



Well done to all our pupils for another successful term. Everyone has worked incredibly hard and now deserve a well earned rest. Enjoy reading about all the exciting events and activities the children have been up to this term.



## Frosty Friday!



Wow! Frosty Friday was a fulfilled day for everyone! Despite the cold weather, the children and staff were all feeling very merry and bright as they enjoyed a variety of activities throughout the day.

A huge thank you to all who helped make the day very enjoyable for everyone.



The children and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings. The children even had a cracker and enjoyed listening to festive music!

Year 2 went to the Tramshed to see a play called 'Little Gift'. The children were very impressed with the very special performer, and his playful mix of puppetry.

Year 4 and 5 had fun recreating the Winter Olympic sport, Biathlon. They had to perform a range of exercises, before calmly shooting their nerf gun at the target, hoping to avoid penalty star jumps.



The fairground rides were a huge hit with the children!

Year 1 and 3 were given the task of finding 10 little elves in the Genesta playground.

Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 were showing off their dance moves, during their frosty disco time! They even had a snow machine!



Year 3 and Year 4 had a special visit from the Snow Queen, who told the children an interesting story about a fir tree. The Snow Queen treated the children to a chocolate coin!



## Flying with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra

Year 2 went to the Royal Festival Hall to follow the adventures of the eager but accident-prone young dragon called 'Zog', as he goes through his years at Dragon School perfecting his craft. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra performed the music to his adventures on stage. The conductor led the orchestra on a musical extravaganza!

"My favourite instrument was the flute because it made a light and airy sound." - 2N

"My most memorable moment was when I sang the breathing song and the flying doctor's song. We sang in front of a whole orchestra! My favourite instrument was the French horn because my uncle plays the French horn." - 2C

"I enjoyed the violin because of how it was played. Nice and calmly. The percussion instruments gave the music lots of atmosphere." - 2M

## Britain's First Female BAME Footballer

Aren't families a funny thing! Finding out that your great-grandmother and her two sisters were founding members of the British Ladies Football team is one thing; finding

out that one of those sisters, my great-great aunt, Emma Clarke, was very possibly of dual heritage and that she has been recognised as Britain's first female BAME footballer, is quite another!

Plumcroft's Girls Football team went to the site of a historical football match to play in the inaugural Emma Clarke Gold Cup. Representing the Royal Borough of Greenwich and finishing runners up, our talented team were presented their medals by none other than former Arsenal and England Lionesses captain Faye White.

We've been invited back again next year and hope to make this monumental event, celebrating equality and diversity, a reminder of how much can be achieved with determination and resilience. *Mr Witham*

## Reception

Reception have been learning about fairy tales this half term. They enjoyed reading Jack and The Beanstalk and they learnt how to grow their own beanstalk from a bean. First, they made a hole in the soil and planted the bean inside. Then, they watered it daily and put their plants near sunlight to help them grow. The children were excited to see that the beans were getting taller and they began to talk about the changes that they had observed. This experience encouraged the children to write and think about what they would like to find at the top of their beanstalks if they could climb up them too. The children produced good pieces of work and they had some lovely ideas.

Some of these included rainbows, unicorns and dinosaurs.



## Pizza Making in Nursery

In Nursery, the children have been learning lots about shapes. Some of the children were playing with the play dough and they started to make pizzas; they used the shape cutters to make toppings and the staff thought it would be a great idea to make real pizzas - Nursery are always thinking about ways to look after themselves and keep healthy! The children had a great time spreading tomato puree and selecting the toppings they wanted for their pizzas. After they were put in the oven, they also enjoyed eating them with their classmates.



## HOUR OF CODE

### Hour of Code

Hour of Code Week has come and gone. Pupils and staff enjoyed the coding activities, received certificates and we encourage parents and carers to continue to have a go at coding for Computer Science month.



### HONK!

This term Year 3 were treated to an amazing show called HONK by theatre students from Trinity Laban. The children were very impressed with the great singing, the impressive dancing and of course the fantastic acting!

### Sitting Volleyball Team

Our sitting volleyball team attended an event at Shooters Hill College on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. They took part in some skills based activities and then played some matches against other schools. All of the children displayed excellent sportsmanship, determination and above all, had lots of fun.



