



Thank you and well done to all the staff, children and parents for another brilliant half term. Everyone has worked extremely hard this term and now deserve a well earned rest. We hope you enjoy reading about all the exciting trips, lessons and activities the children have been up to this term.



Frosty Friday

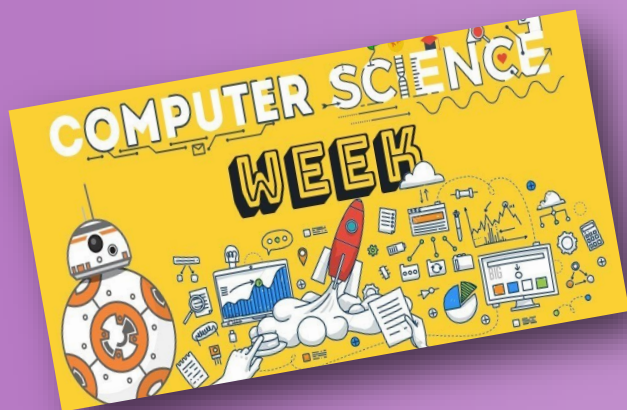
Plumcroft celebrated Frost Friday in style once again. It was a magical, festive day for the children and staff! There were a variety of activities throughout the day such as a scavenger hunt, art and crafts activities and a frosty disco. Nursery to Year 3 were lucky enough to have a visit from Santa, who gave each child a gift. The children and staff enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner, with all the trimmings, while listening to festive music! A huge thank you to all who helped make the day very special for everyone.



Milers' Jingle Jog

Mighty Milers – the Year 6 Running Club run by Mrs Burton, Miss Bell, Mr Mulligan and Miss Henton – completed their annual Jingle Jog on Thursday 9th December. Nineteen festive runners (plus the 4 teachers) headed out into the crisp afternoon and ran down to the Thames Path to see the fountains, before running along the path to the Woolwich Riverside. After a quick photo opportunity at the fabulous Christmas tree, they began the uphill section back to school where reindeer cakes awaited; cake always makes the hills worth it! This has become a favourite tradition in Milers and left everyone feeling 'runderful'.





Computer Science Week

During the month of December, Plumcroft celebrated Computer Science week on December 6th - 10th by exploring a range of Hour of Code activities including Minecraft, Lightbot and DanceParty and participating in some fun, specialist-led, hands-on computing workshops. The pupils created algorithms, constructed Lego machines and programmed satellite robots and drones using LegoWeDo and STEMbiotics. The pupils really enjoyed coding. They all worked really hard this week and earned certificates as a result.

Feedback from Y3 children;

"The workshops were fantastic, fun and outstanding."

"We learned how to build something, and code using an algorithm"

"Amazing, Fun and Incredible. I learnt how to code Lego and follow instructions. It has definitely inspired me to do more coding at home!"



Coding and Programming Drones



There are a range of activities on the Hour of Code website for you to continue to develop your coding skills. The goal is to get as many pupils, parents and staff to complete at least one hour of coding so what are you waiting for?





Spy School!

On Friday 12th November, Year 5 took part in a Spy School morning! The children made up their own codes and used invisible ink to write a secret message to their friends! Then they used code breakers to solve clues that were hidden around the school. They also completed a



spy training obstacle course, in which they had to use skills like ducking, weaving, crawling, aiming and being agile!

All the children had a great morning and practiced lots of skills, key to being a spy - TSUJ EKIL SEMAJ ! DNOB (crack the code!)

Year 2 visit the Tower of London

All of Year 2 visited the Tower of London. It was an amazing experience. The children got to look at many London landmarks including the Shard, City Hall and Tower Bridge.

Then they went to see the sparkling Crown Jewels before entering the White Tower and exploring armour and other curiosities.

On behalf of Year 2, we would like to say a big thank you to the parents and carers who volunteered to help on our school trip. The children and staff had a fabulous time and have written some beautiful recounts about the visit.



Year 2 had a visit from the firefighters

Year 2 were very lucky and had a visit from the firefighters at Plumstead Fire Station. The children found out what it is like to be a firefighter,

including the types of jobs that they get called to, ways to stay safe around fire and what to do in an emergency. They also learnt about the fire dogs who help the firefighters find the cause of a fire- they even have their own special uniform! The children had a tour around the engine and found out what all of the

equipment is used for. The children climbed inside and had a look around and everybody got a turn at using the hose. They were all very surprised how far and quickly the water travelled! The loud sirens blared and the bright blue lights flashed which meant it was time to go. The children had so much fun!





Monster Mash Day!

Year 1 enjoyed a fantastic 'Monster Mash Day' to kick off our new topic! The children came to school wearing very creative monster costumes- many of which re-purposed lots of materials to make their outfits eco-friendly! They spent the day decorating monster biscuits, squelching brains and eyeballs in the feely boxes, making monster headbands and of course, dancing to the Monster Mash! The children will draw on these great experiences to produce creative writing and will be learning about real monsters (dinosaurs) too!



