



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 16th January 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

¿Tienes algún propósito de Año Nuevo?... *Do you have any New Year 's resolutions? ...*

Kingsmead, Gayhurst, Mandeville & Grasmere Primary Schools working in partnership

ROYAL ACADEMY YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER SHOW



It's time again for LEAP children to start getting creative and enter the competition to have their art work selected for the **Royal Academy of Arts Young**

Artists Summer Show.

Now in its eighth year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Last year we had three LEAP pupils who were successful in getting their work selected, which was fantastic given that there were over 23,000 entries nationwide!

There is no theme so the children can do any piece of art work that they want. Children can submit a drawing, painting, photograph, collage or sculpture—the only restriction is that all artworks must be original pieces so please encourage children NOT to copy other famous artworks as they won't get chosen for the exhibition.

The children will need a parent or carer to submit the work. Please visit the link below for more information and to instructions on how to submit your artwork.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/get-involved>

If you have difficulties submitting work, please speak to your child's class teacher.

The deadline for submissions is **4 March 2026**

Judging then commences in May and any successful artists will have their work displayed in this years Summer Show at the RA in July and August.



BAGS OF TASTE IN HACKNEY

This fun free cooking course with ingredients provided is run by the charity Bags of Taste and is open to anyone on benefits to apply.

It is particularly aimed at those needing support around food and/or cooking. All skill levels welcome



Save money and cook better than the takeaway

JOIN OUR FREE FUN COOKING COURSES

...all you need is a kitchen and a phone!

Free, fun cooking courses AT HOME. Cook great food in just two weeks! Impress friends and family

Exciting meals can be quick, fun, easy and cheap to cook with our **FREE** (ingredients included), flexible, home-based short courses



CHANA MASALA ITALIAN PASTA SAUCE MIDDLE EASTERN PILAF

To register
Phone or text/Whatsapp 07701 304 555
or email: hackney@bagsoftaste.org
or you can sign up online:
<https://bagsoftaste.org/students>



perennial charities
HPC

Are you worried about the rising cost of food and how to eat healthily on a tight budget?

Then join one of our free, fun cooking courses. Learn how to make delicious, healthy meals from all over the world whilst saving money.

All you need is a kitchen and a phone!



About the course

- **FREE**, ingredients included*
- Cook tasty, healthy meals, cheaply
- Get tips on how to budget and save money when you're shopping
- Learn how to waste less

How does it work?

- We deliver three step-by-step recipes and all the ingredients you need, straight to your door
- Your personal mentor will support you by phone or WhatsApp with lots of tips and advice along the way
- At the end you'll get a free gift of wallet-friendly recipes

What do I need to do?

- All we ask is that you cook the three recipes and send us photos of your lovely food!

How long does it take?

- About two weeks but you can work at your own pace

How do I join?

- Register online: <https://bagsoftaste.org/students>
- Call/WhatsApp **07701 304 555**
- Email hackney@bagsoftaste.org

Once we've confirmed your registration we'll contact you to arrange your delivery



LEARN TO COOK EAT LESS TAKEAWAYS SAVE MONEY IMPROVE HEALTH HAVE FUN

*For qualifying participants only



SPRING TERM 2026

1st half of term: 05.01.26 - 13.02.26

Half term: 16 - 20 Feb 2026

2nd half of term: 23.02.26 - 27.03.26

CROWN WINNERS

Nursery	85	Year 3	92
Reception	76	Year 4	80
Year 1	88	Year 5	104
Year 2	70	Year 6	78

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Lea 99.2%
KS2	Avon 99%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Ruadhan
Lea class (Rec) Ismael
Lagan class (Yr 1) Nadin
Tyne class (Yr 2) Mara

Severn class (Yr 3) Calisa
Ness class (Yr 4) Elena
Fowey class (Yr 5) Jayden
Avon class (Yr 6) Manha

JTP - MY STORY

Working with poet and spoken word artist Desree



Kingsmead has been extremely lucky to have the poet Desree working with every class from Reception through to year 6 for three days as part of the Justin Thompson Project. Desree has supported the children to create poems, songs and riddles on the theme of My Story, to continue the

creative work the children have been producing linked to their stories and stories from their families.

Desree's work at Kingsmead culminated in a fantastic whole school assembly where every year group performed what they had created with Desree interspersed with a rousing chorus of **'This is me! I am here'** provided by Reception class.

Years 1 and 3 created poems exploring the idea that the food we eat tells our story.

Year 2's poems explored different languages spoken at home and common family phrases.

Year 4 wrote and performed 'I am' riddles, with the audience having to guess who or what they are based on their descriptions of certain characteristics

Year 5 created heritage poems sharing what they love about and feel proud of, in relation to their own heritages.