### Year 5 and 6 Athletics Team

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November the Plumcroft Athletics team went to Shooters Hill College to take part in the annual Greenwich competition. The children competed in a range of running, jumping and throwing events. Their effort and determination was wonderful to watch. We ended up finishing 5th out of 21 teams which is a brilliant achievement.



### The Big Half update

Plumcroft has twenty three runners signed up for the Big Half! The parents, carers, staff and friends of Plumcroft will all be running 13.1 miles on Sunday the 1st of March. They will be fundraising for the school and all the amazing activities, clubs and trips that we provide. There are still a few places to fill so if you are interested please send your full name and email address to [activities@plumcroft.greenwich.sch.uk](mailto:activities@plumcroft.greenwich.sch.uk). Thank you to the runners and watch this space for information on how to sponsor them.

### Reception at Forest School

All five Reception classes have enjoyed going to Forest School this half term. Climbing and digging have been as popular as ever! We are all looking forward to the Spring, when we can continue being creative with string, sticks and the natural clay that we are lucky to find in both Shrewsbury Park (Plum Lane children) and Oxleas Woods (Vincent Road children). We will be awaiting the emergence of all the bugs, beetles, centipedes and woodlice etc. as the temperature rises. We can't wait!



### Year 5's trip to the Planetarium

Year 5 have been lucky enough to visit the Royal Greenwich Planetarium. They had an astronomer tell them all about how the solar system was formed and about several different planets. First, it showed the panoramic view of the Observatory then the sun, space and finally the planets. Towards the end of the presentation, the computer picked two planets at random for the children to see. One, a gas planet and the other a rocky one. The children had a fabulous day and learnt lots more information about space.





## It's all about Dinosaurs!

Year 3 have been learning all about dinosaurs this term and are now dinosaur experts! They have been lucky enough to visit the Natural History Museum, to see real dinosaur fossils, learn more about dinosaurs and to see a moving T-rex! The children also had the opportunity to dig for fossils, as they pretended to be palaeontologists. The children had a fantastic time!

## Year 4 at the Cinema

As part of the 'Into Film' Festival, Year 4 pupils went to see 'Bumblebee' at the O2 Cineworld in Greenwich on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2019. The pupils were well behaved on the trip and they really enjoyed the movie. Linking to their PSHE and creative writing unit, pupils discussed its themes of friendship, wrote diary entries from the perspective of Bumblebee and wrote an effective film review that was entered into the Review Writing Competition.

Here are some excerpts from their reviews:

" 'Bumblebee' is a heart-gripping, jaw dropping movie about a transformer robot who shelters from a war on his planet by travelling to Earth and sparking a friendship with an ordinary, 18 year old girl called Charlie Watson." - Polly

"The movie was not what I expected at all - it was chaotic, heart-breaking, sad and funny at the same time. I was inspired by the main character Charlie because she is clever and courageous and a bit like me." - Alannah



the children could see if they had administered the rescue breaths correctly by the rise and fall of the dummy's chest. Each child was presented with a certificate to certify that they had been trained in this important life skill and confident that, if called upon, they would be able to help someone in need.



## Fun in Year 1

1H have been exploring feelings and emotions as part of their Topic this term. The children were taught how to recognise different feelings, what it feels like to be happy, frustrated or sad etc. They also learnt what it might look like for other people. Feelings can be described as comfortable or uncomfortable, but all feelings are ok. e.g. It's ok to feel upset or angry it's how we then deal with these feelings. The children designed feeling posters, created Lego head emotion puppets and talked about how they were feeling through drama games and activities.



## Year 6's CPR Workshop

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, Year 6 had the opportunity to become mini First Aiders, with a CPR Workshop provided by EMT First Aid. The children first learnt about the "Primary Survey" - how to assess the situation for danger and what assistance the casualty required. They then learnt how to put a casualty into the recovery position and call for help. The final step was to learn how to administer Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). This was practised on dummies, where

## Singing at Plumcroft

Miss Shepherd and Miss Percy were really proud of all the children for their singing concerts at the end of November. The Year 1 and Year 2 children worked hard to learn all the lyrics by memory and their musical ability & singing made them shine. Thank you for all of your support.



Over 300 Year 3, 4 & 5 children walked over to Plumstead Manor School and did an outstanding concert to a full house of parents who came to watch. They performed songs off by heart in Zulu and Latin languages and mastered 2-part harmony singing with each other.



There is a fantastic selection of little video clips from the Singing Concerts on the school website, so please go and have a look.

