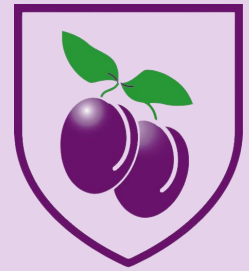


# Plumcroft Primary School

## Spring 2 Newsletter 2024



Thank you for a brilliant term. Enjoy reading about all the marvelous trips and lessons the children have been up to. Have a restful two week break, and we will see you in April.



### WORLD BOOK DAY!

World Book Day was a huge amount of fun at Plumcroft! The children and teachers stepped it up this year, as everyone made a great effort and everyone looked amazing.

At Plumcroft, reading is very important to us, so what better way than to celebrate our love for reading!

Nursery though to Year 6 spent the day doing different fun reading activities. And everyone had the chance to show off their costumes in assembly. It was a fun filled day, and we raised **£419.81**.

Thank you for all your donations and efforts made.



### Red Nose Day!

It was great to see so many of our Plumcroft children and adults dressed in red, to support Red Nose Day.

Plumcroft raised **£467.24**. Thank you for all your kind donations and effort made.



Thank you to everyone who wore their favourite or odd socks to school on Thursday 21st March. It was great to mark World Down Syndrome Day and to *celebrate everything that makes all of us different, and yet the same..*



## Year 5 Home Journey



Year 5 home school journey children had amazing time! On Monday, VR visited PL for a fun day of cooking activities and a Coding/ Robotics workshop. They made their own plates of pasta and baked muffins for desert. On Tuesday, they were treated to a special viewing of 'Migration' at Eltham Vue Cinema with popcorn and treats. On Wednesday, the pupils tested their football skills in an interactive football experience at Toca Social at the O2. It was an intensely competitive and highly entertaining experience (even for the adults).

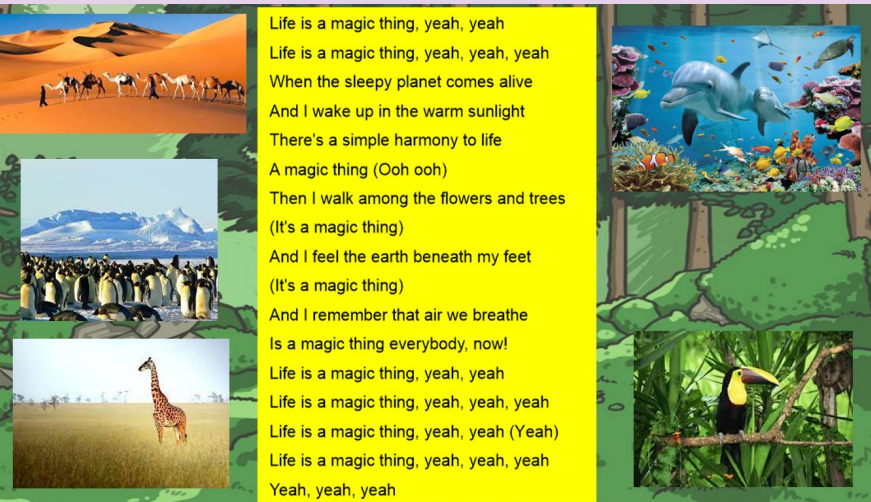
We also visited the National Maritime Museum on Thursday and played some games at Greenwich Park. Finally, on Friday, we took part in Red Nose Day activities.



## Year 2 at VR

This term, Year 2 delivered their first class assembly for their parents and carers. 2H spoke about the different habitats, showed some habitat artwork and sang a song called "Life is a Magic Thing."

2AH shared information on Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole and sang a song



Life is a magic thing, yeah, yeah  
Life is a magic thing, yeah, yeah, yeah  
When the sleepy planet comes alive  
And I wake up in the warm sunlight  
There's a simple harmony to life  
A magic thing (Ooh ooh)  
Then I walk among the flowers and trees  
(It's a magic thing)  
And I feel the earth beneath my feet  
(It's a magic thing)  
And I remember that air we breathe  
Is a magic thing everybody, now!  
Life is a magic thing, yeah, yeah  
Life is a magic thing, yeah, yeah, yeah  
Life is a magic thing, yeah, yeah (Yeah)  
Life is a magic thing, yeah, yeah, yeah  
Yeah, yeah, yeah

called "Heal the World." The children were very proud of the work they had done and were really happy and excited to share that with their adults.

Next term, Year 2 at Plum lane will be doing their class assemblies.

