



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 10th October 2025

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

El otoño es muy bonito..... *Autumn is very pretty*

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

MANDEVILLE CHOIR AT THE LANG LANG GALA

The Mandeville Primary School choir took to the stage on Wednesday, 8th October, performing at an exclusive gala concert-dinner in Park Lane, central London, at a fundraising event for the Lang Lang International Music Foundation UK.

'Music Heals' was a celebration of the power of music to connect, engage and inspire children from all cultures and backgrounds to the transformative power of music, and celebrate the work of the Lang Lang Foundation in the United Kingdom. Alongside Mandeville Choir there were performances from the world-famous pianist and foundation founder, Lang Lang, plus renowned musician Jools Holland and rising scholars from the foundation's Young Scholars Programme.

The Mandeville choir opened the show with a stirring rendition of Adele's hit, Rolling in the Deep, which was received with rapturous applause by the guests assembled for the evening's entertainment.

The opportunity for Mandeville's choir to perform at the gala arose from the school's partnership with the Lang Lang International Music Foundation's 'Keys of Inspiration' initiative; an innovative project using a state-of-the-art piano lab and digital learning platform, donated by the Foundation, to enable the school to deliver to whole-class piano lessons.

Music is central to the LEAP Federation's offer to children across all our schools. Mandeville's school choir, formed in 2024, provides an opportunity for pupils aged between 7 and 11, who have a passion for singing, to develop their skills and perform together. Participating children, chosen through auditions, meet for weekly rehearsals to learn repertoire from a range of musical traditions and cultures.

James Moriarty, Music Lead for Mandeville, said:

"This has been a real game-changer for us in terms of boosting the profile of music, and singing in particular, at Mandeville.

Opportunities to perform alongside musical luminaries such as these are something to be treasured."



MANDEVILLE CHOIR AT LANG LANG GALA CONTINUED....

Mandeville's Headteacher, **Marc Thompson**, added:

"Mandeville's curriculum is founded on ambition and empowerment, and the Lang Lang Foundation's partnership is adding an incredible new dimension to that. While we already provide an outstanding education, the 'Keys of Inspiration' programme has made whole-class piano lessons a reality, deepening the musical fluency of all our students and offering an excellent opportunity to develop our fantastic choir as well as our talented young pianists.

Seeing our choir rise to the occasion last night was such a proud moment for all involved. Our students didn't just sing; they embodied our school's vision of a 'Rich, Relevant and Representative' curriculum."



PTO



Follow us on Instagram: @leapfederation

MANDEVILLE CHOIR AT LANG LANG GALA CONTINUED....

"It was the best day of my life. I felt like a celebrity, all eyes were on us as we performed on the stage and the hotel was so nice."

Ariam, year 5

"Everything was amazing, the fact that I experienced it with my friends was the best part."

Courage, year 6

"I will never forget this day, we sang really well together, and then we enjoyed a fancy nugget meal."

Esila, year 3



NEW LEAP PARENT GOVERNORS

Following our call out for nominations for parent governors a couple of weeks ago, we are pleased to announce that two parents have put themselves forward and as there are two vacancies, they will both go forward to the next governing body meeting as full governors without the need of a full election; Sarah Fox is a parent from Kingsmead and Erin Borham s a Gayhurst parent. The governing board now has good representation of parents on it overall, with two governors who are parents from Grasmere, two from Gayhurst, one from Mandeville and one from Kingsmead. Parents who are governors are not parent representatives but bring a parent's perspective to decisions and discussions, all governors work for the good of the children and staff in all four schools.

We are very grateful to our governors who give their time freely and provide a wide range of perspectives, expertise and additional skills that they bring to the board. For more details on the governing board please go to the LEAP Governing Body page in the About Us Section of your school's website. Our two new governors have written their own introductions below.



*I'm **Sarah**, originally from Ireland, and I have two kids in Kingsmead. I am an economist with 20 years of experience working in international development with a focus on expanding access to essential health services in Africa and South Asia. A major focus of my career has been working with national and local governments*

LEAP PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION UPDATE CONTINUED..

to design and secure funding secure funding for policies and strategies that promote access to and uptake of health services, particularly among marginalised groups. As part of my company's senior leadership team, I understand the challenges of operating in a very resource constrained environment, where difficult decisions need to be made about how to prioritise spending while keeping a focus on quality and equity.

I love living in Hackney and I have huge appreciation for Kingsmead and the important role it plays in our community. I am really looking forward to bringing my skills and perspectives to support the ongoing success of the LEAP federation.



*I'm **Erin**, mum to two children at Gayhurst school. Prior to having my daughters, I had a career in Fashion Marketing but have since traded in shoes and handbags for hard hats and drills, as I now help run our family business in construction. I hope my energy, skills and experience in building relationships, communicating and balancing resources will enable me to help bring to life the vision and values of the LEAP Federation.*

I am passionate about education and believe every child deserves the opportunity to thrive. I look forward to supporting the federation in its continued success

When I'm not working or with the children, I enjoy visiting galleries and exhibitions and walking our dachshund, Goose.

HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD HALF TERM CLUB

This October half term, kids can cook up a seasonal feast and get hands-on in the garden at Hackney School of Food's Kitchen Garden Chef Club (27– 31 Oct, 10am-3pm).

£40 per day, with a limited number of reduced-cost places at £12.50 for families on free school meals [Click here to book your child's place.](#)



**KITCHEN GARDEN CHEF
OCTOBER HALF TERM CLUB**

WHY WE TEACH BLACK HISTORY 365 @ LEAP

At LEAP we believe that Black history and culture should be taught beyond Black History Month. We advocate for the continuous celebration and learning of Black and Global Majority history and culture beyond the confines of Black History Month. As Hackney based schools, we see the richness and diversity within our communities and saw the need to develop a framework that ensured that our schools had a rich, relevant, representative, responsive and critically thoughtful curriculum. We created the LEAP Empowerment Curriculum, weaving Black and Global Majority history and culture across the subjects and throughout the year.

We are deeply committed to ensuring that every child feels seen, valued, and represented in what they learn.

While Black History Month offers a valuable opportunity to celebrate and spotlight the contributions of Black and Global Majority individuals and communities, our approach extends well beyond a single month. Black history is an integral part of British history and world history. The achievements, experiences, and influences of Black people have shaped every aspect of our society; from science, medicine, literature, and politics to art, sport, and culture. It is therefore essential that these stories and perspectives are woven meaningfully into our curriculum all year round.

By embedding Black history across subjects and throughout the year, we:

- Promote inclusion and belonging. Every child should see themselves and others represented in the stories we share and the history we teach.
- Develop a fuller understanding of our shared past. Learning about the contributions and struggles of Black people helps children appreciate the complexity and richness of our collective history.
- Challenge stereotypes and promote equality. By exploring diverse experiences and voices, we encourage pupils to think critically, question unfairness, and develop empathy for others.
- Inspire and empower. Learning about Black role models and change-makers helps children see the power of perseverance, creativity, and courage in shaping a better future.

A move away from the "edited" version of the past

By embedding black and global majority history into the curriculum, we ensure that difficult but essential chapters of British are not only acknowledged but become a core part of the national story.

WHY WE TEACH BLACK HISTORY 365 @ LEAP CONTINUED....

Our curriculum reflects the belief that Black and Global Majority history is not separate from "mainstream" history, it is mainstream history. From early years through to upper Key Stage 2, we include a diverse range of books, topics, and classroom discussions that highlight contributions from people of African, Caribbean and Global Majority heritage, as well as broader stories of migration, identity, and community. Our goal is for the values of Black History Month, **respect, understanding, equality, and pride in diversity**, to be reflected in our everyday teaching and school culture.

By teaching Black and Global Majority history all year round, we are helping our children to develop a more accurate, inclusive, and inspiring world view, one in which every story is valued and every voice matters.

IMPACT

Ongoing Recognition: To move beyond a single month of celebration and acknowledge the continuous presence and impact of Black and Global Majority people and cultures.

Broader Education: To provide a platform for learning about Black and Global Majority history, culture, and narratives that are often overlooked or excluded from mainstream education.

Community Engagement: To connect residents, children, and staff with their local cultural heritage and with the diverse histories of their communities.

Challenging Narratives: To address historical inaccuracies and to "reclaim" and highlight untold stories and achievements of Black and Global Majority communities.





AUTUMN TERM 2025

1st half of term: **02.09.25 - 24.10.25**

Half term: **27 — 31 Oct 2025**

2nd half of term: **03.11.25 - 17.12 25**

INSET days: Mon 1 Sept 2025,
Thurs 18 & Fri 19 Dec 2025

CROWN WINNERS

Nursery	86	Year 3	81
Reception	131	Year 4	78
Year 1	93	Year 5	90
Year 2	92	Year 6	73

TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Lagan 98.5%
KS2	Avon 100%



GOLDEN AWARDS

Ouse class (Nur) Amir
Lea class (Rec) Abubakur
Lagan class (Yr 1) Frederikos
Tyne class (Yr 2) Rey

Severn class (Yr 3) Hana
Ness class (Yr 4) Jamillah
Fowey class (Yr 5) Assya
Avon class (Yr 6) Gabriel

YEAR 4 NEWS

Class Assembly: Year 4 dazzled the audience with their spectacular Ancient Egypt assembly, taking everyone on a captivating journey through time. The performance was packed with energy and creativity, featuring a mix of singing, acting, and storytelling that brought the ancient world to life. One of the highlights was a fabulous Gods and Goddesses fashion show, where pupils strutted across the stage in handmade costumes, confidently introducing their divine roles. From pharaohs



to pyramids, the children showcased their learning with enthusiasm and flair, leaving the audience thoroughly entertained and impressed.

'I loved being part of the goddess fashion show!' - Serine

Class trip: Year 4 had a musical adventure when they visited the Mangrove Panyard in Notting Hill to try their hands at playing the steel pans. The children were immersed in the rich cultural heritage of Caribbean music, learning about rhythm, technique and teamwork as they explored the vibrant sounds of the steel drums. Guided by expert musicians, they enthusiastically joined in and even performed short pieces together. The trip was not only a joyful celebration of music but also a



wonderful opportunity to connect with the local community and experience learning beyond the classroom.