<https://www.plumcroftprimary.co.uk/news/?pid=3&nid=1>

## BBC Ten Pieces

Musicians from the BBC came to perform in assembly and do a workshop with our KS2 instrumentalists. They worked with us to create an original piece of music based around samba percussion from Brazil. The BBC musicians were impressed by our musical ability – the leader said we were - ‘awesome’!



## Gala Performance

Plumcroft Band performed for the Royal Greenwich Music Hub Gala at Blackheath Halls in October. There was a great atmosphere and we really enjoyed

playing on the big stage and seeing all the other school groups performing. We played *Night Train* and *Seven Nation Army* - Plumcroft Style.

**Supersonics**  
Music students from Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music came to do a performance and workshop for Year 4. They told us about their instruments and about the jazz music they played. It was great to see the musicians close up and we enjoyed learning about jazz.

## Choir at Trinity Hospital

On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December, our dedicated, talented and enthusiastic Plumcroft School Choir returned to the Trinity Hospital to sing 3 festive songs to the residents. Mrs Graney's mum and the other residents had a merry time, as they enjoyed listening to our school choir sing beautifully once again.



### **Christmas Performances**

Well done to the year groups who performed their Christmas shows this year. The children and teachers have worked extremely hard and it is wonderful to watch the talent grow at Plumcroft.

### **Congratulations**

A huge congratulations to Mr Witham who has become a dad. We wish him and his family lots of love and happiness, as they start their exciting journey through parenthood.

### **Bulbs for Spring**

Just a reminder that we are asking for donations of bulbs. Please give your donations to your child's class teacher or hand them in at the office.

### **Thank you**

Miss Clifford would like to thank everyone for all of their donations for the EYFS toy shop. The children were very excited and enjoyed choosing their toys. There will be another shop in July so please start saving unwanted toys. Thank you.

### **Exciting News!**

Also, plans are being made for Plumcroft to have our very own Therapy Dog. We are hoping that this will happen sometime next year. Watch this space.

### **Singing Club**

Well done to Year 2 and Year 3 Singing club who performed in a KS1 assembly. All the children sang beautifully!

### **Activity to do at home: Mini pizza quiches**

Use tortilla wraps and a muffin tin to make individually portioned egg, salami and tomato bites - ideal for lunch boxes or picnics

PREP: 10 MINS  
COOK: 15 MINS  
MAKES 6

#### **Ingredients**

2 large tortilla wraps  
4 eggs  
chopped vegetables (optional)  
6 slices salami  
3 cherry tomatoes, halved, plus extra to serve  
handful basil leaves  
vegetable sticks, to serve

#### **Method**

1. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Using a 12cm cutter (or a small plate) cut circles from the large tortilla wraps – you should get 6. Use the circles to line 6 holes of a muffin tin, pushing them into the holes to make cases.
2. Beat the eggs and pour into the tortilla cases (you can add some chopped vegetables too, if you like). Top each case with a slice of salami and 1/2 a cherry tomato.
3. Bake for 15 mins until the egg has set.
4. Top with a few basil leaves, if you like, and serve with extra tomatoes and vegetable sticks.



**We hope you have a lovely winter break. We look forward to seeing you in the New Year on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

*In Pursuit of Excellence*

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	All Week	Year 5 –School Journey
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	All Week	Science Week
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	3.30pm-7.00pm 3.30pm-5.30pm	Parents' Evening – Please see letter that will be sent home for date and time for your child
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Times to be confirmed	Exhibition
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Times to be confirmed	Performing Arts Concert
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	-	KS2 SATS Week (Year 6)
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	8.00am-6.00pm	Year 6 – Thorpe Park
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	3:30pm – 4:40pm	Eid Celebration
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day - Classes will sign up for a 30 minute slot nearer the time	Fun Run
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	School class photos
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June to Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Arts Week
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	9.30am – 11.30am	KS1 Sports Day
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	9.30am – 11.30am	KS2 Sports Day
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	3.30pm -6.00pm	Spirit of Summer
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	1.45pm – 2.45pm	Get Ready to Tumble
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Reports to Parents
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Times to be confirmed	Year 6 Production
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	2.00pm -3.00pm	Class Swap- Children meeting their new teacher
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	3.15pm	Meet the teacher – parents to meet their child's new teacher
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Times to be confirmed	Year 6 Production
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	3.30pm – 6pm	Year 6 BBQ and Leavers' Assembly