## Year 1 at Pizza Express

Year 1 had a fabulous time being chefs for the day at Pizza Express in Greenwich!

The children made their own margherita pizza, showing off their master chef skills and making it look like a 'Pizza cake!'







## Art for Year 2

Year two continue to have art lessons with our wonderful specialist teacher, Mrs Sanders. Linking with the Year 2 Africa topic, the children have been recreating animal patterns, using different media and doing detailed drawings of safari animals.

## Nursery and Reception had a visit from minibeasts...

Nursery have been learning all about minibeasts and different animals this half term. The children had an exciting interactive workshop where they were able to hold many different animals and creatures from all around the world. They enjoyed meeting crickets, crabs, stick insects, a tortoise, toad, snake and our highlight, a spider that was over twenty years old! Although some of us were scared, we all managed to stroke at least one of the creatures! The children had an exciting time and were very brave! Reception have been investigating different animals, insects and plants and they have looked at their life cycles. The reception children especially loved learning about different animals and touching them. They were super brave too when they had a close encounter with lots of interesting animals including... a slithering corn snake, a tickly stick insect, a slow tortoise, a blue tongued Skink and a soft hairy tarantula and some creepy crawly cockroaches.



## Year 3 Art & DT

Year 3 have been investigating Roman art and the use of mosaics in Ancient Roman homes and public buildings. The children have been designing mosaics based on animals and Roman repetitive patterns.

As well as having fun there have been some very gluey, sticky hands in class.

## Year 2's visit to Mudchute Farm

Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Mudchute Farm. The children fed the animals, including goats, sheep and cows and enjoyed seeing all the smaller animals in Pets Corner. In literacy, the children wrote a detailed recount about their fulfilled day at the farm. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped out on the trip.





## **Greenwich Junior Cross-Country Championships**

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, the Greenwich Junior Cross-Country Championships were held at Avery Hill Park. Organised by Cambridge Harriers, the event was open to Year 5 & 6 children from primary schools across the borough. With our Year 5 children involved in School Journey and Home School Journey, it was up to Year 6 to fly the flag for Plumcroft - six children of our Mighty Milers (Dahlia, Jade, Xander, Nelson, Joey and Bryan) were chosen to go.

In true Cross-Country style, the rain poured down from start to finish; the course resembled a mud rink even before anyone had set a trainer on it! Nevertheless, the children took to the course with gusto, smiles on their faces, as they slid down hills, jumped across rivers and gritted their teeth up the hills. What a great job they did – with over 80 competitors in each category, all our Milers were clearly in the top half. Four of them were in the top ten!

British middle distance running is definitely in safe hands!



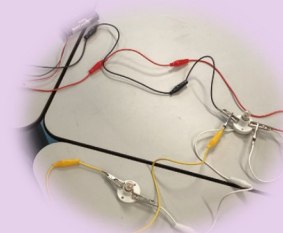
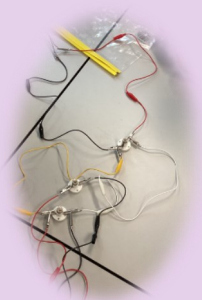
## **Year 5 Trip to British Museum**

This term, the Year 5 have been learning all about the Anglo-Saxons and the Vikings for History so they visited the British Museum to consolidate their learning. They participated in a special digital tour activity tracking down various Sutton Hoo artifacts and later explored various exhibits of the museum.

## **It's all about electricity for Year 4**

Year 4 have been learning about electricity for their science topic this half term. They have learnt about how electric current flows and looked at different appliances within the home.

The Year 4 children have really enjoyed making their own circuits; using wires, blubs and buzzers.





## Cycle Confident

Cycle Confident works in partnership with the Royal Borough of Greenwich to provide cycle training initiatives.

Students, staff, families and friends who live, work or study in Greenwich are able to receive FREE cycle sessions.

Also, they are running FREE child sessions at Easter.

Click on the link below for more information:

<https://www.cycleconfident.com/sponsors/greenwich/>



Plum Lane's Eco-Councillors and Eco-Councillors elect were involved in a project to plant trees and bulbs in the garden area opposite our Nithdale Road entrance — you may have seen the new treeline being developed!

A great time was had by all and our thanks go to Richard and Emma at the Tree Council for inviting us to get involved!