Year 6 composed and performed a wonderful song titled *'This is our story, A Kingsmead story'*.

Thank you Desree for a fantastic, intensely creative few days!



My Story Parent Workshop

Thanks to all the parents and carers who came along to the special My Story workshop on Wednesday this week. We started the session sharing an overview of some of the creative work the children have been

JTP MY STORY CONTINUED.....

doing in school for the JTP My Story project, exploring stories about their own names and then creating pieces from conversations they've had with their families about stories from home.

Everyone then really enjoyed watching the **short film, The Story of My Name**, that was filmed at Kingsmead's International Evening, which features some of our parents talking with their children about their names: what they mean and why they chose them. If you have not yet seen the film, please do come and watch it in our Reception area where it is being shown on a wall mounted screen.



We looked at some of the My Story posters that school staff have already made, and then parents went about creating their own My Story posters using a few photos from their life that they wanted to share with others.

At the end of the workshop everyone really enjoyed exploring all the My Story posters and sharing memories and observations with each other.



PTO

My Story Parent Workshop continued....

The staff and parent My Story posters are now up on display in the school reception area—do come in and look at them as they are really wonderful.



"Sharing our stories was an excellent feeling" – **Ahelie & Gourik's dad**

"Seeing The Story of My Name video that was made at International Evening was so lovely. I also really enjoyed looking at the school staff photos on their My Story posters. It was nice to spend a moment going back in my memory to my past, during the workshop" – **Bilise & Bilisan's mum**

"The thing I loved the most was learning about other peoples stories & finding our similarities" – **Robyn's mum**

"It was a really interesting workshop & I enjoyed it a lot. It took me back to my childhood!" – **Tayj'lee's mum**

Desree had a chance to chat with some of the parents at the workshop, talking about the photos they brought to use and she has created a poem for Kingsmead, using the parent workshop as inspiration.

Kingsmead: Our Stories

Our story speaks of journeys

Of travel to and from

Where language has no passport

Leaving family, leaving sun

Our story speaks in floral table cloths

Of family trips together

Mogogo's and ball pits

Childless trips to the Lake District

Holidays with cousins

we wish would last forever

Our stories start on different shores

Sudan, Jamaica, Ireland, Poland

Building homes on different lands

Our Babcia's taught us lessons,

Helping us create our plans

Our stories are long and winding

Some tumbles but we still thrive

Its a shame we can't take you back in time

To see it from our eyes

Kitchens made from wood and cloth

Drawing t-shirts, beaches, caravan parks

Our stories are bold, our stories are brave

Our stories are different, our stories are the same

Our stories are ours



COST OF LIVING CRISIS EVENT

The Cost-of-Living Project in partnership with Cocreate have a Cost of Living Support in Hackney Event on **Friday 30th January 2026 from 10.30am - 2.30pm**

at the New Kingshold Community Centre
Ainsworth Road,
Hackney E9 7LP.

It includes advice from various agencies all in one place including warm clothes and food, benefit and debt advice, cost saving tips for daily living and bills - which families facing difficulties with the cost of living may find helpful.



Join us at
Cost of Living Support Hackney
Friday 30th January 2026
10.30am - 2.30pm
New Kingshold Community Centre
Ainsworth Road, Hackney E9 7LP
Wheelchair access
warm clothing and food
benefit and debt advice
cost-saving tips for daily living and bills
free activities information
support to keep warm and eat well
In partnership with
Cocreate
Funded by
TURNING POINT
COMMUNITY FUND
Open to all residents of Hackney & City of London

CITIZENS ADVICE FREE HELP

A reminder that Maria, the lovely Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) advisor, is at Kingsmead every other Thursday morning to support Kingsmead families with independent advice on a range of issues from benefits and debt support, to employment, housing, immigration and family matters.

This is a free and confidential service offered by CAB, to help people overcome their problems, which many of our families have already found extremely helpful. To book your slot with Maria— just call **02038802266** and leave a short message with your name & contact number, saying you are a Kingsmead parent wanting to make an appointment for an advice session and someone will call you back to book an appointment.

Maria's next day at Kingsmead will be next week on **Thursday 22nd January** from 9.30am—12.30pm

KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

Thurs 29 Jan	Yr 5 class assembly 3pm
Wed 4 Feb	Nursery & Rec Chinese New Year assembly 3pm
w/c Mon 9 Feb	Creativity Week
Mon 16—Fri 20 Feb	Half term break
Wed 4 March	Yr 2 class assembly 3pm
Wed 11 March	Yr 4 RE assembly 3pm
Wed 18 March	Yr 1 class assembly 3pm
Wed 25 March	Rec class assembly 3pm
Fri 27 March	Last day of Spring term -

school closes early at 1.30pm for children