



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 24th April 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

No necesito mi chaqueta..... *I don't need my jacket.....*

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

LEAP STEM WEEK

Learning, Creativity and Sustainability in Action

Last week, LEAP was buzzing with excitement as children across the federation took part in our annual STEM Week. Through hands-on projects, teamwork and creative problem-solving, children explored science, technology, engineering and maths in meaningful and enjoyable ways – all with a strong focus on sustainability and caring for our planet!

In Nursery and Reception, our youngest learners delighted in scientific discovery as they experimented with bubbles and ice. Children explored questions such as What makes bubbles strong? and How does ice change as it melts? Through play, observation and discussion, pupils developed early scientific vocabulary and a sense of curiosity about the world around them.

'The ice melts really fast!' - Jeremiah (Rec, Mandeville)

'It all just looks brown.' - Zayn (Rec, Mandeville)

'My tower is melting fast'—Mya (Rec, Mandeville)



Year 1 turned their attention to sustainability by creating recycled planters. Using reused materials, children learned about reducing waste and the importance of plants for our environment. They proudly designed planters that combined creativity with care for nature.

In Year 2, children became mini conservationists by constructing bug hotels. They explored habitats and learned why insects are so important for biodiversity. The finished bug hotels are a wonderful example of practical science supporting wildlife.

Year 3 focused on helping birds, designing and building bird feeders. Pupils investigated what birds need to survive and how humans can support local ecosystems, linking design and technology with environmental responsibility.



"I enjoyed making the bird feeders and I felt excited that birds were going to come" - Immanuel(Y3 Kingsmead)

LEAP STEM WEEK CONTINUED...



Year 4, our enthusiastic "Wind Warriors", explored renewable energy by making wind turbines. Children tested different blade designs to see how efficiently they could capture wind energy, learning about forces, engineering and the importance of clean energy sources.

In Year 5, pupils tackled the challenge of climate change head-on by "Beating the Flood". They designed and built sustainable houses on stilts, considering real-world flooding risks and how thoughtful design can protect communities while working with the environment. *"I loved using recycled materials to create a flood-proof home. Ours survived the flood (testing in water!)" – Sianna (Y5, Grasmere)*



Finally, Year 6 took on the ambitious task of designing a sustainable 'green' city. From renewable energy and transport to green spaces and waste management, pupils created detailed models and wrote a city charter, setting out the values and rules their city would live by. This project combined science, geography, citizenship as well as leadership skills.



"Our city uses renewable energy and has lots of green spaces. The city charter helps everyone live fairly and look after the planet." – Mohammed (Y6, Gayhurst)

STEM Week was a fantastic example of learning coming to life. We are incredibly proud of the curiosity, creativity and teamwork shown by children across the federation – and we hope they enjoyed sharing their ideas and creations with you at home too!

PTO

LEAP & BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

This week all four LEAP schools were treated to an amazing concert at the Hackney Empire. Performed by musicians from the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and presented by renowned saxophonist and broadcaster Yolanda Brown, the concert presented pieces from the BBC 10 Pieces collection. The pieces in this concert represented the history of classical music from Hildegard of Bingen, writing 1000 years ago, to Margaret Bonds, responding to 20th Century struggles for civil rights in America. Each piece, all of them performed fantastically, was full of wonder and inspiration. There was even the opportunity to create a musical Time Machine, learn a dance, and sing a 3-part round! It was a fantastic afternoon of listening and learning.

“The music and lights were really calming” **Shiloh** (Mandeville Y4)

“The orchestra played their instruments so well!” **Archie** (Mandeville Y4)

“The music helped me to imagine stories in my mind” **Echo** (Gayhurst Y4)

“I loved watching the lights change as they performed” **Rufus** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I really liked how they time travelled from music from 1 thousand years ago to now. It made me so excited.’ **Romi** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I liked how funny the show was ad I really liked how they played lots of music from all over the world and time-lines.’ **Cecelia** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I really enjoyed going to Hackney Empire and one of my favourite pieces was by Beethoven’. **Sasha** (Gayhurst Y4)

“One of the pieces reminded me of playing video games with my brothers” **Ziggy** (Grasmere Y4)

‘I really enjoyed the orchestra because I love listening to classical music’ - **Emir** (Grasmere Y4)

‘The colours looked cool and matched the music very well. I liked how they told us about the music that was popular from different generations, starting in 1770’ - **Gideon**, (Kingsmead Y5)

‘It was fun and I liked the way they were playing together, it sounded good. I liked the cellos best’ - **Skye**, (Kingsmead Y5)



BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT CONTINUED.....





