



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 30th January 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Me propongo beber más agua..... *I intend to drink more water ...*

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

SCIENCE AT LEAP

This half term, science across the LEAP Federation is bursting with hands-on exploration and exciting new learning. **Year 6** pupils are investigating light, exploring how it travels, how shadows form, and how we see the world through reflection and refraction. **Year 5** are journeying through space, discovering planets, gravity, and the vast scale of the solar system. **Year 4** are experimenting with sound and electricity, building circuits and exploring how vibrations help us hear. **Year 3** are delving into rocks, comparing rock types, studying fossils, and learning how rocks are formed. Our **Year 2** children are observing seasonal changes, focusing on the characteristics of winter. Meanwhile, **EYFS** children are exploring materials and their properties, investigating how objects look, feel, and change when handled.

"My favourite part was discovering that we can only see objects when light reaches our eyes. It's like the world needs light to show itself!" - **Nylah** yr 6 Kingsmead



"I really enjoyed creating a class mnemonic to remember the planets (My Very Enjoyable Mother Just Sipped Up Nesquik)" - **Marley** yr 5 Mandeville

"I loved being the Earth in our class reinactment of exploring how the earth rotates around the sun. Did you know it takes a whole year for the Earth to get all the way around?!" - **Labelle** yr 5 Mandeville



"I have learnt so much about all the different planets like Mercury, Saturn and of course the largest of them all...JUPITER!!" - **Martin** yr 5 Mandeville



SCIENCE AT LEAP CONTINUED....

"I liked learning about shadows because it felt like doing magic with a torch!" - **Jahziah** 5/6D Gayhurst

"I didn't know light travels in straight lines. Now I keep spotting it everywhere." - **Jax** 5/6D Gayhurst



"The sound was way louder when we used our animal ears." - **Rei**, yr 4 Grasmere

"I really enjoyed making the animal ears" - **Jesse**, yr 4 Grasmere



HALF TERM COOKING CLUB

This February Half Term, Hackney School of Food is opening its kitchen for a week of hands-on cooking fun!

From **Monday 16th to Friday 20th**

February 2026, children aged 7+ can spend the day chopping, stirring, and baking seasonal dishes, then sit down together to enjoy the lunch they've made. The club runs **10am-3pm** each day. Places are £40 per day, with free spots available for children eligible for Free School Meals - email

hello@hackneyschooloffood.com or click [here](#).

SPRING AFTER SCHOOL COOKING CLUB

If your child wants to keep cooking beyond the holidays, they can join our Spring After School Cooking Club **every Tuesday, 3:45-5:15pm**, until 24th March 2026. Each week explores new global flavors and seasonal produce. A half term costs £80, with reduced-cost places available.

For bookings or more info, visit our website or email us at hello@hackneyschooloffood.com - we'd love to hear from you!





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	89	Year 3	87
Reception	75	Year 4	90
Year 1	82	Year 5	108
Year 2	74	Year 6	83

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Ouse	98.6%
KS2	Ness	99.2%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Kavanaugh
Lea class (Rec) Bilal
Lagan class (Yr 1) Israh
Tyne class (Yr 2) Nathan W

Severn class (Yr 3) Arhab
Ness class (Yr 4) April
Fowey class (Yr 5) Asha
Avon class (Yr 6) Liana

GIRLS MULTI SKILLS SPORTS SESSION

On Wednesday 28th February a number of Kingsmead and Mandeville girls participated in a Multi skill event hosted by Clapton Girls Secondary School. The event aimed to promote physical fitness, teamwork and enjoyment of sport among young learners. There was a range of different activities designed to test the children's agility, coordination, balance and speed. The children showed excellent team work and enthusiasm throughout the event and it was a great success.

'I'm so proud of all the children who attended, well done to Kingsmead and Mandeville.' - **Freddy**—Specialist PE teacher.



YR 5 CLASS ASSEMBLY

This week Year 5 performed an assembly all about space! They covered topics such as the solar system, day and night and the seasons. They also told the Oliver Jeffers story, How to Catch a Star, about a boy who so loved stars that he caught one of his very own! Year 5 enjoyed singing some songs connected to the Earth and space, including singing in a round which created some lovely harmonies.



"I loved learning the new songs!" **Simon**

"I had to explain how important the sun is on our solar system." **Skye**

"Heaven did a great job playing the boy in the story!" **Robert**

KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- 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
- Mon 2 March** School Photographer in
- Wed 4 March** Yr 2 class assembly 3pm
- Thurs 5 March** World Book Day
- Wed 11 March** Yr 4 RE assembly 3pm
- 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

PTO

ROOTED IN FRIENDSHIP: A FLOURISHING START TO OUR JOURNEY

We are now a few weeks into this term's Plant-Grow-Cook programme, an after school club that a number of Year 2 children from Kingsmead & Mandeville are taking part in, and the energy at the Hackney School of Food is electric. Our latest cohort have jumped headfirst into garden life, proving that great things happen when we work together.

The foundation of this programme is learning about food through growing, cooking and eating as a community, and we began our journey gathered around the fire pit with Nicola and Michelle. This wasn't just about warmth; it was a space for the children from both schools to get to know one another and discuss our vital role as guardians of the environment. Sitting together in the fresh air, they have learned that looking after our plants goes hand-in-hand with looking after each other.

The kitchen has also been a hive of activity as the children explore the transformation of raw ingredients. To understand where our pantry staples actually come from, the children rolled up their sleeves to grind raw wheat seeds, witnessing the transition from hard grain to soft flour, which they then turned into deliciously tasty flatbreads. To accompany their bread, they harvested beautiful, in-season, vitamin-packed greens straight from the garden beds to create a zesty pesto. There is nothing quite like the pride on a child's face when they realise they have made their entire snack from scratch.

As we move further into the term, the garden is calling. With the weather finally warming up, we are looking forward to getting out into the garden more often, spending more time in the soil and less time by the fire. The coming weeks are all about the future of our beds as we start sowing the seeds that will become our summer harvest. Watching the Kingsmead & Mandeville children bond over shared harvests has been a joy, and we are only just getting started.



SCHOOL UNIFORM RECYCLING - SUPPORTING FAMILIES & PROTECTING THE PLANET

We are pleased to share that our Uniform Recycling Station is now fully set up and ready to use. Outside the Reception area, by the main entrance, you will find our:

- Old Uniform Collection Box – for families to donate any clean, good-quality uniform their child has outgrown
- Hanging Rail of Pre-Loved Uniform – where families are welcome to take items whenever they are needed

This simple system helps us support one another as a school community while also encouraging our pupils to think about sustainability. By reusing uniform, we reduce the amount of clothing sent to landfill, where textiles can take many years to break down. Every item reused is a small but meaningful step towards protecting our environment.

Choosing recycled uniform is not only practical, it is eco-friendly, thoughtful and something our children can feel proud of. As **Jamal** in yr 6 said:

“When we reuse clothes, they don't go to landfill. It helps the planet and gives the uniform another chance!”

Thank you for supporting this initiative and helping us build a school community that cares for both people and the planet. Families are encouraged to donate if they can and to take items whenever they need them

