



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 12 January 2024

SPANISH PHRASE of the week
Hace mucho frio.... *It is very cold.....*

Kingsmead, Gayhurst and Mandeville Primary Schools working in partnership

UNIVERSAL FREE SCHOOL MEALS EXTENDED

The Mayor of London Sadiq Khan, has announced this week that his funding investment in a universal free school meals offer for ALL primary aged pupils in London's state funded schools **will be extended from September onwards into the 24/25 academic year.**

This is fantastic news for families, saving them up to £1,000 over the two years per child, in the midst of the current cost-of-living crisis.

Sadiq Khan said: *"Delivering free school meals has been one of my proudest moment as Mayor as I have seen the difference it has made to the children receiving them and to their families. I am thrilled to announce my intention to extend this lifeline for families for yet another year.*

Naomi Duncan, Chief Executive of the charity Chefs in Schools, with whom we work closely said: *"We're delighted to hear that the Mayor, Sadiq Khan, is extending Universal Primary Free School Meals. We've seen first-hand the huge benefits this policy has had since its introduction. By extending the programme, the Mayor is ensuring that hundreds of thousands of children in London continue to receive the benefits of a hot, nutritious meal every school lunchtime. The initiative was a landmark moment in the fight for greater access to vital nutrition for young children, never more important than now in the context of rapidly increasing malnutrition and food poverty. A meal in school provides that nutritional safety net, but also fuel for learning and a vital opportunity for education about food."*

NEED FOR FAMILIES TO STILL KEEP REGISTERING FOR FSM

Please remember that it is still vitally important for us that LEAP families still register for Free School Meals if they are in receipt of state benefits, as this is how a school's funding is calculated by the Government. If you need any help registering for Free School Meals or are unsure if you are eligible speak to someone in your school's office and they will help you.

THE BIG AMBITION SURVEY



The Children's Commissioner for Children, Dame Rachel de Souza's national campaign 'The Big Ambition' aims to hear from children across England on what they think is important! In the lead up to the next General Election, the Children's

THE BIG AMBITION SURVEY CONTINUED.....

Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

So far her survey has received more than 300,000 responses from children, young people & parents and carers, making it one of the largest surveys of its kind. If you have not yet completed the survey but would like to share your views with policy makers, you still have time and can find it on the link below. The survey will be closing on **Friday 19th January**. Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here:

www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

LEAP PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a parent governor for the LEAP federation which we need to fill as soon as possible.

Parent governors are elected by and from the parents of children currently attending any of our three schools. They serve a four-year term of office and bring a very important and valued perspective to the work of the governing board.

You might like to look at the information on the role of governors: <https://www.governorsforschools.org.uk/app/uploads/2018/10/The-role-of-a-school-governor.pdf>

Further information on the role are on the LEAP Governing Body page in the About Us section of the school websites or on the National Governors website.

The governing board has a vital role to play in making sure every child receives the best possible education. This is achieved by ensuring that governors have the necessary skills and commitment to contribute to the effective governance and success of the three schools. The particular skills that governing boards need will vary and will include personal qualities and capabilities, such as the capacity and willingness to learn and work as part of a team. It is expected that governors will make use of the various training opportunities available to them and play a full part in the work of the governing board.

If you are interested in becoming a governor, contact the school office with your nomination (self nomination is acceptable), which will need to be with the school by 12.00 noon on Friday 19th January. If there is more than one candidate an election will then take place and we will ask each candidate to prepare a short statement as to why they would like to be a governor and what qualities they could bring to the role.



SPRING TERM 2024

1st half of term: 08.01.24 - 09.01.24

Half term: 12 - 16 Feb 2024

2nd half of term: 19.02.24 - 28.03.24

CROWN WINNERS

Nursery	83	Year 3	104
Reception	90	Year 4	88
Year 1	85	Year 5	70
Year 2	75	Year 6	92

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Ouse	99%
KS2	Ness	98.5%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Layton
Lea class (Rec) Wassim
Lagan class (Yr 1) Faith
Tyne class (Yr 2) Kieran

Severn class (Yr 3) Skye
Ness class (Yr 4) Harry
Fowey class (Yr 5) Lily
Avon class (Yr 6) Gabriella

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back and Happy New Year to all our families. We are delighted to see all the children back in school ready for learning. We had great excitement in the playground on our first day back with snowfall!

COLD WEATHER/WARM COAT

Please remember with this recent cold weather to make sure your child comes to school with a warm coat, and hats and gloves if possible.



COFFEE MORNING DATES

We have three coffee morning dates for this first half of the Spring Term. Please come along - all welcome!

Thursday 18 Jan 9 - 9.45am Welcome back.

Thursday 1 Feb 9 - 9.45am Share your views and ideas about things you'd like to see offered in the Hackney School of Food gardens with Kay, who is very keen to hear your thoughts

Wednesday 7th Feb 9 - 10am Come and meet Jon the school counsellor and other members of our Inclusion Team & find out about **how we support children's mental health and wellbeing in school.**

YEAR 3 SWIMMING



This term it is Year 3's turn to have weekly swimming lessons on Tuesdays. The children will walk to Kings Hall with three members of staff. Please remind your child to bring their swimming kit in every week on Tuesdays (including swimming hats for children with long hair).

This is the first time children in Year 3 have had swimming lessons and they are very excited about acquiring this important life skill. Here are some comments from children after their first lesson this week

Suleyman said "It felt like it was very good exercise"

Hussein said "It was really good fun. My favourite bit was putting my face in the water"

Sukhpreet said "I felt nervous when I first got into the pool but then I felt better and enjoyed it"

Alia "The instructors started with the basics. They were kind and helpful"

THANK YOU AND GOODBYE (FOR NOW)

Our exceptional EYFS Lead and previous Reception class teacher, **Alice**, who was on Maternity leave from February 2023 was due to return to Kingsmead full time soon, however due to a work offer for her husband, Alice and her young family have an exciting opportunity to relocate out of London. Alice has assured us that should they return to London in the future she will not hesitate to reconnect with Kingsmead, but for now we are sadly saying goodbye. Alice joined us as a volunteer in 2015 and went on to train as a teacher with us and progress to being a leader for the Early Years Foundation stage (Reception & Nursery). Alice is a highly skilled practitioner and staff, children and parents have benefitted hugely from her expertise and skills. We would like to thank her and wish her all the best. We know that wherever she chooses to teach next will be very lucky to have her!



Thanks to Elijah for the lovely portrait of Alice

ACTIVITY HOUR CLUBS

After school clubs start back on **Monday 15th Jan**. You should have all received confirmation of the club/s your child has a place in. **Please make sure to collect your child from their club promptly at 4.30pm from the main playground gate.**

KEY DATES THIS TERM

Mon 15 Jan Activity Hour clubs start
Wed 17 Jan Year 4 class assembly 3pm
Thurs 18 Jan Coffee Morning: Welcome Back 9 - 9.45am
Wed 24 Jan Year 6 RE assembly 3pm
Wed 31 Jan Family Games evening 3.30 - 5pm
Thurs 1 Feb Coffee Morning: share ideas about HSoF gardens & things you'd like to do there 9 - 9.45am
w/c 5 Feb LEAP Creativity Week
Wed 7 Feb Coffee Morning: Supporting children's Mental Health & Wellbeing 9 - 10am +
Nur & Rec assembly - Chinese New Year 3pm