

LEAP NEWS

Friday 26 January 2024

SPANISH PHRASE of the week
Está muy oscuro.... It is very dark....

Kingsmead, Gayhurst and Mandeville Primary Schools working in partnership



KINGSMEAD IS OUTSTANDING!

We are delighted to be able to write to you about the amazing outcome for Kingsmead in its recent OFSTED inspection. Kingsmead was first judged to be outstanding in 2011 some 13 years ago now, but OFSTED has changed a good deal in the meantime and it has become much harder to achieve an outstanding grade.

Kingsmead didn't stand still after its 2011 inspection but went on to be designated as National Teaching School and Louise Nichols, as the then headteacher of Kingsmead, became an National Leader of Education. In 2012 Louise became Executive Headteacher of Gayhurst as well. In 2014 we formed the LEAP Federation so that we could work together with other schools collaboratively and in 2015 Mandeville joined us to complete the group of schools that LEAP is today. The unique focus of LEAP schools has always been the Arts (the A in LEAP) and delivering our curriculum through visual and performing arts where possible, for example Kingsmead is a Platinum Artsmark school, the highest accolade a school can be awarded by the Arts Council. In 2019 we started our complete rework of the curriculum to produce what is now known as the 'Empowerment curriculum' which is Rich, Representative and Relevant and a bespoke curriculum delivered only in our schools. Three separate OFSTED teams in the last two years have now recognised that our curriculum is exemplary and that each of our schools is child centred and aims to develop the whole child and care about the wellbeing of every child and member of staff.

It is always difficult to maintain an 'exemplary in all areas' OFSTED judgement and with all credit to the Kingsmead team, that is exactly what they did. A few highlights from the report that can be read [here](#) are:

'This is a school where everyone is treated fairly and equally. Pupils' best interests are at the heart of all the school's work.' 'Pupils are exceptionally well behaved and show kindness and respect for their fellow pupils and school staff. The school provides many engaging activities to spark pupils' interests and nurture their talents.'

A huge congratulations to Evelyn, Kingsmead's headteacher, and the whole school team including our hard working LEAP governors for this amazing result. We are sure you will join everyone at Kingsmead and in the federation, in celebrating this amazing outcome.

PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION GOES LIVE

Today every parent who is registered as the primary carer for their family at a LEAP school should have received an email inviting them to vote in the election.

In cases where there are two or more parents registered, we have also sent votes. As we said last week if you are a parent/carer of a child at one of our schools you are entitled to vote so if you have not received a vote please email your school admin office

Gayhurst – admin@gayhurst.hackney.sch.uk

Kingsmead – admin@kingsmead.hackney.sch.uk

Mandeville – mdvoffice@mandeville.hackney.sch.uk

We have two parent governor posts to fill so each parent needs to choose the TWO candidates they would like to see as Parent Governors and vote for them, regardless of the number of children you have in the school.

If you are not able to vote electronically you can ask the office to print you a copy and vote on paper but where possible we ask parents to vote electronically, if at all possible, as it keeps the process simple, fair and transparent. The voting system counts the votes and lets us know the outcome on the final day. Paper votes will be counted by the headteacher in each school and added to the electronic votes.

The voting starts today, Friday 26th January and finishes at **5pm on Monday 19th February**. There are 8 candidates across the three schools and again, as we said last week, please choose candidates on their statements not on whether they are a parent at your child's school.

The two candidates with the most votes will be elected to the LEAP governing body.

We really want to thank the candidates for putting themselves forward for this very important role and are happy to answer any queries by any parent on the process.

choice vot!ng

PTO →

HALF TERM COOKERY CLUB AT HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD

Little Chefs Holiday Club

12, 13 & 14 February (half-term)

Over 3 days this February half-term, the Hackney School of Food in Oswald Street, Lower Clapton is running a range of cooking classes for children to learn recipes from across the globe, from Mexican street-food to celebrating Shrove Tuesday with Japanese pancakes. Little chefs will be taught by a trained chef and will gain kitchen confidence and try new foods, while making new local friends. There's also an opportunity to spend time in the garden and see the chickens. Classes run Monday-Wednesday mornings or afternoons and you can book individual classes or sign up for all 3 days. These are paid for sessions for children age 7+ . Places are limited so book [here](#) to ensure your place.



LEAP CHICKS ARE GROWING UP!



The LEAP federation chickens are 15 weeks old today! Happy 15th weeks birthday to them...



