



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 27th March 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week
Es un día hermoso..... *It's a beautiful day.....*

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

JTP: PARENT & CHILD COOKING SESSIONS

As part of our ongoing Justin Thompson Project (JTP) we have been really fortunate to have been able to run some parent and child cooking sessions at the Hackney School of Food, over the last month. These have focused on Caribbean and Turkish/Kurdish dishes and have been a lovely opportunity for mums, dads, grandparents and carers to enjoy cooking with their child, in a mixed group of families from across all four of our schools. A few more sessions will run at the start of the summer term, which will include two sessions with Irish inspired dishes, to which we're hoping to welcome some of the Irish and Irish Traveller families from our LEAP schools.

Thanks to the team at the Hackney School of Food for hosting these lovely sessions. We've had some really nice feedback from parents & carers who've taken part so far.

We very much hope to be able to continue to offer these parent and child cooking sessions next year.



"I enjoyed the communal spirit. It was lovely to be cooking with others. It was a nice skill to share with the children." - **Annieth- Gayhurst parent**

"It was great cooking with my son and others because this is not the norm. I learned how to cook fish differently." - **Jamel - Gayhurst parent**

"I really enjoyed spending time with my son and cooking one of my favourite dishes- Jollof. This experience was a great bonding time." - **Alvan, Grasmere parent**

"I had a wonderful experience with my son. This helped to build confidence and learn a new skill." - **Zariyan's dad, Grasmere**

PARENT & CHILD COOKING SESSIONS CONTINUED....

"I couldn't believe how delicious the food we made was. I had a fun time with my grandson." - **Irene, Mandeville**

"I really liked spending time with my daughter and creating a core memory. I learned how to dice properly and loved cooking with my mum." - **Taeyah-Mae and mum, Mandeville**

"It was really exciting for my daughter and gave her lots of confidence. She enjoyed chopping all the ingredients." - **Elizabeth and Rebecca, Kingsmead**

"I learned how to be careful when cutting and also flavouring the food. It's a lovely bonding experience between parent and child." - **Malachi and mum, Kingsmead**



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PARENT & CHILD COOKING SESSIONS CONTINUED...



END OF TERM MESSAGE FROM LEAP GOVERNORS

As the Spring Term draws to a close, we've been blown away by the achievements across all four schools. It has been a term where the shared vision of our schools has truly come to life, and as Co-Chairs, we are incredibly proud of the progress we have witnessed.

A highlight of this term has been seeing the ongoing success of the Justin Thompson project. It's been truly inspiring seeing the contributions from the children, families, staff and even the wonderful community from local poets to Hackney School of Food stepping in to share cultures, upbringings and identities that has fuelled meaningful connections.

Through governors recent school visits, we have had the opportunity to find out more about the project's impact firsthand, and it has been heartening to see such a high level of engagement and spirit. Alongside this, Creativity Week provided a spectacular showcase of talent. It was a privilege for the governing board to tour the schools and see such meaningful displays of self and belonging.

At governor visits across the curriculum this term, we've been incredibly pleased with the passions fuelling a rich and diverse education. Governors have also enjoyed meeting parents at the Parent consultation evenings which has been a great opportunity to directly engage with the school community. We'll keep attending these, so do pop along and visit us next time.

END OF TERM MESSAGE FROM GOVERNORS CONTINUED...

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributes to our school life. To our families, for your unwavering support; to our staff, for your energy and inspiration; and to our leadership teams, for your clarity of vision and pivotal direction that guide our schools daily, thank you.

We are immensely proud of our Federation. There is a unique strength in our partnership that allows us to share expertise, resources, and successes. As we look toward a strong and exciting Summer Term, we do so with great anticipation for the final months of the academic year. We wish you all a restful and joyful Spring break.

Shanielle Shrouder & Gill Brady
Co-Chairs of the Governing Board

FREE BOOKS FOR UNDER FIVES

Do you have a child under 5? If you do—did you know you can sign up to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which is open to any Hackney family with a child under five. You will

then receive free, age-appropriate books delivered straight to your home every month!

Registration is easy—click on this link:

<https://imaginationlibrary.com/uk/affiliate/HACKNEY/>



LEAP SPRING HOLIDAY CAMPS

MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER YOUR CHILD!

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.

If you haven't already booked, come along to the camp just before 10am and a member of staff will show you how to register....

HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD HOLIDAY CAMP DATES

Hackney School of Food are running a cooking holiday camp for children aged 7+ on the following dates:

Mon 30th March, Thurs 2nd April, Tues 7th April, Wed 8th April from 10am - 3pm

Cost is £40 per day (with a limited number of free tickets for families on low income)

You can find out more and links on how to book [here](#).



