



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



# LEAP NEWS

## Friday 28th February 2025

### SPANISH PHRASE of the week

¿Puedo usar el sacapuntas?..... *Can I use the pencil sharpener?*

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

## GAYHUST CELEBRATES 20TH EXHIBITION AT #TAG

### Context

In 2016 Gayhurst School developed #TAG (Gayhurst's very own art gallery), with local art educators Art Hoppers, run by local artist and art educator Claire Ward-Thornton. #TAG is a professional art space within the grounds of the school designed specifically as a showcase venue for the exhibition of student's artworks. Three exhibitions a year are held in the gallery, with each exhibition focussing on a different year group's work. The children really take ownership of the exhibition – hosting a special Private View for family and friends, where they serve refreshments and explain their work to visitors. You can find out more about #TAG at the dedicated website [www.tagatgayhurst.uk](http://www.tagatgayhurst.uk).

### 20th EXHIBITION!



Above is an overview showing all 20 posters from the #TAG exhibitions of children's artwork, that have been put on since the gallery was created.

Last night, Gayhurst held a launch event for our 20th TAG Gallery Exhibition, which celebrates the brilliant Art work of Gayhurst's year 3 and 4 children. Claire from Art Hoppers has been delivering creative Art lessons linked to the children's science unit, Rocks, over the course of the last half term.

### 20th #TAG EXHIBITION CONTINUED.....

The exhibition showcased artworks that the children had created with Claire including some amazing clay moulding, ink painting, observational drawing and modelling with beeswax. It was fantastic seeing all the individual classes work come together to create an outstanding exhibition!

Thank you to all the Yr 3 & 4 Gayhurst families who came along to support with the exhibition launch and thank you to Claire and her team for their amazing work in putting this exhibition together.



Here is what each class contributed for the exhibition and some comments from children in year 3 and 4.

Class 3E – Clay mould / Plaster cast: Designing a 1.3m fossilied Pliosaurus



Class 3L – Ink painting wet-on-wet: mimicking the growth of crystals

Class 3/4L – Processing soil / Painting and modelling with wild clay

Class 4E – Modelling with beeswax: Rock-like forms inspired by agate

Class 4F – Pen & water-soluble pencil: Observational drawing of fossils, bones and shells.



Here are some comments from children in Years 3 & 4 about their recent Art lessons with Art Hoppers

**Ghael, 4E:** "When we started our theme on Rocks I was so excited! The way we layered wax on a string was fascinating."



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### 20th #TAG EXHIBITION CONTINUED.....

**Yusra, 3/4L:** "It was great to use all these materials and get messy with the clay because it isn't something I'd be able to do at my house! I thought the clay would be stretchy like play-dough but it wasn't, it was great."

**Gabrielle 3/4L:** "I loved it, it was amazing and the best art lesson I've ever had! I loved using the sponges to make the marks on the paper and I loved getting to sort all through the clay from start to finish, creating clay that we were able to use to make an underground animal."



## 4 DAY SPRING HOLIDAY CAMP AT ALL OUR SCHOOLS!

We are delighted to be able to confirm that Kingsmead & Mandeville, Gayhurst and Grasmere will be running a 4 day Spring Holiday Camp.

The camps will run from **Monday 7th April to Thursday 10th April** from **10am to 2pm** and will be open to children from Reception through to Year 6. Every child will

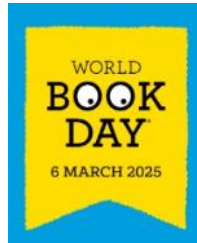
receive a tasty hot meal and the camps will offer a range of fun activities including lots of games and sports like cricket, basketball, athletics, ball games, along with lots of creative sessions such as art, cooking, dance, gardening and Forest School fun....

Look out for more information about your school's Spring Holiday Camp and a registration form to complete if you'd like your child to attend, that will be sent out to all families in Rec to Year 6, next week.



## WORLD BOOK DAY

### COME TO SCHOOL DRESSED AS A CHARACTER FROM A BOOK OR COMIC



On **Thursday 6th March**, next week all four schools will be celebrating World Book Day. World Book Day is a special day when children and staff come to school dressed as a character from a favourite book or comic. So start planning your costume!

Please don't feel you have to buy a costume - we are hoping to see lots of homemade creations. You could make your costume using cardboard boxes, tin foil, an old sheet that you could draw on, face paints....whatever you have to hand at home! Get creative! Prizes will be given out at each school to the best home-made costumes.

If you need help with ideas here's a link to some very easy homemade costumes linked to lovely children's books <https://www.theschoolrun.com/cheap-and-easy-ideas-last-minute-world-book-day-costumes>

## CONSULTATION ON GRASMERE JOINING LEAP

As outlined in recent newsletters a consultation is currently underway regarding Grasmere joining the LEAP Federation and will run until **31st March 2025**. Here are the links where you will find the [online consultation information document](#) and an [online response](#) to the consultation, Each school's office also have a number of paper copies of the online documents and response form, for anyone who cannot access the information online or would prefer to use printed copies of the consultation documents.

Throughout March all the schools will be holding consultation meeting sessions, where parents can meet with representatives from the Grasmere and LEAP Governing Bodies to discuss the federation proposal and ask any questions they may have. At Parents evenings in each of the four schools there will be a governor stall to also answer any questions (see dates in the Key Dates for This Term section of your school's newsletter).

## HAPPY SAINT DAVID'S DAY!

Saturday 1st March is Saint David's Day. St David is the patron saint of Wales (with St Patrick being the patron saint of Ireland, St George the patron saint of England and St Andrew the patron saint of Scotland). A national St David's Day parade is held in the centre of Cardiff every year with people wearing daffodils or leeks, which are the national emblems of Wales.

