



Welcome to the first Plumcroft Times for this academic year. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff, children and parents for a brilliant start to the year. We hope you enjoy reading what the children have been busy doing at school.



Raising money for Cancer Research UK

Our thoughts and prayers are with Toni Ford, who is a long serving member of the Senior Leadership Team at Plumcroft. She will be known to most of you as she has taught so many children during her many years of service at Plumcroft.

Toni has been battling cancer for 3 years. She will be taking ill-health retirement so that she can focus her energy on continuing her fight with cancer. It will also free her to spend time with her husband Ben and two young children, Georgie (13yrs old) and Elsie (7yrs old).

One of the ways we can all help is to donate to Cancer Research UK. Mrs. Burton and Mr. Mulligan completed the Manchester Marathon on Sunday 10th October on behalf of Cancer Research UK. Well done to both on a fantastic achievement and a very big thank you to everyone who has donated.

Click on the link below to donate:

[JustGiving Page](#)

My time with Inca - written by Lucan Suggate-Emmanuel 5K

On Tuesdays, I spend half an hour with Inca our school pet. When I spend time with her, I sometimes walk Inca around the school and throw the ball for her. I love walking and playing with her because she is so loving to adults and children. If you are a dog lover, then Inca is for you. She is such an amazing dog. If you are sad, Inca can cheer you up. If you are sad in the playground and Inca is out too, you can ask to stroke her or throw the ball for her. If you are in Genesta playground and you are lonely, maybe you can ask the office to see Inca...possibly. You can also ask to throw the ball for her and race her.

I feel happy when I am with Inca.

Edith (3J) said, "I'm scared of dogs but Inca is so loving I once stroked her". Ronnie (5B) said, "I like playing with Inca because we play catch".

If you get the opportunity to play with Inca, here are some Dos and Don'ts:

Dos

- ◆ Do throw the ball very far- Inca loves it
- ◆ Do ask the adult with her if you can approach her
- ◆ Do allow other children to stroke her by moving away once you've had your turn

Don'ts

- ◆ Don't hold the ball over Inca's head - she could jump up and bite your fingers by mistake
- ◆ Don't scream and shout when around her- it may unsettle Inca or scare children afraid of dogs



Year 6 School Journey

In the week starting Monday 27th September, Year 6 began two amazing adventures: a residential trip to Hilltop in Norfolk, or a jam-packed 'Home Journey' based at Plumcroft. Our House Captains and Vice Captains have taken some time to share their thoughts about the experiences.



"When we were introduced to the staff they were very kind and welcoming. We were split into groups to try on harnesses and helmets so we would be ready for all the activities." Lenny 6N

"The Super Swing: the biggest swing Year 6 had ever seen! There were four captivating levels: Green, you're just getting started; Blue, you're getting braver; Black, you're a hero in the making; Red, you're a superhero. Also, if you wanted to unleash your inner Spiderman, climbing to the top of the vertical wall and abseiling down was the thing to do!" Elizabeth 6N



"In my opinion, my favourite was the Air Jump, as you had to take a leap of faith and just jump. The thing that happened to me was that from the ground it didn't look that high, but once you got on the Tower you realise it is really high and you must be brave and confident." Josiah 6H

"Hilltop made me realise that you can achieve anything you set your mind to. An example of us having a great time was playing Hide'n'Seek with adults and torches in the dark. I found it really challenging and it tested our skills. Me and my team hid in a bush lying down and managed to win a round." Lucie 6N

"My personal favourite activity was the Super Swing. Me and my two friends went on it and Frankie had to pull the lever to make it drop, and it looked so scary! I was scared and screamed the most! The food at Hilltop was also amazing and the chips made me feel like I was in paradise." Gabriel 6H



"I think the staff deserve a round of applause for all of the work the team has done. They helped many children – and adults! - get over their fears, and were amazing people. The Big Zipper! Wow – what fun that was, although the stairs going up to it were not." Bella 6N

"For most of us, Hilltop was one of the best experiences of our lives. It was everything we had hoped for and more. We loved being with our friends and making new ones. The activities were also great such as the mountain biking and the Tree Top Trail. We walked to the beach and ate ice cream, as well as throwing stones in the sea." George 6N



"What a week our school went on...best trip ever! All thanks to Miss Morgan – she organised the coaches, the cabins and so much more. The facilities were great and the food was fabulous. On the Air Jump it was quite tricky to get the technique right; you had to jump forward but lean back like a pencil in mid-air. At the end, our instructor did a really cool trick too."

Nicole 6N

Year 6 Home Journey

“On Monday we played board games with children from other classes to get to know each other better. On Tuesday, we went to Oxleas Wood to make shelters using tarpaulins and string. On Wednesday, we were split into groups for baking (banana chocolate chip cookies), playing music with a talented musician called Orphy, and making art using items collected from the forest. Thursday was probably my favourite day because we were out at the O2 and played mini-golf and did trampolining. We had the whole place to ourselves! Last, but by no means least, was Friday when we made posters and memory books of what we had been up to all week.” Jessica 6LM

“Not going to Norfolk was still fun – in Oxleas we got to build forts out of sticks. The day after we did cooking and made banana and choc chip cookies (you should try them). Also, we had a musician come in. I played the xylophone. On Thursday, we went to Crazy putt. It was really good and straight after went to Oxygen in the O2. We played dodgeball and musical statues and the winner got a slushie! The week overall was amazing!” James 6N



A message from Miss Morgan

On the 27th September, Year 6 were finally able to visit Hilltop Activity Centre in North Norfolk. The children had missed their opportunity in Year 5 due to the pandemic and so it was with great excitement we were able to embark on this adventure. The week was filled with an abundance of challenges that saw children and staff pushed outside their comfort zones. They worked together to complete challenges and overcome fears, whether that be going higher, faster or simply trying something new.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of this group of children. They were an asset to themselves and the school and it was certainly a week to treasure. A huge thankyou to all the children for making this trip so successful and a massive thankyou to the staff who volunteered and gave up their own time to make this School Journey happen!