SUMMER TERM 2026

1st half of term: 13.04.26 - 22.05.26

Half term: 25 - 29 May 2026

2nd half of term: 02.06.26 - 17.07.26

INSET days Mon 1 June & Mon 20 July

CROWN WINNERS

Nursery		Year 3	
Reception		Year 4	
Year 1		Year 5	
Year 2		Year 6	

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	
KS2	



GOLDEN AWARDS

Look out for the first Golden Award names for Summer Term, in the first newsletter of next term.

SOCA CARNIVAL VIBES AT KINGSMEAD!

The theme this term for our drumming and dance lessons were brought to life through the vibrant and energetic theme of Soca Carnival. Years 1, 4, 5, 6 & Dynamics explored the rich history of carnival, discovering its cultural roots and the spirit of celebration that it represents. They learned about the origins of carnival traditions and how music and dance have played a central role in bringing communities together.

On Tuesday this week, we were spoilt by classes performing a variety of Soca styles, experimenting with rhythm, movement and expression. From lively drumming patterns to high-energy dance routines, each session was filled with enthusiasm, creativity and collaboration. It has been wonderful to see all the children's confidence grow and their skills develop as they embraced the joyful and expressive nature of Soca.

This final drumming and dance show of the year was a true celebration of everything they have learned. The energy, teamwork and passion, shown by all classes, made it a memorable and uplifting experience for everyone involved, including the audience. A fantastic way to end the term. A huge thank you to the talented and creative team – Miss Harley & Victor and all our fabulous performers! Until Autumn term...



SOCA CARNIVAL VIBES CONTINUED.....



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HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD COOK & GROW CLUB

This week we celebrated the end of Spring Term's Plant Grow Cook after school club at Hackney School of Food which a number of Year 2 have been attending. The children who took part in these sessions, from Kingsmead and Mandeville schools, have been learning how to cook delicious recipes like kale chips, fish cakes and salad picked from our garden. We ended the term with a celebration event, enjoying pizza and black bean cup cakes with parents and families around a campfire in our garden. Next term some Year 5 children will be offered the opportunity to take part in this funded after school club. Thank you to The Fishmongers' Company's Charitable Trust for supporting this initiative.



PARENTS EVENING POP UP BOOKSHOP

Thanks again to the wonderful Children's Book Project who have supplied Kingsmead with another set of beautiful books that we were able to gift to children at the pop up bookshop we created for yesterday's Parent's Consultation Evening. It was lovely to see children and parents browsing the books together and choosing the books they'd like to take home.

All children who did not attend Parents Evening with their parents will get the chance to choose their books to take home. Huge thanks to the Children's Book Project. Parents evening also provided a lovely opportunity to have some great conversations with families about what their favourite songs and tracks are and which they'd like to add to the Kingsmead Playlist that we're compiling as part of the JTP project.



PARENTS EVENING POP UP BOOKSHOP CONTINUED.....



SUMMER TERM CAKE & ICE CREAM SALES

We're soon approaching that time of year when Kingsmead holds a weekly Cake & Ice Cream sale in the playground at the end of the school day, to help raise funds for the school, so that we're able to continue to offer some of the lovely extra's that Kingsmead children enjoy.

Each class will be allocated one week when it is their turn to supply donations of cakes and treats to sell (see key dates below). Our Parent Champions will be running the stalls so please let them know if you are able to support with the stall running. When it's your child's class turn you will receive a reminder text to bring in donations. The Cake & Ice Cream sales will be held on Fridays from 3.30—4pm in the main playground, kicking off on **Friday 24th April with Year 1.**

Do remember to bring coins every Friday so you can buy the nice treats on offer and support the school!

KEY DATES

- Mon 30 March to Thurs 2 April** - Mandeville & Kingsmead Spring Holiday camp 10 - 2pm daily
- Mon 13 April** Children return to school for start of Summer Term
- Fri 24 April** Yr 1 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 1 May** Reception cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 8 May** Yr 2 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 15 May** Nursery cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 22 May** Yr 4 cake & ice cream sale
- Mon 25 - Fri 29 May** Half term break
- Mon 1 June** INSET day- school closed to children
- Tues 2 June** Children return to school for second half of Summer Term
- Fri 5 June** Yr 6 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 12 June** Yr 5 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 19 June** Yr 3 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 26 June, Fri 3 July & Fri 10 July** - whole school cake & ice cream sales

HAPPY SPRING HOLIDAYS

Kingsmead staff wish all our children and their families a happy spring break and we look forward to seeing the children **back at school on Mon 13th April for the start of the Summer Term**