



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 13th March 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

¡Feliz Día de San Patricio!..... Happy St Patrick's Day!.....

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

DEPUTY MAYOR OF LONDON VISITS GRASMERE SCHOOL

On Tuesday this week, Grasmere hosted a visit from some important VIPs, including the deputy mayor of London, Joanne McCartney. She was visiting the school to see the impact of Universal Free School meals on schools and also because she had had a recommendation to try the Grasmere lunches and find out about how the children contribute to the menu design by meeting with the chefs and giving feedback.

She was joined by the mayor and deputy mayor of Hackney, Caroline Woodley and Anntoinette Bramble. They who all met with the Grasmere school council and ate lunch with the children in the hall, and also had the opportunity of meeting LEAP Federation's Executive Chef, Sergio, to talk with him about the impact of Free School meal funding on school kitchens.

Jacqueline and Bianca discussed the work across all LEAP schools on food policy and ensuring we use local produce to prepare and serve seasonal dishes all year round. Our children play a big part in our menu selection; they meet with our head chef to review menus and give direct feedback on what dishes children love and what they want more of on the menus. Food education is a big part of the work of our federation and we educate children and families through parent workshops and visits to the Hackney School of Food, giving opportunities to develop new cooking skills and create a love for cooking as a family.



DEPUTY MAYOR VISIT CONTINUED....



🍀 HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY 🍀

On **Monday 17th March** it is St Patrick's Day. St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, whose symbol is the shamrock. St. Patrick's Day celebrations often involve parades, with lots of people wearing green and good luck charms.

COMIC RELIEF REMINDER

Next **Friday, 20th March**, it's Red Nose Day and we are encouraging children and staff across all four LEAP schools to come to school **wearing something red** and bringing coins to donate to Comic Relief.

Since its launch in 1985, Comic Relief has supported more than 35,000 projects, enabling over 1,000 community organisations to tackle poverty and social injustice in the UK and around the world by giving people access to food, shelter and safety.

LEAP SPRING HOLIDAY CAMPS

A four day Spring Holiday camp will be running at **Gayhurst**, for **Gayhurst** and **Grasmere** children and at **Kingsmead** for **Kingsmead** and **Mandeville** children on **Monday 30th March** through to **Thursday 2nd April**. The camps will run from 10- 2pm and will be staffed by school staff running a range of fun activities including sports and games, art activities, gardening sessions and more. The holiday camps will be for children from Reception class to Year 6.

Each school has shared information about the camps and how to register your child. If you have any queries or are having problems registering please contact your school's office, who will be happy to help you.



Follow us on Instagram: @leapfederation



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	93	Year 3	83
Reception	90	Year 4	125
Year 1	81	Year 5	86
Year 2	95	Year 6	78

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Lea	98.9%
KS2	Ness	100%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Alisha
Lea class (Rec) Drew
Lagan class (Yr 1) Harleen
Tyne class (Yr 2) Ayla B

Severn class (Yr 3) Finley
Ness class (Yr 4) Khalifa
Fowey class (Yr 5) Skye
Avon class (Yr 6) Lily

CREATIVITY WEEK DISPLAYS

Do come into school sometime to see the fantastic new class displays that are up around the school, featuring work inspired by our recent Creativity Week.

Nursery



Reception



Yr 1



Yr 2



CREATIVITY WEEK DISPLAYS CONTINUED...

Yr 3



Yr 4



Yr 5



Yr 6






































KINGSMEAD'S PARENT CHAMPIONS

Thanks to all the parents & carers who came along to the recent Parent Champions meetings. We are delighted to announce that we have some new recruits and one of them, Laura, who is Vivian's (yr 6) mum, has offered to take on the role of Lead Parent Champion. She has experience of fundraising in previous roles and has very kindly said that she has time at present to think about how the Parent Champions might be able to find creative ways of raising funds to help pay for the lovely extra's that Kingsmead offers children at school, from workshops & trips to subsidising costs for Year 6 school journey.

We are hoping to reach the point where we have **at least two Parent Champions for each class** at Kingsmead. We currently have vacancies for class reps in Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 4 & Year 6, so if any parents feel able to step forward and offer to help support with a range of fundraising initiatives and be part of this lovely group of supportive parents, please get in touch with the school office and they will pass your details on to Laura who will be in touch.

The Parent Champions first task will be helping to promote and take turns to run a weekly Cake & Ice cream Sale in the Summer Term... more news on this soon.

