

LEAP NEWS

Friday 10th July 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

¡Gracias maestro/ maestra! *Thank you teacher!*...

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

SCIENCE @ LEAP

Our children have had a busy and exciting summer term in science, with pupils across the LEAP Federation asking thoughtful questions, carrying out practical investigations and developing their scientific understanding through hands-on enquiry.



At Gayhurst, Year 3 unearthed the secrets of rocks, fossils and soils before discovering what plants need to thrive. Year 4 became budding electrical engineers through their work on electricity, while Years 5 and 6 explored animals, including humans and living things and their habitats.



At Grasmere, Year 3 investigated rocks and plants, Year 5 learned about animals, including humans, and Year 6 developed their understanding of habitats and classification, learning how scientists organise the living world.



At Kingsmead, Year 3 explored forces and magnetism before studying plants, while Year 4 investigated states of matter and sound through a range of engaging experiments. Older pupils continued their learning about the human body, habitats and ecosystems.

Meanwhile, at Mandeville, Year 3 also explored rocks, fossils and soils and plants, while Year 5 studied animals, including humans and Year 6 investigated how organisms survive and interact within ecosystems.



Across the federation, our youngest scientists explored life cycles, plants, habitats and seasonal change, showing great curiosity and enthusiasm as they made sense of the world around them.

"I loved learning about electricity because we got to build circuits!" – **Gayhurst**

"Studying habitats and classification helped me understand how scientists group living things and how everything in nature is connected." – **Grasmere**

"My favourite science lesson was learning about magnets. I was surprised by how strong they were and enjoyed testing what they could attract." – **Kingsmead**

"Learning about the human body was really interesting because it helped me understand how exercise and healthy choices affect our bodies." – **Mandeville**

KINGSMEAD REPORTING FOR BBC NEWSROUND

We are delighted to be able to share a link to the BBC newsround clip featuring reporters **Evan, Cormac and Aylan** from Kingsmead's Year 4 interviewing Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson with questions about his up-coming film **Moana**, which the children saw at a special press screening.

You can watch their interview [here](#).



FREE SWIMMING LESSONS

Thanks to Better who are funding free Swimming Lessons **for Year 5 & 6 students** in Hackney in the summer holidays 2026, at Britannia Leisure Centre or London Fields Lido. Children must currently be in school year 5 or 6. They must be available to attend at least 80% of lessons in the two weeks at either Britannia Leisure Centre or London Fields Lido. Lessons will be 30 minutes long and take place in the mornings. Apply using [this form](#).

LEAP HOLIDAY CAMPS

Don't forget to book for the Kingsmead & Mandeville or Gayhurst and Grasmere holiday camps running for three weeks this summer. The camps will run from **Monday 20th July to Friday 7th August** from 10—2pm daily and are open to children from Reception to Year 6. The camps will be staffed by adults from our schools who know the children, and everyone attending will be offered a hot meal freshly prepared every day. There will be plenty of great activities for children to choose from at both camps including lots of sports and physical games, arts and crafts, gardening and Forest School fun and cooking at the School of Food, as well as some trips which are being planned. Don't forget to book your child's place.



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

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

EYFS & KS1	
KS2	



GOLDEN AWARDS

No Golden Awards were issued this week as there was not Golden Award assembly

YEAR 6'S PRODUCTION

Our Year 6 pupils wowed parents, staff, and the whole school with their fantastic theatrical performance of **The Stolen Cupcake**. The children worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, songs, and dance routines, delivering each performance with confidence, enthusiasm, and great teamwork. Their dedication and talent shone through, making the production a wonderful success. A special thank you goes to the very talented **Julia**, who wrote such an entertaining and engaging play and to **Shenaz & Julia** for great directing skills. We are immensely proud of all our Year 6 performers for putting on such a memorable show.

Samuel, "It was a really interesting story and I really enjoyed acting out all the different parts."

Jamal, "I really loved adding my personal touch to my character."



RECEPTION CLASS TRIP TO CITY FARM

Reception had a super trip to Hackney City Farm! They took the bus to Haggerston park and went straight to the play area. It was such fun and really sunny too. Then they had a picnic in a nice shady area under a tree then walked across to the farm. The children were really excited to see a mummy pig who had eight piglets! They also saw ducks, hens, goats and a donkey. It was a great day out!

