

Spring 1



# PLUMCROFT



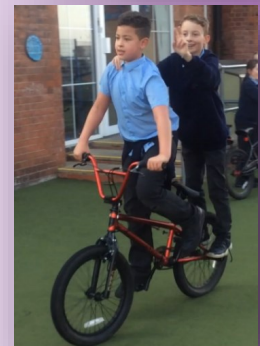
*Times*



## POW!

Thank you to all the children, parents and staff who made our Plumcroft On Wheels week such good fun. The children cycled for long periods of time and were excellent at sharing scooters and cheering each other on. The staff had lots of laughs trying out the tandem. Some were more expert than others! We hope to have raised a lot of money for the TandemWOW cause to support Oxfam and The Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Check out the video on the school website.



## The Big Half

Plumcroft now has 25 runners (parents, carers and friends of the school) taking part in this year's Big Half. The half marathon (13.1 miles) is a great event and there are lots of things to see and do at the finish line.

All money raised goes to the Plumcroft Home School Association (PHSA- the school's charity) which will then be used to fund all the amazing events the school puts on for the children and the local community, as well as trips, resources and equipment. Every donation is welcome, please go to the school website or use the URL below. Thank you!

[https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/BigHalf\\_Plumcroft\\_Primary\\_School](https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/BigHalf_Plumcroft_Primary_School)



We are pleased to announce that Plumcroft has been awarded Gold Status by Transport for London for our school travel programme. Plumcroft was recognised for actively promoting sustainable, healthy and fun journeys to and from school! Thank you to the entire school community for your support in our initiatives!

## Tree Sale

We were very lucky to have received a large donation of tree saplings from The Community Volunteer Charity. We had great fun planting some. As there were rather a lot, we decided to have a tree sale and the proceeds were then donated to a charity that plants trees and does conservation work in Australia. This was around the time of the terrible bush fires over there. There was great interest in the trees for sale and we raised a whopping £550!



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## A trip to the Science Museum

This term, Year 3 visited the Science Museum to learn more about forces, which links with their Science Topic. The children visited the Wonderlab, with over 50 mind-blowing science experiments. The experiments are spread across 7 different zones and give children the opportunity to have hands on experiences. The children had the chance to play with forces on the friction slide and pulley seats, see lightning flash before their eyes and travel through space. They also got the chance to watch a science show called 'Feel the Force!' where the children witnessed and learned more about forces. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

## Reception

This term, the Reception topic has been 'Me, Myself and I'. The children made some amazing family trees that they brought in from home and shared with the rest of the children in their class, telling them all about the different members of their families. Thank you parents and carers for all of your hard work with the family trees. We have also been learning about Chinese New Year. We made some beautiful lanterns and even tasted some delicious Chinese food such as rice, noodles and prawn crackers - they went down a treat! The Reception children have learnt about the body, including various body parts and why it is important to keep healthy. The children participated in some exercise, observing the effects it had on their bodies and enjoyed some fruit tasting, discussing their likes and dislikes.



## Year 5 visit Sutton House

As part of their Heroes and Villains topic, Year 5 visited Sutton House, an exquisite Tudor house in Hackney. It is one of London's last remaining Tudor houses, built in 1535 by Sir Ralph Sadleir (the Secretary of State to Henry VIII in 1540). Sutton House was his family home. The children were able to experience the atmosphere of a Tudor house as they explored the Great Hall, a fine oak-panelled chamber and a small kitchen. They were taken on a journey back to 1535 to explore the Tudor period through costume, role-play and object handling. They discovered how life was for a rich and poor Tudor living and working at Sutton House. They gained an understanding of how important 'status' was in Tudor times and were able to identify it by looking at functionality versus decorative. The children really enjoyed their visit to Sutton House and learned a lot about the Tudors.

## Reading Volunteers

If you would like to become a reading volunteer, please let the school office know and someone will be in touch.

Training is provided and safeguarding checks are undertaken. We are always looking for extra help to support our children with their reading.

**Don't forget the writing projects, 'Saviours of our Planet', are due in by the end of February.**



The Mini Marathon is on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May! Join thousands of local children at Royal Greenwich Park as they run their own 2.62 mile Mini Marathon to support their local hospice. Check out their website for more information:

<https://www.communityhospice.org.uk/support-us/our-events/fundraising-events/mini-marathon/>





## Year 6 Science: Filtration Experiment

This half term Year 6 have been learning about "The Water Cycle" and the importance of having clean drinking water. With this in mind, the children were set a challenge - by their teachers in science class – to produce clean water from a sample of

water, which had been contaminated with soil, twigs and small stones.

As a result, they had to design and build a filter using a range of materials: hessian, crepe paper, tissue paper, cotton wool, nets, filter paper, funnels and plastic bags. The children had to ascertain which materials would be useful and which were red herrings! Once the filter was built, they poured the water through their filter and waited to see which group had produced the cleanest water.



***Would you dare to drink any of these?***



## Digital Leaders Trip to BETT 2020

After an intense interview process, we finally selected our 12 Plumcroft Digital Leaders. Their first task as Digital Leaders was to attend and experience the BETT Show at the ExCel London on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup> 2020.

The pupils got to talk to tech experts and get hands-on experience with the latest educational technology such as, VR sets,

interactive whiteboards, Lego, NXT robots and lots of other fun gadgets. They also presented their learning to the rest of the school in their first Digital Leaders assembly.