Class	Parent Champion class reps	Class	Parent Champion class reps			
Nur	 Hawa Hawa is Asanti (Nur), Bilise (yr 4) & Bilisan's (yr 5) mum	 Vacancy	Yr 3 <table border="0"> <tr> <td>  Shanique Shanique is Adrian's (yr 3) mum </td> <td>  Lama Lama is Meryem's (yr 3) mum </td> <td>  Adama Adama is Ibrahim's (yr 3) mum </td> </tr> </table>	 Shanique Shanique is Adrian's (yr 3) mum	 Lama Lama is Meryem's (yr 3) mum	 Adama Adama is Ibrahim's (yr 3) mum
 Shanique Shanique is Adrian's (yr 3) mum	 Lama Lama is Meryem's (yr 3) mum	 Adama Adama is Ibrahim's (yr 3) mum				
Rec	 Amy Amy is Rowan's (Rec) mum	 Vacancy	Yr 4 <table border="0"> <tr> <td>  Johnnie Johnnie is Marcel's (yr 4) dad </td> <td>  Vacancy </td> </tr> </table>	 Johnnie Johnnie is Marcel's (yr 4) dad	 Vacancy	
 Johnnie Johnnie is Marcel's (yr 4) dad	 Vacancy					
Yr 1	 Balqis Balqis is Sumayya (yr 1), Rania (yr 4) & Suleyman's (yr 5) mum	 Vacancy	Yr 5 <table border="0"> <tr> <td>  Myriam Myriam is Assya (yr 5) & Nayla's (yr 3) mum </td> <td>  Beh Beh is Jayden's (yr 5) dad </td> </tr> </table>	 Myriam Myriam is Assya (yr 5) & Nayla's (yr 3) mum	 Beh Beh is Jayden's (yr 5) dad	
 Myriam Myriam is Assya (yr 5) & Nayla's (yr 3) mum	 Beh Beh is Jayden's (yr 5) dad					
Yr 2	 Esther & Yves Esther & Yves are Nathan (yr 2) & Heaven's (yr 5) parents	 Vacancy	Yr 6 <table border="0"> <tr> <td>  Laura Laura is Vivian's (yr 6) mum </td> <td>  Vacancy </td> </tr> </table>	 Laura Laura is Vivian's (yr 6) mum	 Vacancy	
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ECOACTIVE WORKSHOP & VISIT FROM MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

Year 5 enjoyed another informative workshop with Eco-Active last week, focusing on pollinating insects and how to support them. Having planted pollinator friendly bulbs by the school entrance in the Autumn, the students got to go and see the plants now flowering in the early Spring. Rachael, the EcoActive gardener, also taught the class all about bees and why these pollinators are such an important part of our eco-system. The session finished with a fun quiz identifying different types of bees, wasps and flies and year 5 greatly impressed Rachael and Gerry, EcoActive's Community Ecologist, with how much they had learned and remembered!

"I can't believe there are so many types of bees in the UK!" - Michael.

"I learned that bees are really important for all of us." San'aa.

We were delighted to welcome Councillor Sarah Young, Cabinet Member for Climate, Environment and Transport for the London Borough of Hackney, who came to observe some of the EcoActive workshop. During her visit, she toured the school and had the opportunity to see the fantastic work our children and staff are doing to support the environment.

Councillor Young learned about some of our sustainability initiatives and was very impressed by the enthusiasm & commitment shown by the Kingsmead community. From environmental projects to everyday eco-friendly habits around the school, it was wonderful to share how our children are helping to make a positive difference. We are very proud of the efforts our children are making to care for the planet, and it was a pleasure to showcase these achievements during her visit.



JTP PROJECT: STORY EXCHANGE CONTINUED.....

We also asked children to ask an older person to tell them about a family saying or a memory from their past. We want them to record this on a voice memo & send it to the school admin email - full details in the leaflet sent home.

AIR QUALITY WORKSHOP

As part of British Science Week, Year 6 were visited by Kelly and Maya, who came to talk to us about Air Quality Awareness and the air that we breathe.

We began by discussing the different gases in the air around us, focusing on the most important gas for our bodies - oxygen. We also talked about things in the air that can be harmful, such as dust, particles and chemicals, which can travel through our respiratory system and potentially damage our bodies.

Kelly and Maya explained why it is important to think about the air around us and what we can do to help improve it. We then used an air quality monitor to test the air in our classroom. When we checked the CO₂ levels, the reading showed an average level.

Next, we explored how our actions can affect the air in a room. The class did some exercise and then we tested the air again. After exercising, the CO₂ levels increased, showing how the air can change when many people are active in a space.

Finally, we opened all the windows and doors to allow fresh air in and increase the oxygen levels in the room. We also tested the air after spraying cleaning products and learned that chemicals in sprays can affect air quality. This taught us an important safety message: always keep windows open when using cleaning products. It was a fun and interesting session that helped us understand how important clean air is for our health and how small actions can help improve the air around us.



KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- Wed 18 March** Yr 1 class assembly 3pm
- Tues 24 March** Drumming & Dance performance for Yrs 1, 4, 5, 6 & Dynamix 2.15pm
- Wed 25 March** Rec class assembly 3pm
- Thurs 26 March** Parent & Carer consultation evening
school closes early at 1.30pm for children
- Fri 27 March** Last day of Spring term -
school closes early at 1.30pm for children
- Mon 30 March to Thurs 2 April** - Mandeville & Kingsmead Spring Holiday camp 10 - 2pm daily

JTP: STORY EXCHANGE

CROSS GENERATIONS & CROSS CULTURES

As part of our on going Justin Thompson Project (JTP) your child brought home a leaflet this week asking them to speak to an older person from their family - maybe a grandparent, Uncle or Aunt or even a family friend. We'd like your child to find out the older person's favourite song - title and artist and to let their teacher know. We're making a Kingsmead playlist!

We really appreciate your help with making this happen!