



# Autumn News



## Pen Mill Infant and Nursery Academy

18th October 2019

### Message from Mrs Manning, Acting Headteacher

*We are fast approaching the end of the first half term of the year. The children are happy, focussed and full of enthusiasm. Next week is 'Well being week' and we were really lucky to have the author Chris Duke visit the school to celebrate and read his book to the children. They listened beautifully and asked questions about his character Lucy. The children will continue to explore how to have healthy bodies and minds through exciting curriculum activities and this will be celebrated with a non-uniform day on Friday.*

*The nursery and reception children have settled into their new routines confidently and are already making great progress with all areas of their learning. The nursery children enjoy sessions with Lewis from YTFC and are already beginning to integrate with the main school. The reception children have been busy learning how to use their phonics to spell, write and read new words through games, learning and play. They are a friendly, hardworking group of children who are happy in school and are a joy to teach, play and work with.*

*Our year one and two children are working extremely hard on their English and maths skills, the afternoons curriculum is enriched with computing, creative learning and a discovery of the world around them. The children are eager to continue their learning at home and can hopefully share their next step targets with you. We are beginning to see some homework projects coming into school linked to our Big Question Curriculum, "What lights up our world? A reminder that these need to be in school for the Monday back after half term.*

*Well done to the fantastic four who represented our school at the Cross Country Event at Ninesprings this week. They displayed determination, sportsmanship and bravery at such a BIG event. You were amazing, we are extremely proud of you.*

*Thank you to all that have attended our parent meetings, Inspire session and phonic and maths workshops. These will continue each half term and it would be great to see more of you attending.*

*We look forward to seeing you all next week at our Harvest festival service and hope you have a lovely weekend.*

*Best Wishes  
Tracy Manning*

## Nursery, Cygnet class

This term the nursery children have had a lovely time finding their feet and settling themselves in to the nursery routine.

We have been learning about the Hungry Caterpillar and all the things he ate! The children made their own caterpillars, using their handprints.



We also explored the story, The tiger who came to tea! The children found it very amusing that a tiger likes to eat cakes and drink tea out of a teapot. The children explored making tiger stripes, using bubble wrap and cardboard tubes!



The last two weeks we have been focusing on well being and how to be a good friend. We read the story Rainbow fish and made our own rainbow fish using clay and buttons. We also explored other animals that live in the ocean.

The children have had a busy half term and have done amazingly well with their learning!

The Nursery team



## Reception, Wren and Robin Classes

What an amazing start to the year we have had in Robin and Wren classes! The children have settled in to their school routines brilliantly well, showing great levels of kindness, friendship, hard work and listening. Their attitude towards school is wonderful and it's great to see them coming in with big smiles after only a few weeks. We are very proud of each and every one of the children in our classes.

We have enjoyed a wide range of learning activities and had lots of fun so far, including making clay faces in Forest School, learning about numbers with the number blocks and reading lots of amazing stories such as Owl Babies and Monkey Puzzle. The children wowed us with their storytelling skills when we read Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what can you see, and with their problem solving skills when discovering different ways to make 3.

The children have loved music, learning lots of new songs and joining the rest of the school for singing assembly each week. Each week the children have been doing Forest School and we enjoyed making some clay faces using natural resources. If your child has not yet brought Welly Boots into school, please could they do so.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Reception Team



## Year 1 and Year 2, Kingfisher, Owl and Woodpecker Classes



The children in Key Stage one have enjoyed our topic 'what is special about us and our locality'. In Geography this half term we have explored the physical and human features within our local area. Mr Norman came in to speak to the children about his job at Westlands. The children have been excited to find out about the view from Wyndham hill and its surroundings. Many of the children have enjoyed sharing their topic homework with us and we look forward to seeing more being completed to show off at school.

In history the children have learned about Yeovil hospital and how hospitals have changed over time. They have found out about Florence Nightingale and how she changed hospitals for the better.

During Science in year 1 the children have learned about using their senses. They have explored their sense of smell, touch, sight, taste and hearing. In year 2 the children have used their understanding of the ways to keep healthy. This has included finding out about eating a well-balanced diet and making some healthy food such as smoothies and fruit kebabs. The children have thought about the importance of getting enough sleep, exercising and hygiene. We had an author visit at our school this week who shared his book called 'Lucy's blue day'. This book helps children to be aware of their feelings. Next week the children will be learning more about healthy minds through our wellbeing week.

In maths the children have been working hard to understand place value with numbers up to 10 in year 1 and up to 100 in year 2. Many of the children have secured their knowledge of number bonds to 10 and 100 and have had the challenge of working out word problems too.

In English the children have focused on writing instructions, letters and descriptions through the stories *Funnybones*, *Georges Marvellous Medicine* and *The Twits*. The children particularly enjoyed making up their own medicine using a variety of different ingredients. In P.E the children have developed their team skills. Well done to our year 2 boys for taking part in the cross country.

We have had a fantastic first half term and are very proud of the way the children have settled into their new classes. They show such enthusiasm for learning.

Thank you for your continued support.





## Weekly update - week commencing 14th October 2019

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

- our website at [www.penmillinfants.co.uk](http://www.penmillinfants.co.uk)
- the playground screen

Our weekly updates are emailed to parents every Friday. If you have not been receiving these please advise the school office so that our records may be updated with your correct email address.

## Golden Book Pupils

Awards were presented this week to the following children:

Cygnets	Olivier & Charlie
Wren	Millie & Summer
Robin	Vinnie & Harper
Kingfisher	Hollymay & Dillon
Woodpecker	Jude & Edward & Harry L
Owl	Lacey & Julia & Travis

## Attendance

Pen Mill Academy attendance - 93%

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

## Team Points

Well done to Maple Team who achieved the most points this week with 58 points.

## Warm school clothing

As weather gets colder and winter is approaching please ensure that your child wears to school a jumper or a cardigan.

## Upcoming Dates - all dates can be found on our website

Wellbeing Week	Monday 21st October - Friday 25th October
Harvest Service in St Michaels Church <i>All parents welcome</i>	Tuesday 22nd October at 2pm
Lucy's Blue Day—non uniform day	Friday 25th October
Last Day of Term	Friday 25th October
Children return back to school	Monday 4th November
Tempest Photography Individual & Sibling photos	Monday 11th November at 9:15am
Pen Mill Infant and Nursery Academy Open Day	Tuesday 12th November 2-3pm Friday 15th November 10-11am
School Immunisation Flu Sessions	Wednesday 20th November
Reception Nativity	Monday 9th December at 2pm (Wren Class) Tuesday 10th December at 2pm (Robin Class)
Christmas Dinner	Thursday 12th December
Inset Day	Friday 20th December