*"Going to BETT was an amazing experience especially getting to test new cool gadgets and toys."* - Zariyat

*"My impression of BETT 2020 was mind-blowing and I like the fact that the technology was innovative. The best part of it all was the goodie bags and the chances to win prizes were fun!"*

– Ariella

*"BETT was very fun and exciting as I thought I was in a whole new world – a world of technology."*  
- Ertugual



## Year 3's Roman Day

This term Year 3 have been learning about the Romans. As a special treat and to consolidate their learning, Andy Brockman took them back in time to 43 A.D. The children enjoyed a fun filled day dressed in their Roman costumes, as they made pottery out of clay, designed and made their own Roman shields and ate a special Roman feast. The children had an enjoyable day, with many wishing they lived in the Roman times - but only if the food was different!

Thank you to all the parents and children for the wonderful costumes.

## Young Voices

On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, Plumcroft choir attended the 02 Arena for the 'Young Voices' Performance, alongside other primary schools. They had been rehearsing extremely hard since October, learning a great variety of different songs. It all came together on the night as each child sang their heart out and had a fantastic evening. Thank you to all the parents who came to support us and a huge well done to all of Plumcroft Choir.

## It's All About Sound and Music for Year 4

This term, Year 4 have been learning all about Sound and Music. In Science, they have learned how sound is made, explored pitch and conducted investigations on how sound travels. To consolidate their learning, the pupils have learned from the world-renowned musicians, ranging from a Gamelan workshop with Byron to Jazz workshops with Orphy and learned about music composition with Kay. In computing, they have composed their own beat using Garageband, 2Beat and 2Squence on PurpleMash. In Literacy, they have also written their own versions of the class text, 'The Bear and The Piano'. During PE, they have also learned several choreographed dance sequences.



## Wiggly Wild Show

Year 2 have been busy learning all about different habitats and animal adaptation this term. They were delighted to receive a visit from the Wiggly Wild Show (a specialist Rainforest Workshop involving a variety of live animals). Children were able to experience and handle, first-hand, creatures such as; a scorpion, a giant millipede, stick insects, a giant African land snail, and a leech. The children were also given the opportunity to ask questions and learn about what it is like to explore a real-life rainforest.

## Swimming Gala

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January some Year 5 children took part in the Greenwich School Sport Partnership Winter Swimming Gala. We were able to take two teams along to Shooters Hill College to compete in various races against other local schools. The children used all of the skill and confidence they have gained in their weekly lessons to perform brilliantly. The 'boat race' was by far the most popular. The children had great fun pulling their team mates along in an inflatable dingy! Well done to all of the children who took part.

## Boxtrolls in Year 1

This term Year 1 have created lots of amazing work on Boxtrolls. They have created their own Boxtrolls, written descriptive pieces on their Boxtrolls appearance and what they like to eat and collect. They have also written short stories about their Boxtrolls and the adventures that they have been on.



The children designed and created Boxtroll heads from salt dough.



## Nursery's Tube Train Library

Nursery have opened their Nursery tube train library this half term. Parents have been coming in to read with their children on Thursdays and children have chosen story books to take home and read. After half term children will be able to access the library independently too during their nursery day.

## Peddle My Wheels Returns

On 12<sup>th</sup> March Plumcroft will hold another bike sale. Watch this space for more details.





**Timetable for the Council's Mobile Kitchen - serving food during school holidays**  
**Council's Mobile Kitchen are back to serve another round of healthy free meals to school-aged children across the borough.**

Venue	Day	Time
<b>Avery Hill Youth Centre</b> Anstridge Road SE9 2LL	Wednesday 20 February	4pm to 6pm
	Thursday 21 February	7pm to 9pm
	Friday 22 February	7pm to 9pm
<b>Coldharbour Adventure Playground</b> The Course SE9 3JB	Monday 18 February	2pm
<b>Clockhouse Community Centre</b> Defiance Walk, Royal Arsenal SE18 5QL	Wednesday 20 February	1pm
<b>Glyndon Adventure Playground</b> Elmley Street SE18 7NN	Monday 18 February	1pm
	Wednesday 20 February	1pm
<b>Hawksmoor Youth Club</b> Bentham Road, Thamesmead SE28 8AS	Wednesday 20 February	5pm to 7pm
	Thursday 21 February	6pm to 8pm
<b>Plumstead Adventure Playground</b> Blendon Terrace SE18 7RS	Tuesday 19 February	1pm
	Thursday 21 February	1pm

**Children under 10 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to the youth clubs and children under 6 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to the adventure playgrounds.**

## Activity to do at home: Butterfly Cakes

110g butter  
 110g caster sugar  
 2 eggs  
 1 tsp vanilla extract  
 110g self-raising flour  
 ½ tsp baking powder  
 1 tbsp milk  
 plus 2 tbsp if needed, to loosen the buttercream  
 strawberry jam (optional) sprinkles (optional)

### For the buttercream

300g icing sugar  
 150g butter  
 2 tsp vanilla paste



### Method:

1. Heat the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Line a cupcake tin with 10 cases. To make the sponge, tip the butter, sugar, eggs, vanilla, flour, baking powder and milk into a large mixing bowl and beat with either a hand whisk or electric mixer until smooth, pale and combined. Divide the batter between the cases and bake for 15 mins until golden brown and a skewer inserted in the middle of a cake comes out clean. Leave on a wire rack to cool.
2. While the cakes are cooling, make the buttercream by beating together the icing sugar, butter and vanilla until pale and fluffy. Mix in the extra milk if the icing feels too stiff.
3. Once the cakes are cool, use a sharp knife to slice off the tops, then cut the tops in half. Pipe or spread the buttercream on top of the cakes, then gently push two semi-circular halves into the buttercream on each cake, doing this at an angle to look like butterfly wings. You can serve the cupcakes at this stage, or decorate them with a little blob of jam in the centre and a scattering of sprinkles, if you like.

**We hope you have a lovely half term.**  
**We look forward to seeing you on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.**

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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	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