## Word of the week for Summer 1 & 2

<i>Word of the week</i>		
Date	KS1	KS2
15.04.24	anxiously	loomed
22.04.24	glorious	menacing
29.04.24	spectacular	nourishing
06.05.24	stern	ominous
13.05.24	swoop	overwhelming
20.05.24	twinkling	perilous
Half term		
03.06.24	cunning	quirky
10.06.24	eager	rancid
17.06.24	exclaimed	reluctantly
24.06.24	hopeful	scowling
01.07.24	irresistible	seething
08.07.24	Perhaps	stupendous
15.07.24	mysterious	triumphantly

# Year 6 SATs preparation

Helping your child revise or prepare for SATS needn't be a time consuming job if you get the basics right. These tips will hopefully help you to do that:

**1) Your attitude and consistency will define how well things go:**

Children will pick up on everything you do. Model positivity.

**2) Schedule time:**

It's a good idea to have a set time for work to happen.

**3) Reward attitude and effort not just results:**

We recommend you reward the building blocks of success (attitude and effort) and not focus on results.

**4) Be Patient:**

Remember children will learn more, become more confident and do better with patient help.

**5) Be positive, smile, have fun:**

Having fun means being light-hearted with their mistakes and your own, you may find you don't know the answer to something or doubt yourself – have fun looking it up. If you can make sessions as light-hearted as possible then learning will be more effective.

**6) Create a good environment:**

Make sure you are in a quiet room away from distractions. If a 'mock' test is being done this is especially important.

**7) Be well equipped:**

Make sure you have the things you need for the work at hand.

**8) Bed Times:**

A child who has slept properly and isn't tired will do much better and is much more likely to deliver their best work on the day.

**9) A good start in the morning:**







This isn't just about eating and drinking properly first thing but also about not being in a rush (with the raised stress levels that go with that), it's about being prepared and organised. In the run up to the exam it's a good idea to get to school early each day. Your child will feel more in control as a result.

**10) Screen time adjustments:**

Every family will have their own rules over screens but it's also important to remember that relaxing through exercise is very important. Children will benefit from having learning time, screen time and exercise time, but if they overly focussed on screen time then they are likely to not do as well as they could have done.

# HOME LEARNING

There are many ways that you can support your child's learning at home. Below are some details about our online learning platforms. If you need help with logging in please speak to your child's class teacher.

<p><b>Mathletics</b></p>  <p>Every child should be aiming for a minimum 'Bronze' certificate every week. 5 Bronze = a Silver and 4 silvers = a Gold! Certificates are awarded during our 'Achievement Assemblies'</p>	<p><b>Purple Mash</b></p>  <p>Purple Mash is an award-winning cross curricular website for primary school children, enabling them to explore and enhance their knowledge in a fun and creative way. Cloud-based, it delivers an exciting mash-up of curriculum focused activities, creative tools, programs and games. <b>Your child will be able to access their weekly spellings via Purple Mash</b></p>
<p><b>myOn</b></p>  <p>Ensures all students can engage in frequent, high-quality reading practice with unlimited, access to thousands of enhanced digital books and age-appropriate news articles.</p>	<p><b>Times Tables Rock Stars</b></p>  <p>TTRS is an award-winning maths learning platform where children can practise their times tables like a rock star! The question-based games automatically adapt to each child's unique learning needs, helping them to recall their times tables in record speed. Accessible on any device, via the app or browser, children can play anytime, anywhere.</p>
<p><b>Whizz Maths</b></p>  <p>Maths-Whizz is an online virtual maths tutor that can be accessed on any device, anywhere. After an in-depth assessment it automatically prepares a unique learning journey to address your child's specific gaps. Using your child's unique learning profile, Maths-Whizz's powerful Artificial Intelligence tailors teaching with engaging lessons that are perfectly matched to your child's needs and is aligned to the 2014 UK National Curriculum up to the end of Year 8.</p>	
<p><b>Reflective Learning</b></p>  <p>Reflective Learning assess not only which concepts a learner struggles with but how far back they need to go in order for them catch up. It then provides individualised programmes, helping learners build on and strengthen their understanding of those concepts from exactly where they missed out.</p>	

## Attendance

We aim for all pupils to achieve an attendance of 96.5% across the academic year. We acknowledge that there are times when genuine illness or extenuating circumstances prevent pupils from attending school, but do ask that they make every effort to attend every day they are able to.

Attendance	Days of Education	Days Absent
100%	190	
97%	184	6
95%	180	10
90%	171	19
85%	161	29
80%	152	38
75%	134	47

If a pupil achieves an attendance of 85%, they will have missed almost the equivalent of 6 weeks of learning - or half a term - over the course of an academic year! This amount of missed learning is detrimental to their progress and success. Likewise, we have high expectations of our pupils' punctuality. Our school gates open at **8.40am**. Pupils that arrive at 9am, whilst not late, will have missed 20 minutes of learning time; equivalent to almost 14 days during the course of the year!