'It was so much fun! I loved having a go on the steel pans!' - Bilise

FOOTBALL NEWS

Twenty Hackney Primary schools took part in a tournament on Mabley Green this week. Kingsmead's team displayed great sportsmanship and drew 2 games, lost 1 and won 1. They didn't qualify but Ibz was proud of their performance and said the star of the tournament was **N'Taejon** (yr 6). Here they are with Mandeville's team. Well done team!



RECEPTION & YEAR 1 PHONICS WORKSHOP

A reminder to parents & carers in Reception and Year 1, that on Thursday 16th next week, at 9am we are holding a Phonics workshop, which will be extremely helpful for parents to understand how their children are being taught in school and how they can support their child's reading at home. We look forward to welcoming you.

INTERNATIONAL EVENING

Don't miss Kingsmead's amazing International Evening—taking place on **Thursday 23rd October from 4 - 6.30pm**. Tickets are on sale at the end of the school day by the school gate. There'll be lots of great entertainment as well as delicious food.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you are willing and able to bring a plate of food to donate, you can purchase a reduced price adult ticket. Just tell Emma and Ruth on the school gate what dish you plan to bring and they will make a note of it.

Do come dressed in clothes linked to your family heritage if you'd like to.

International Evening

Come and enjoy good food & great entertainment at
Kingsmead School

Thursday 23 October
4.00 - 6.30pm

Please come wearing clothes linked to your family's heritage if you'd like to

Bring a dish of food to share if you can

Live acts include
Kingsmead's Steel Pans, Drumming & Dance,
Kingsmead's Choir and more!
Plus DJ Ben's disco

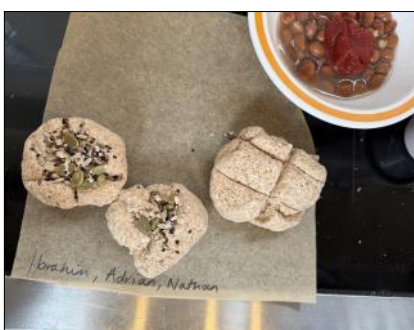
Tickets on sale in school or on the door:
Adult - £5 (reduced to £2 if bringing food) Child - £2

YEAR 3 GET COOKING

In class, Year 3 has been learning about where our food comes from, what it means to be healthy and the different food groups. Before attending the Hackney School of Food, we designed our own healthy plates ensuring that our food was colourful and balanced between the food groups. During our visit, we made our own soda bread inspired by recipes from Ireland and our own soup using seasonal vegetables and beans. We learnt that beans are an incredible source of protein and help us to build muscle! The visit reminded children of how to stay safe in the kitchen and inspired them to ask to help cook at home.

"I've never helped cook at home before but now I feel more confident!" - Abraj

"I enjoyed eating the soup and the bread smelt really yummy." - Calisa



DAUBENEY FIELDS NEW OUTDOOR GYM

Our community is very lucky to have recently had a wonderful outdoor gym added to Daubenevy Fields for the community to use. The outdoor gym is strictly for use by those **aged 13 and over** and **MUST NOT BE USED by children under 13 years old**.

Sadly we've been informed that groups of children are using the equipment and damaging it. They are reportedly altering the resistance dials on the leg press whilst in use or setting them to maximum, then collectively pushing the handles back and releasing the full set of weights, so that they smash down, seemingly for the noise it creates. An engineer has had to come and repair the unit twice in the last month.

We have been asked to share this information and ask for everyone's help protecting and looking after this valuable new community resource. Please make sure no one under 13 yrs old uses the outdoor gym and please report any inappropriate use or damage you see taking place.

The outdoor gym is proving very popular with the local community and is a really great free asset and Hackney Council's Parks team have asked for our help to make sure that the equipment is not damaged to ensure it's longevity and safety for all who are making use of the it.



PHOTOGRAPHER IN SCHOOL

Next week on **Tuesday 14th October** we will have a professional photographer in school taking photos for a new Kingsmead School website that is being developed. Please can all children be sure to be wearing full school uniform that day. Thank you.

KEY DATES THIS TERM

- Wed 15 Oct** Yr 3 RE assembly 3pm
- Thurs 16 Oct** Phonics workshop for Rec & Yr 1 parents 9—9.45am
- Wed 22 Oct** Yr 5 class assembly 3pm
- Thurs 23 Oct** Kingsmead's International Evening
- Mon 27—Fri 31 Oct** Half term break
- Tues 11 Nov** Parent & Carer drumming and dance workshop 3.30 - 4.30pm
- Wed 19 Nov** Yr 2 class assembly 3pm
- Wed 26 Nov** Yr 6 RE assembly
- Thurs 27 Nov** Parent Carer consultation
school closes early at 1.30pm for childre
- Wed 10 Dec** Yr 1 RE assembly
- Wed 17 Dec** Last day of Autumn term -
school closes early at 1.30pm for children