Dinosaurs for Year 1

In Year 1, as part of their Dinosaur topic, the children had the amazing opportunity to learn all about fossils through a virtual fossil lesson lead by the Charmouth Heritage Centre. They were lucky enough to have a fossil expert teach them all about the amazing fossils that can be



discovered on our coastlines including Ammonites, Belemnites and the incredible Star Crinoids. They also had the chance to become dinosaur detectives and investigate the most complete dinosaur ever found in Britain called the Scelidosaurus.

The children are all very keen to visit the Jurassic Coast and unearth fossils of their own!



Cooking

Year 6 children have been focusing on healthy lifestyles in science this term. We all had the challenge of feeding 30 children for just £5.

The children did plenty of research and realised this was quite a difficult task! Each class made a vegetarian meal option: minestrone, pasta bake or a curry.



They were all fully involved in the chopping of the vegetables as well as the eating of the food afterwards!





Dick Whittington
Reception and Nursery had a lovely time watching the pantomime performance of Dick Whittington last week! There was lots of laughter and enjoyment had by all!



Winter Swimming Gala

On Friday 19th November 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 another local school. They also had an opportunity to learn some really valuable lifesaving skills. Our brilliant swimmers 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.



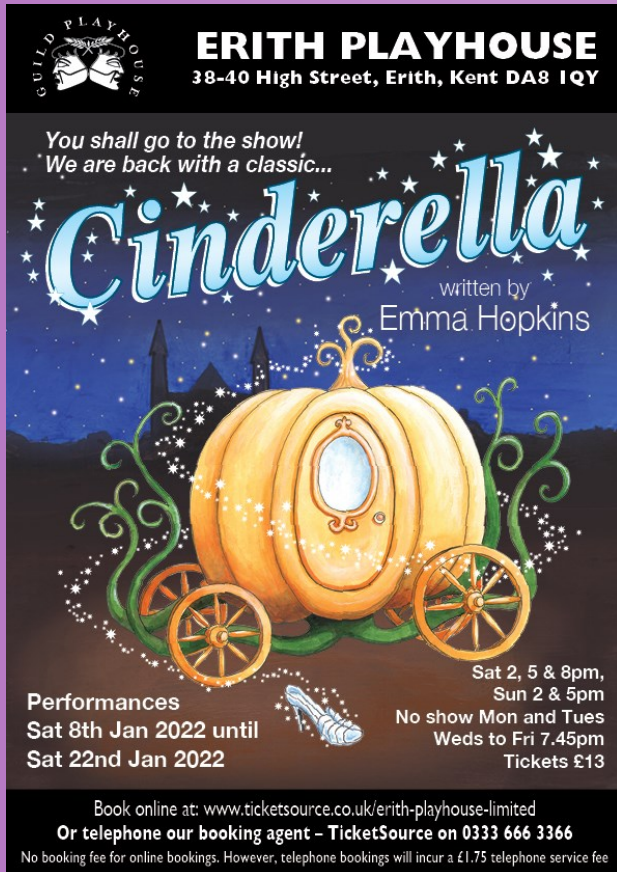
Year 4

As part of their 'Explorers and Adventurers' Topic, Year 4 visited the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. They really enjoyed their day looking at maps and artefacts from various historical expeditions. The children also took part in a 'Polar Explorers' workshop where they learned more about famous explorers such as Matthew Henson and they prepared for their own expedition.



The Little Prince

This term all of the Year 3 students enjoyed visiting Interactive dance workshops at 'The Woolwich Works' based on the much loved story The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. All the children worked beautifully together using their imaginations to interpret different parts of the enchanting story.



Goodbyes, welcome back and see you soon!

We would like to say a huge thank you and good luck to Maria Taylor, Kate Merrett, Miss Roxanne and Mrs Frogett who are leaving Plumcroft, to begin a new adventure.

We wish each of you the very best for the future.

We would like to wish Mrs Sinclair all the very best when she retires at the end of term. Thank you for all of your hard work over the years.

Welcome back to Miss Harris, who has returned from her maternity leave and will be teaching 3G.

Good luck to Miss Sewell and Ms Gemma who are going on maternity leave.
Welcome to Mr Slate who will be teaching RSW.

Mr Witham is starring in the play 'Cinderella'.

Click on the link below to book tickets.
Be quick, as tickets are selling fast!

<http://www.playhouse.org.uk/>

Key Dates

Remaining Staff Training Days (INSET)

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Tuesday 19th April 2022

Term Dates for 2021/2022 Term / Holiday

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

**We hope you have a lovely winter break.
We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday 5th January.**