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	86	Year 3	82
Reception	93	Year 4	90
Year 1	90	Year 5	128
Year 2	93	Year 6	94

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Lagan	99.2%
KS2	Severn	98.6%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Zayn
Lea class (Rec) Kaylyn
Lagan class (Yr 1) Layton
Tyne class (Yr 2) Bella-bell

Severn class (Yr 3) Ali
Ness class (Yr 4) April
Fowey class (Yr 5) Angela
Avon class (Yr 6) Najat

YEAR 5's LONDON EYE TRIP

Year 5 had a day out in central London around the South Bank and Victoria Embankment to see the area close to the London Eye. This linked with our reading in English lessons of 'The London Eye Mystery' by Siobhan Dowd. We wandered by the Eye, walked through the graffiti tunnels at Leake Street and had lunch and a playtime at Archbishop's Park. We even got to have a stop at one of the Thames' new public spaces, Tyburn Quay, where we enjoyed watching the boats go by and more views of the London Eye and the Houses of Parliament. Now we can use all this knowledge of the setting to enjoy our reading even more!



"There was a lot of walking but it was worth it to see so much!" **Alia**

"I liked to see the London Eye and the river Thames." **Xander**

"It was fun waving to all the boats going by on the river!" **Jayden**



YEAR 5's TRIP CONTINUED.....



EARTH DAY ASSEMBLY

Earth Day 2026 – Thinking Globally, Acting Locally

On Wednesday 22nd April, our school marked Earth Day with a special whole-school assembly focused on the state of our planet and the role we all play in protecting it.

We learned about worldwide efforts to reduce pollution, tackle climate change, and protect wildlife. It was a chance to reflect on how people across the world are working together to create a more sustainable future — and how our actions, no matter how small, contribute to that bigger picture. The 2026 Earth Day theme is "Our Power, Our Planet".



A key highlight of the assembly was sharing the results of our Big Plastic Hunt. Students and staff worked together to identify and count single-use plastic items used at home. The results were eye-opening, revealing just how much plastic we use in our daily routines.

These findings have inspired important conversations about how we can reduce our reliance on single-use plastics moving forward. From reusable water bottles to more sustainable packaging, everyone is encouraged to think about simple changes that can make a big difference.

Earth Day reminded us that while environmental challenges are global, change starts with individual & community action.

Together we can all play a part in protecting our planet.



Y3 planted cress to take home, to mark Earth Day

KINGSMEAD'S STEM FAIR

On Thursday this week we held our STEM Fair, showing parents & carers all the amazing work and experiments children had undertaken last week during STEM week. You can read all about what each year group did during STEM week on the LEAP page report but here are some photos from our fair. Thanks to all who came along!



STEM FAIR CONTINUED.....

STEM girls club showcased their woodwork skills in re-creating models of their bedrooms, including a bed, wardrobe, table and chair. These are still works-in-progress and will be finished and on display in the corridor by the end of this year.



Kelly (Yr 2 Ayla's mum) 'STEM fair was brilliant, all the different things we got to see, especially painting the ice and the bug hotel!'

Humaira (Yr 6) 'I liked that I could see my brother's project and I also liked seeing what the STEM girls had been doing with the little furniture, it looked very cute'



CAKE & ICE CREAM SALE

Reminder that next Friday 1st May, it will be **Reception class'** turn to provide the treats for the cake sale after school.

KEY DATES THIS TERM

- Mon 27 April** Citizens Advice support 9,30—12.30
- Fri 1 May** Reception's cake & ice cream sale
- Mon 4 May** Bank holiday
- Fri 8 May** Yr 2 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 15 May** Nursery 's 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
- Fri 5 June** Yr 6 cake & ice cream sale
- Mon 8 June** Citizens Advice support 9,30—12.30
- Wed 10 June** Nursery Class assembly at 11.30am
- Fri 12 June** Yr 5 cake & ice cream sale
- Fri 19 June** Yr 3 cake & ice cream sale
- Mon 22 June** Citizens Advice support 9,30—12.30
- Fri 26 June** whole school cake & ice cream sale
- Thurs 2 July** Kingsmead Summer Carnival 4—7pm
- Fri 3 July** whole school cake & ice cream sale
- Mon 6 July** Citizens Advice support 9.30—12.30
- Wed 8 July** Yr 6 performance 2.30pm & 4.30pm
- Thurs 9 July** Gymnastics performances time tbc
- Fri 10 July** whole school cake & ice cream sale
- Mon 13 July** Steel Pans performance 11am
- Tues 14 July** Yr 6 end of year assembly 11am
- Fri 17 July** Last day of Summer Term -

school closes early for children at 1.30pm