long list of permission requests. Check the app's reviews and ratings – one star, one-line reviews complaining that an app didn't work on a certain device, or that there was a billing issue, is not a good indication.

SPOT FAKE REVIEWS
When checking the customer reviews within the app store, make sure they aren't vague and generic, or overly effusive, as some developers will try to manipulate their apps' positions by posting fake ratings and reviews. Check the number of downloads the app claims to have – the higher the number, the more likely it is to be safe. Your child can also check on a company's website to see if the app is available on there.

SOURCES: https://www.engadget.com/2017/12/18/fake-cuphead-itunes/ & https://mashable.com/2017/11/06/fake-whatsapp-app-google-play-store-android/?europe=true