



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Wednesday 17th December 2025

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Me gustan los regalos..... *I like presents*

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

END OF TERM MESSAGE FROM LEAP GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a busy start to the school year for all four schools in our Federation. We're so pleased with Grasmere's integration and how well the schools have been collaborating.

Two Parent Governors - Erin Boreham and Sarah Fox, have joined the LEAP Federation and we're pleased that all schools have a reflection on the wider governing board.

As always, we thoroughly enjoy the Newsletter updates which showcase incredible displays of learning, fun and amazing adventures.

We hope you yourselves have enjoyed coming into the schools to see your children take part in shows and special performances organised by the school teams.

We want to say thank you to:

- parent and carers, as the backbone for our students and your contribution to the school communities;
- the pupils, for their continued curiosity to learn and enthusiasm to engage; and
- staff teams for inspiring and supporting our pupils.

Members of the LEAP Governing body look forward to meeting you at Parent Consultation Evenings in the Spring Term, so please do say hello. We wish you a wonderful break and look forward to even more achievements in the new year.

Best Wishes

Gill Brady and Shanielle Shrouder
Co-chairs of the LEAP Governing Body

THANK YOU FOR NATIVITY COSTUMES

Thank you so much to the parents of Gayhurst children who donated costumes for our LEAP nativity performances.



All of our children benefitted from having new costumes and we were thrilled to be able to share them with all of our schools, as we will for years to come!

A heartfelt thank you from us all.

A MESSAGE FROM LOUISE

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this a happy, safe, creative, and fun term across all our schools.

It has been wonderful to see the fantastic work developing in every classroom across the federation as part of the **Justin Thompson Project**. There is much more planned over the next two terms as we continue to deliver on our shared vision of 'Celebrating the power of story to build connections, empower parents and communities, and change lives.'

As many of you know, this project is named in honour of a father who supported his son to achieve highly in life through his commitment to education. As parents and educators, we all strive to do the same, helping our children to grow, thrive and develop the resilience they need to face whatever life brings.

To our children, school staff and parents, a heartfelt thank you to you all for helping and supporting us all to do our own personal best.

I wish you a wonderful rest over the break and look forward to seeing you all in January.

Louise

Executive Headteacher - LEAP Federation

SCHOOL OF FOOD SPRING AFTER SCHOOL COOKING CLUB

This Spring, let your child explore cooking with the Hackney School of Food After School Cooking Club - for children **aged 7 and over**.

Designed to build confidence and curiosity in the kitchen, this hands-on club teaches children practical cooking skills such as knife-handling and bread-making through creative, child-friendly



recipes. Each week focuses on a new dish, encouraging young chefs to explore different cultures, ingredients, and incorporating seasonal produce grown in our gardens.

The cost is £170 for the full 10-week term. To book, follow [this link](#). A limited number of reduced-price places (10%) are available for children eligible for free school meals or from low-income households. To apply, please email hello@hackneyschooloffood.com for a discount code.

Sessions will run on **Tuesdays, from 3.45 to 5.15pm** from **13th January – 24th March** (No session during half term on 16th February)

Location: Hackney School of Food, Oswald Street, London E5 0BT



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	91	Year 3	97
Reception	92	Year 4	108
Year 1	133	Year 5	88
Year 2	105	Year 6	100

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Lagan 100%
KS2	Severn 98.4%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Yanha
Lea class (Rec) Bethany Grace
Lagan class (Yr 1) Nova Rae
Tyne class (Yr 2) Aiyla S

Severn class (Yr 3) Margarissa
Ness class (Yr 4) Zeynep G
Fowey class (Yr 5) Bilisan
Avon class (Yr 6) Jamal

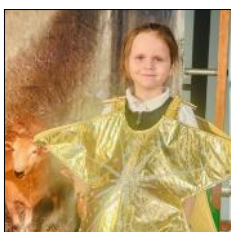
YEAR 1'S NATIVITY SHINES BRIGHT



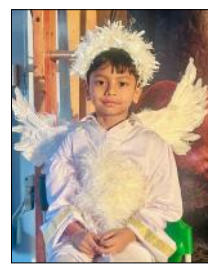
The Year 1 children performed a beautiful Nativity play as part of our Religious Education (RE) curriculum, helping children understand the Christian story through performance. The strong, joyful singing and the projection of lines from all the children made the performance even more special. From a scary King Herod to the loud, confident voices of the narrators, to a graceful Angel Gabriel dancing around the hall like he was floating on air, and the strong Roman soldiers added energy and drama to the stage.

The whole school joined in with the singing, creating a warm and festive atmosphere. Laughter, music and smiles filled the hall, and the performance even brought back fond memories for children who remembered their own time in the Nativity play, especially Year 2 who hadn't forgotten the songs from last year!