Their mum Cinnamon, pictured here with them as chicks tucked into her feathers, proved herself to be a brilliant mum and was looking after them really well over the cold autumn and winter times, teaching them everything they needed to know to survive.

LEAP CHICKS ARE GROWING UP CONTINUED....

Lidka, our wonderful school gardener, said she particularly loved watching her scratching and finding the worms for them. Cinnamon decided she completed her motherhood duties when the chicks were 10 weeks old. They have been fully independent since then! And look how much they have changed and how grown up they now appear!

They love being outside and munching on whatever greens they can find in the garden. Their favourite though are sorrel, chard and beetroot leaves.



**Gayhurst's
chicken
Chickpea**

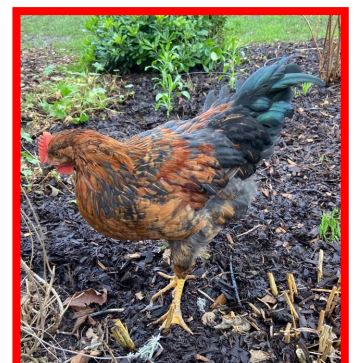


**Kingsmead's
chicken
Sunflower**



**Mandeville's
chicken
Pumpkin**

**School of Food's
chicken Poppy**





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	90	Year 3	78
Reception	75	Year 4	81
Year 1	84	Year 5	72
Year 2	90	Year 6	125

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Tyne
	97%
KS2	Avon
	98.2%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Alia
Lea class (Rec) Nellayna
Lagan class (Yr 1) Aheli Ja-
Tyne class (Yr 2) millah

Severn class (Yr 3) Simon
Ness class (Yr 4) Princessia
Fowey class (Yr 5) Isabella
Avon class (Yr 6) Millah

KINGSMEAD'S OUTSTANDING OFSTED REPORT

You should all have received a copy of the recent OFSTED report –graded Outstanding, which we are finally able to share with you. We cannot thank you enough for all the support we experienced from our wonderful school community throughout the inspection - so many of you kept our spirits up with positive comments and of course we can't forget all the treats you sent in to keep us all going. The inspectors told us that parents & carers gave lots of fantastic feedback to them and they were inundated with parents lining up to speak to them in the playground.

Thank you to all who have emailed us or spoken to staff this week, congratulating the school on this wonderful outcome. We would also like to thank our amazing school staff team and school governors, who work tirelessly to ensure Kingsmead children get the best school experience possible. And finally we are SO proud of our exceptional children. The inspectors spoke to many of them during the inspection and commented on how happy the children are at Kingsmead and reported some really wonderful things that the children said to them about their experience of school life.

This outstanding grade is a reflection of the whole Kingsmead community....parents, staff, governors and children are all essential parts of the Kingsmead school family.

FOOTBALL NEWS

Big congratulations to our Girls Football team who took part in the 5 a side league matches yesterday. They played 3 games of which they won one, drew one and lost one, finishing second place and earning a place in the playoffs on 8th February. Star performer yesterday was **Tamia** who was fearless and worked very hard.

Ibz said "All the games played were in good spirit and were friendly. Well done girls!"



FAMILY GAMES EVENING

Don't forget to come and join us next week after school from 3.30 - 5pm on **Wednesday 31st January** for our very first **Family Games Evening**. Come with your children and learn how to play a range of board and card games old and new, including Snakes and Ladders, Ludo, Mancala, Dominoes and Uno. There will also be a chance to win a prize with our 'Guess the Amount' in the jar competition. Research has shown that playing board and card games with children greatly helps develop and support their Maths learning and numeracy skills. We look forward to seeing you there for what should be a very enjoyable few hours.



COFFEE MORNING REMINDER

Please come and join us for Coffee Morning next week on **Thursday 1st Feb at 9am**. We have a special visitor, Kay, who is very keen to get your ideas and suggestions for things you'd like to see offered at the Hackney School of Food Gardens... so if you have ideas of sessions, activities or just lovely big community picnics, come and share you thoughts! Your ideas will feed in to plans for funding applications and activities and events so come and make this great local resource work for you! All welcome and there will be refreshments on offer.

KEY DATES THIS TERM

- 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
- w/c 12 Feb** Half term break
- Thurs 7 March** World Book Day - dress up as your favourite character from a book or comic
- Thurs 14 March** Parent Carer consultations -
school finishes early at 1.30pm
- Fri 15 March** Red Nose Day – wear something red
- Mon 18 - Fri 22 March** Yr 6 school journey
- Thurs 28 March** Last day of term—
school finishes early at 1.30pm