**Dydd Gwyl Dewi Hapus** is how you say Happy St David's Day in Welsh!





## SPRING TERM 2025

1st half of term: 06.01.25 - 14.02.25

Half term: 17 Feb — 21 Feb 2025

2nd half of term: 24.02.25 - 04.04.25

## CROWN WINNERS

Nursery	77	Year 3	80
Reception	75	Year 4	92
Year 1	90	Year 5	104
Year 2	93	Year 6	76

## TOP ATTENDANCE

EYFS & KS1	Lea 98.5%
KS2	Fowey 98.8%



## GOLDEN AWARDS

**Ouse class (Nur)** Ivvy  
**Lea class (Rec)** Elijah  
**Lagan class (Yr 1)** Raeya  
**Tyne class (Yr 2)** Immanuel

**Severn class (Yr 3)** Marcel  
**Ness class (Yr 4)** San'aa  
**Fowey class (Yr 5)** Nylah  
**Avon class (Yr 6)** Marquez

## HACKNEY BUZZLINE INSPIRES A KAMPALA BUZZLINE!

Kingsmead's friend and local community ecologist Gerry, who has been working with Kingsmead children to help support the creation of a Hackney Buzzline, is currently in Kampala, Uganda, attending the launch of the Kampala Buzzline. Hannington Sserwanga, who is part of a green youth movement in Kampala had come across news of the Hackney Buzzline, which is being created to support pollinating insects along a green flowering corridor in this part of Hackney and decided to go about creating a Buzzline in Kampala to support the city's pollinating insects. This has led to a wonderful opportunity for Kingsmead to twin with The New Brain primary school in Kampala, who are involved in the Kampala Buzzline.

Gerry delivered a lovely package of insect and butterfly masks, made by Kingsmead's Year 4 class to the children at the New Brain school—and they were really happy to receive them, as you can see from the photos below.



## HACKNEY BUZZLINE INSPIRES A KAMPALA BUZZLINE CONTINUED.....



You can see some short film clips of Gerry's time in Kampala on Kingsmead's insta account @kingsmeade9.



We look forward to sharing more news with you about the Hackney Buzzline, the Kampala Buzzline and Kingsmead's twinning with the New Brain school in Kampala, in the coming weeks and months.

## YEAR 3 RE ASSEMBLY

This week, Year 3 performed their assembly based on what they had learned about the Hindu festival of Diwali. Through speech and songs, the children introduced the rest of the school to some of the ways that Hindus mark the festival each year, with rangoli and diya lamps. They also shared the important Hindu story of Rama and Sita with a dramatic retelling of how Rama rescued Sita from the demon king, Ravana, with the help of the monkey king, Hanuman. The lights that people put outside to guide Rama and Sita home are represented in the festival of lights, celebrating good triumphing over evil. Well done, Year 3!



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### NEW LOOK PERIMETER FENCE!

A huge thank you to our school gardener **Lidka** and volunteer **Craig** who worked so hard at the end of last term digging and preparing the ground and then planting the climbing evergreen ivy around the main playground perimeter fence. It has totally transformed the feel of the playground, making the school feel much less exposed. It will also be fantastic for supporting insects and wildlife including birds, providing habitats and protection.

This is something we have wanted to do for a long time but was made possible thanks to some very specific funding that we were invited to apply for—from the National Education Parks Grant, specifically for enhancing biodiversity in school grounds, and luckily we were successful in our application.

We are really looking forward to seeing the climbing plants grow and reach the top of the fence. Thanks to all the encouraging and positive comments so many of you, our parents and carers, made while the plants were being installed. We know that Lidka and Craig were really encouraged by how positive so many of our families were being about the new look to the perimeter of our playground.



### COFFEE MORNING: PARENT MATHS WORKSHOP



Don't forget to come along to the Parent Maths Workshop for Years 2—4 which will take place from 9—10am on **Wednesday 5th March** and will be run by Sarah, LEAP's Maths Lead. Sarah will offer useful strategies for parents on how to support your child's learning at home. Open to all parents with children in years 2, 3 or 4.

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER



The school photographer will be in taking individual photos of children and group sibling photos on **Monday 3rd March**. Please make sure your child is in full school uniform.

### REMEMBER TO DRESS UP FOR WORLD BOOK DAY

Don't forget to come dressed as a character from a favourite book on **Thursday** next week—the **6th March**. We can't wait to see all your lovely costumes!



### KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- Mon 3 March** School photographer in
- Wed 5 March** Coffee Morning Maths for parents of Years 2—4 at 9am + Year 2 class assembly at 3pm
- Thurs 6 March** World Book Day—come dressed as your favourite character from a book
- Thurs 13 March** LEAP Consultation parent drop in / Q&A at 3.45pm
- Wed 19 March** Year 1 class assembly at 3pm
- Thurs 20 March** Parents evening - **early finish for children at 1.30pm**
- Fri 21 March** Red Nose Day (wear something red to school & bring a donation)
- Wed 26 March** Rec class assembly at 3pm
- Thurs 27 March** Coffee Morning on Communication & Autism 9 - 10am
- Tues 1 April** Drumming & Dance performance Yr 2, 4, 5 & 6 + Dynamix at 2.15pm
- Wed 2 April** Year 5 class assembly at 3pm
- Thurs 3 April** Gymnastic performance Yrs 3 & 4 at 3pm
- Fri 4 April** Last day of Spring Term - **early finish for children at 1.30pm**
- Mon 7- Thurs 10 April** Kingsmead & Mandeville Spring Holiday Camp 10am—2pm