"I liked the peacock because I've not seen one before" - **Rowan**

"It was smelly with pigs in" - **Kaylyn**

"The goat had a funny face" - **Abdulaziz**



CELEBRATING AMAZING RUTH!

We are very proud, incredibly grateful, and just a little emotional to say an enormous thank you and farewell to Ruth, our wonderful Deputy Headteacher and Inclusion Manager, who is retiring at the end of this term.

For the past 21 years, Ruth has been an integral part of Kingsmead Primary School. Throughout her time with us, she has shown unwavering dedication to our children, families, staff, and the wider school community. Ruth has so many attributes that we are going to miss - her professionalism, intelligence and wealth of knowledge, as well as a calm and reassuring presence, a caring and compassionate leader, and a source of endless encouragement and support to children, parents and staff. Ruth's passion for inclusion, wellbeing, and high-quality education has helped shape the culture and values of our school. Her commitment to ensuring that every child feels valued, supported, and able to thrive has had a profound and lasting impact on countless lives. Many children and families have benefited from her kindness, wisdom, and determination to make a difference.

She has been an exceptional leader and colleague – one in a million! Her influence will continue to be felt throughout Kingsmead for years to come.

While we will miss her leadership, humour, and support, we are also delighted for Ruth as she begins this well-deserved new chapter. We know that whatever adventures lie ahead, she will embrace them with the same enthusiasm and positivity that she has brought to Kingsmead every day.

In her last week, please join in thanking Ruth for her remarkable 21 years of service and dedication to our school. We wish her a long, happy, and fulfilling retirement, with many wonderful memories yet to be made.

With heartfelt thanks and best wishes,
Your Kingsmead Family



Portrait by Aisha Yr 6

SOMRE MORE GOODBYES

A Warm Goodbye and Thank You to Chloe

A huge thank you to Chloe, for her dedication and kindness during her time as Reception teacher at Kingsmead. Chloe has played an important role, helping children take their very first steps in school with confidence and a love of learning. Her hard work, patience and commitment have ensured that every child has felt valued, supported and encouraged to achieve their best. We wish her success and happiness in the next chapter of her journey as she returns back up North.



Portrait by Aisha Yr 6

Thank You & Good Luck Finn



Congratulations to Finn on completing his teacher training year at Kingsmead. Finn is off to begin his career as a new teacher in a local school. We would like to thank him for all his hard work and commitment and wish him all the best with his future career.

Portrait by Zachai Yr 6

Thank You, Rachid

Thank you to Rachid, our Premises Assistant, for all his hard work, dedication, and commitment to our school throughout the year. We are very grateful for everything he has done at Kingsmead. We look forward to working with him in the near future as Rachid moves over to work at Mandeville next term.



Portrait by Asha Yr 5

NEXT YEAR'S TEACHERS

We are delighted to announce the teachers for next academic year. Children had a 'Meet the Teacher' session in their new classrooms, this week and everyone was buzzing with excitement.

Class	Teacher
Nursery	Ben + Susan
Reception	Elif
Year 1	Hang + Vika
Year. 2	Dallyn
Year 3	Stephanie + Joseph
Year 4	Jane + Sarah
Year 5	Omi
Year 6	Shenaz

WONDERMATHS FINAL

On Monday our fantastic Year 5 team (**Alia**, **Sukhpreet**, **Kimarni**, **Robert** and **Wunzoya**) attended the final of the Wondermaths Competition in central London. They had competed with almost a hundred schools across London to reach the last 12 and all were equally excited and nervous. For over two hours they navigated four rounds of problem-solving, involving number, shape and code breaking, plus the extremely difficult 'Surprise Problem' round.

Alia - 'The surprise problems were really surprising because they involved algebra'.

Sukhpreet - 'The best part was working as a team and having fun'.

Wunzoya - 'They added some variables to the 24 cards which I found easy'.

Kimarni - 'I enjoyed the code breaking because we had to work together as a team'.

Robert - 'I'm proud that we got into the final'.

A massive congratulations to our Year 5 team. Unfortunately, we didn't win but we had a great time and we'll be able to take the skills learned this year to prepare our current Year 4 children for next year's competition.

WONDERMATHS FINAL CONTINUED....



CLASS PARTY FOOD DONATIONS

A reminder to families to give their children food/snack donations for their child's class party that will be taking place next week on Wednesday. Please remember we are a nut safe school - and no sugary drinks. Thank you!