



Plumpton Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to wish all members of our Plumpton School community a **warm welcome** back to face-to-face schooling. It has been wonderful to see all the children back enjoying time with their teachers and peers once again.



Parents' Evenings

Thank you for signing up to our virtual Parent Consultations, which are taking place the week commencing Monday 29th March. Please keep safe the Meeting IDs and Passcodes sent to you by the School Office last week. If you have not yet signed up for a meeting, there are still a few slots available for all classes. Please contact the School Office on: plumptonoffice@skylarkfed.education.

Home project

This term we are continuing to delve deep into our whole-school 'Home' project. This term has seen pupils focus on honing their skills in **DT**. Owls Class last week sampled a traditional English Ploughman's, and learned that a nation's cuisine can create a sense of collective belonging or 'Home':



Red Nose Day

This Friday – 19th March – we invite children to come to school wearing their own clothes and with a joke to share (all in aid of Comic Relief). We ask that children bring with them a £1 voluntary donation for the charity too. **That's not all!** We are also taking part in the **Times Tables Rockstars Red Nose Day Challenge** here at Plumpton School. This week, children have been furiously tapping at TTRockstars in order to raise funds for Comic Relief: the more they practise their times tables, the more money they earn for Comic Relief!

Attendance & Punctuality

Good attendance and punctuality, during this time of transition, is critical. Thank you for ensuring your child is here promptly every day. Attendance at Plumpton School currently stands at 98% for the first week back and was above the Local Authority target of 97%. Last week's attendance winners were **Robins Class** with impressive **99% attendance record**.



Your outward-looking village school

In addition to our Robins Class Forest School lessons with Mr Gilbert, our Year 4 pupils will also embark on a series of Forest School sessions next week (in our new, bespoke Forest School area just south of the School Field). All year groups will have the opportunity to work with our new Forest School teacher, Mr Greenwood, this year. Our Woodpecker Class is also enjoying 'looking outward' and is taking part in weekly Gardening lessons with Mrs Taplin in our Allotment!

Progress toward our SDP aims - curriculum

Please visit the 'curriculum' tab on our school website where you will be able to view a video-update on our progress towards redesigning our curriculum:

<https://www.plumpton.e-sussex.sch.uk/web/curriculum/514736>



Tales of the House Captains

Our Year 6 House Captains have been writing about their experiences of the recent Lockdown and return to school. Their reflections feature in this month's **Parish Magazine**:

Oliver

During the Winter Lockdown, I enjoyed going for walks in the countryside almost every day and walking my two dogs. Even though I enjoyed my walks, and liked home-schooling, I still missed the teachers and my friends. When at home, I would get up at around 7:30. I struggled to stay in my routine, but managed it. Each day, I would do some of my work before 11:45, because that was the time of our live 'class meet'. That is where we met up on a screen and all my friends and a teacher would take it in turns to discuss how we found the day's learning. Then my teacher would read us all our chosen story for the term.

Now that I'm back, I am looking forward to cooking (that is one of our focus projects this term). We have recently started it and first we made scones and now we are making a different dish. I am also looking forward to doing Sports Day which is where all our houses (Fire Water Earth and Air) compete the win the trophy.

Hal

Working from home was a challenge! We had overcome nothing like it before! During Lockdown, I struggled to stay on track in every lesson (although it was nice to be able to have a lesson at my pace). Despite being a little freer, I wasn't able to see my friends and teachers in person. Even though I couldn't see them, I still stayed in touch. Every day at 11:45 we would go on a 'google meet' where we could all talk about our days, whether they were really boring or extremely exciting.

This week and last week, I have loved being back at school as I have been able to see my friends in person and it's a lot easier to learn than being stuck at home with no teachers to help you. Also, it's nice to just be in an environment where you can talk to people about a question or the lesson. I am now looking forward to doing Sports Day. Also, I can't wait for all the other fun events like STEM Day and all our school trips once lockdown lifts.

Daisy

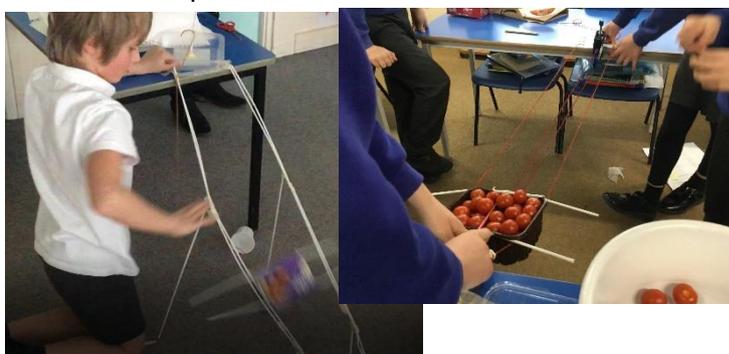
This most recent Lockdown wasn't too fun! We spent a lot of it working remotely and sitting at computers trying not to be distracted. It's hard to concentrate at home when: you have a brother asking to play with you; a dog who's begging you to throw his ball; a cat who's licking dirty bowls; and a fish who's not actually doing anything other than being a fish. But enough of that – going back to school has been my kind of heaven. I've been able to see my friends again, have proper lessons and be in a proper classroom again!

Amber

I attended school during the Lockdown and had fun (even though there weren't a lot of people there). In our 'remote learning class' we did the usual lessons such as Maths, English and 'Topic'. Coming back to face-to-face school has been really exciting as a lot of us were unable to see all our friends in January and February. Also, for me, coming back to school properly felt quite strange because for 8 weeks I'd mostly been learning on a computer screen!

Science STEM Day

We celebrated our first week back at school in style last week with a STEM Day. Children were tasked with using their Engineering skills to design pulleys and levers to transport tomatoes down a mountainside!



Dates For Your Diary

March 2021	
Friday 19 th	Red Nose Day
Mon 29 th	Parent Consultations begin
April 2021	
Thurs 1 st	Last day of school for pupils
Fri 2 nd	Bank holiday – school closed
Mon 19 th	Term 5 begins

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