A huge well done for such a magical and memorable performance & thank you to all the children and staff involved for their hard work and enthusiasm!



YEAR 1'S NATIVITY CONTINUED.....



MY STORY PARENT WORKSHOP

As many of our parents are aware, we are now working on the **My Story** element of the Justin Thompson Project. On **Wednesday 14th January at 9—10.30am** we will be holding a special parent workshop, where interested parents & carers can come and create a My Story poster, sharing any element of their family's story that they would like to. In preparation you might want to make a selection of between 5 and 10 photos to bring in, which we can photocopy and you can use to create your My Story poster.

On that morning we will also have **Desree**, a spoken word performer and poet, joining us for part of the workshop to support families with ideas on creative approaches to how we can communicate and share elements of our stories. All welcome to what we hope will be a really enjoyable session.

PTO



PEEP PROGRAMME

Another fantastic six weeks of our Peep programme at Kingsmead has come to an end! This term we have the PEEP sessions with some children and parents from Reception class. The PEEP programme supports families with suggestions for activities and strategies they can use at home, to support their child's language development.

We wrapped up the final session on Monday 8th December, in the best way - creating our very own talking boxes. Talking boxes are a fun and thoughtful way to support conversation and connection with children at home.

We'd like to thank all our wonderful families who joined us and helped make the programme such a positive experience.

"Loved the session. It reminds us of everything we do day to day, but also how to do more." -

Farzana. (Dayyan's Mum)

"Peep helped me find easier ways to make learning fun." - **Mandy** (Charlie's mum)

"I like that it was interactive and got me thinking of new ways to help my daughter communicate." - **Darcey** (Romy's mum)



DRUMMING & DANCE PERFORMANCES

Miss Harley decided that this term she would ask the children for their favourite songs and that's how the most spectacular 'Dance & Drumming' show came together and what a way to celebrate the end of term! We had the pleasure of seeing the following year groups perform these brilliant dances and superb drumming routines. Thank you Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & the gifted Dynamix!.

We were treated by an amazing staff team performance of their very own Country line dance 'Boots on the Ground'. Well done Team Kingsmead!

A special thank you to Miss Harley for her creativity and excellence and Victor for his wonderful drumming talent.



NEXT COFFEE MORNING

On **Thursday 8th January** from 9 – 10am our specialist teacher, Jane, will be delivering a session on **Supporting children with Literacy Challenges at home**. Many parents have said how helpful they find Jane's sessions—do come along if you are able to. All welcome.

LEYTON ORIENT HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

On **Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December 2025** from 12- 4pm Leyton Orient are running a Holiday Sports Camp at **Wyke Estate Community Hall, 15 Berger Road, E9 6HA**. The camp is for children aged between 8—14 years old and is free for those who qualify for free school meals. A hot, nutritious meal will be provided on both days. You can sign up here:

www.eequ.org/experience/13493

YEAR 1 VISIT A CHURCH

To round up their Religious Education topic learning about Christianity, Year 1 visited St Michael and All Angel Church recently. Here the children learnt how Christians celebrate Christmas and the different things they do during this season, such as sing Christmas Carols, read bible stories, light candles on the advent wreath and put up a Christmas tree. They also performed a little piece of their Nativity show in the Church.

"Jesus is born on Christmas Day" **Ridhwan**

"We had fun acting out a bit of the Nativity story" **Israh**

"We use the advent calendar to countdown to Christmas Day" **Robyn**



READING CHAMPION NEWS

The Kingsmead Reading Champions visited the local bookshop, Pages of Hackney, to purchase a new book for each of their partner classes. From Nursery to Year 6, they enjoyed surveying their class and then choosing them a new book based on their preferences. Next term they will be presenting the new book to each class in a reading assembly and continuing to encourage a love of reading. Many thanks to **Pages of Hackney** who generously supported our Reading Champions by giving us a school discount!



READING CHAMPION NEWS CONTINUED.....

"It was fun to choose the books ourselves and I can't wait to share this new book with the class! - **Alia**

"I think the class will really like what I've chosen." - **Gideon**

CHRISTMAS LUNCH



Children and staff came to school wearing festive jumpers last week on Tuesday, and everyone gathered in the dining hall at lunch to pull crackers and enjoy the delicious Christmas lunch that our fantastic kitchen team, had prepared. A huge thank you to **Sergio, Shernett, Ana and Sulania** for a wonderful meal. Thanks also to **Amanda** and our pupil dining hall monitors for all their help on the day.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Kingsmead staff would like to wish all our children and their families a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

We look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Monday 5th January** for the start of Spring Term