Year 2

Year 2 have enjoyed reading 'The Gruffalo' in their literacy lessons this term. The children sequenced the story events, made their own puppets to retell the story and wrote a book review. They have also been learning about 'The Great Fire of London'. In Topic they made Tudor style homes modelled on those in 1666. The children worked in groups to paint, decorate and add details like wooden beams and a thatched roof. Year 2 have loved this particular topic focus and learning about the history of our city!



Lots of fun in Year 3

Year 3 have had an excellent start reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and have been writing a range of texts including diaries, imaginative poems and instructional texts. The children also made jam sandwiches and created their own special medicine to help Mrs. Graney feel better.



In Topic, the children at PL and VR explored their local area and had a special tour guide called Andy Brockman, who helped them learn some fascinating facts about Plumstead and Woolwich.



In Science, the children have been learning about 'Light and Shadow'. The children have been completing lots of different experiments to help them learn about shadows, reflection and light sources!



Year 4 make Canopic Jars

Year 4 have been learning all about Ancient Egypt this half term. They have loved looking at different artefacts and discussing how different life was in the past. They especially enjoyed learning about how Egyptians mummified their dead. They wrote fantastic instruction texts on how to mummify a body and they have created canopic jars, used for storing organs once they had been removed. They used paper cups, masking tape and Modroc to build their jars and then decorated them using paint.





Year 1 have been getting creative!

Year 1 have been working incredibly hard this term. They have been designing super villains using items in the classroom. They used amazing adjectives to name them. Here are a couple of their vicious villains: Professor Pencils and Evil Bottle. They have also been learning all about the human body, looking at the different body parts and bones that make up the human body. The children created their own skeletons. They were also lucky enough to have a visit from Massy, who explained all about the human ear. The children found the talk very interesting and learnt some great facts!



Year 5 love Super Space!

On Friday 24th September, Year 5 visited The Royal Observatory, Greenwich to support their Science and Topic learning – 'Super Space'. A stroll through beautiful Greenwich Park took them to the Observatory; the classes then went into the Peter Harrison Planetarium to watch the show entitled 'Meet the Neighbours' - a fantastic show about our galaxy, where the children were taken on a journey to Mars, Saturn, the moon and beyond.

After taking in the views across the Thames, a spot of lunch in the park and a photo opportunity, the children then made their way to Flamsteed House - the home of the first Astronomer Royal, John Flamsteed – for a short tour. There was just time to play in the grounds of Greenwich Park, before boarding the 53 bus back to Plumcroft.



Reception

The children in reception have settled well into Plumcroft life. They have adapted to the rules and routines and have shown a keen interest in learning and their new environments. This half term we have been talking about our families and sharing some of the fun things we like to do together. We have also painted some portraits of ourselves that are on display in our classrooms. We have had lots of fun and we are looking forward to all of the exciting learning we will be doing next half term!



App Reminder

From 1st November all communication from the school will only be via the app. Through the app you can also purchase school uniform, book and pay for lunches, book and pay for after school club as well as music instrument lessons.

Please contact Mr Slade or Mr Nelson if you have any questions about the app.

rslade@plumcroft.greenwich.sch.uk

jnelson@plumcroft.greenwich.sch.uk

Key Dates

Remaining Staff Training Days (INSET)

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Tuesday 19th April 2022

Term Dates for 2021/2022 Term / Holiday

Autumn Term 2: Monday 1st November 2021 - Thursday 16th December 2021

Spring Term 1: Wednesday 5th January 2022 - Friday 11th February 2022

Spring Term 2: Monday 21st February 2022 - Friday 1st April 2022

Summer Term 1: Wednesday 20th April 2022 - Friday 27th May 2022

Summer Term 2: Monday 6th June 2022 - Friday 22nd July 2022

An activity to do at home:

Pumpkin Spice Scones

Ingredients:

450g self-raising flour, plus extra for rolling

100g cold butter

50g golden caster sugar

1-2 tsp pumpkin spice

200g cooked pumpkin

80-100ml milk



Method:

- 1) Heat oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7. Put the flour in a bowl and coarsely grate in the butter (dipping the butter into the flour can make it easier to grate; do this as often as you need). Use a butter knife to stir the butter into the flour, then mix in the sugar and spice.
- 2) Add the pumpkin and 80ml milk to the flour mixture and quickly stir everything together. Add more milk if you need to.
- 3) Tip the mixture onto a floured surface and lightly bring together with your hands a couple of times. Roll out until 4cm thick and stamp out rounds with a 7cm cutter. Re-shape the trimmings until all the dough has been used. Place the rounds on a lightly floured baking sheet and brush the tops with any remaining milk. Bake for 10-12 mins until risen and lightly browned.