Minutes Late Per Day	Equivalent Days of Lost Learning	Equivalent Lessons Missed
5 minutes	3.4 School Days	17 Lessons
10 minutes	6.9 School Days	35 Lessons
15 minutes	10.3 School Days	51 Lessons
20 minutes	13.8 School Days	69 Lessons
30 minutes	20.7 School Days	104 Lessons

We are committed to supporting all pupils to achieve their best and go on to be successful and fulfilled adults. Attendance and punctuality are vital in ensuring they have access to high-quality lessons and develop healthy routines that will stand them in good stead for the future.



# Book Recommendations

Year Group	Book		
Nursery			
Reception			
Year 1			
Year 2			
Year 3			
Year 4			
Year 5			
Year 6			



## PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING EASTER HOLIDAYS 2024

[moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free](https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free)



### ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

### TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from From Mon - Fri in Half Terms 2024

### SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

### PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

### THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

### TGI FRIDAYS

Kids Eat Free When 'Stripes Rewards Members' purchase an adult's main meal (App needed)

### PUREZZA

Children under the age of 10 get free pizza at Purezza with every adult meal purchased

### TRAVELODGE & PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

### SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

### BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### COCONUT TREE

One child (10 & Under) eats free per paying adult. Valid from 23/03/2024 - 14/04/2024

### MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 and get one free kids meal all day, every day.

### GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

### PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

### WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

### BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

### BILLS

Two kids can eat free ALL DAY (Weekdays) from Monday 25th March - Friday 12th April 2024, with one adult main dish.

### DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES

At Dobbies, for every adult breakfast or lunch purchase, kids eat for FREE. Every Day!

### TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

### IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

### HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays

### FUTURE INNS

Under 5s eat for free with any adult meal.

## Getting to know the staff

**Miss Carmen**

**How long have you worked at Plumcroft?**

24 years



**What is your job role?**

Teacher Assistant for LKS2

**What are your top 3 subjects?**

Art  
Literacy  
Reading/Spelling

**This or that?**

<b>Tea</b>	Coffee
<b>Late night</b>	Early morning
Starter	<b>Dessert</b>
<b>Summer</b>	Winter
Cats	<b>Dogs</b>
<b>Text</b>	Call
Football	Rugby
	<b>Rounders!</b>
Introvert	<b>Extrovert</b>
<b>Theatre</b>	Cinema
<b>Sunset</b>	Sunrise

Only eat ice cream for the rest of your life

OR

**Never eat ice cream again!**

**Miss McHugh**

**How long have you worked at Plumcroft?**

5 years



**What is your job role?**

Year 1 Class Teacher and RWI  
Phonics Leader

**What are your top 3 subjects?**

Phonics  
Art  
Literacy

**This or that?**

<b>Tea</b>	Coffee
Late night	<b>Early morning</b>
Starter	<b>Dessert</b>
<b>Summer</b>	Winter
<b>Cats</b>	Dogs
<b>Text</b>	Call
<b>Football</b>	Rugby
<b>Introvert</b>	Extrovert
<b>Theatre</b>	Cinema
<b>Sunset</b>	Sunrise

Only eat ice cream for the rest of your life

OR

**Never eat ice cream again!**

**Important dates**

Summer Term 2 - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June - Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July (Students finish at 1.30)

Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May - KS2 SATS Week (Year 6)

Thursday 23rd May Year 6 – Thorpe Park

Monday 10th June - Plum Lane, School Class Photos

Tuesday 11th June - Vincent Road, School Class Photos

Thursday 20th June - Fun Run

Monday 24th June to Friday 28th June - Exhibition Week

Tuesday 25th June - Vincent Road Sports Day

Wednesday 26th June - Plum Lane Years 3 & 4 – AM Years 5 & 6 - PM Sports Day

Thursday 27th June - Plum Lane KS1 – AM Reception - PM Sports Day

Wednesday 3rd July 3.30pm – 4.30pm Community Feast

Tuesday 16th July 1.30pm and 6.30pm Year 6 Leavers' Production

Wednesday 17th July 1.30pm and 6.30pm Year 6 Leavers' Production

Friday 19th July - Reports to Parents

Tuesday 23rd July 9.15am – 10.30am Leavers' Assembly

Tuesday 23rd July 3.30pm – 5.30pm Year 6 Leavers BBQ

**We hope you have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you on  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April.**