



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



# LEAP NEWS

## Friday 5th December 2025

### SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Veo a mi familia en navidad..... I see my family at *Christmas* .....

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

## KINGSMEAD'S YEAR 1 AT DAUBENEY FIELDS GREEN FLAG CELEBRATION

Year 1 children from Kingsmead and Daubeneby Primary Schools came together last Friday to celebrate the Green Flag Award which Daubeneby Fields, (the park that sits right next to Kingsmead school), was awarded in the summer. The Award recognises over 10 years of hard work by the Hackney Council Parks team and the local community to improve the park for local residents - with a new natural play area, renovated skate park, improved paths and entrances, outdoor gym, wildflower meadows, cherry blossom trees and other habitat enhancements. Kingsmead school children have played their part in winning this award by helping to sow wildflower meadows in the park. The Park Green Flag complements the eco-schools Green Flag also won by Kingsmead School this summer.

The Green flag was raised up the flagpole for the first time by Hackney's Mayor, **Caroline Woodley**, joined by the Deputy Mayor, **Anntoinette Bramble**, our three local councillors and the council's parks team.

Children from the two schools marked the occasion by sowing Hackney's first 'chalk wildflower meadow' next to the Flag. A chalk meadow provides a special kind of pollinator habitat.

**Caroline Woodley**, Hackney's Mayor said: *"My Deputy Mayor and I were so impressed when we met with the schoolchildren! We asked them lots of questions about why it's important to make our parks accessible, beautiful and exciting places where they can enjoy nature and play. They knew all about planting seeds and showed us how it's done - we had a lot of fun! Thank you to everyone for making the day so cheerful, sunny and bright!"*

**Gerry Tissier**, Community Ecologist at EcoACTIVE and project lead for the Hackney Buzzline said: *"Did you know that Kingsmead is short for King's Meadow? Who knows whether a king really had a meadow here but there were certainly meadows buzzing*



### DAUBENEY FIELDS GREEN FLAG CELEBRATION CONTINUED..

*with bees and butterflies. The Hackney Buzzline wants to bring these beautiful and important pollinators back to Daubeneby Fields and children from Kingsmead School are helping make the magic happen! Big thanks to the Year 1 classes who were out on Daubeneby Fields last week sowing a wildflower meadow fit for a king!*



PTO 



Follow us on Instagram: @leapfederation

### HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD IS RECRUITING NEW DIRECTORS

Hackney School of Food is looking for [three New Board Directors](#) to help guide and strengthen their community food education work. This is an exciting opportunity to support Hackney School of Food, a Community Interest Company, that is making a real difference to children, families, and communities across Hackney.

As a Board Director, you'll play a key role in:

- Shaping our strategic direction
- Supporting fundraising and partnerships
- Championing our mission locally
- Ensuring our long-term financial sustainability

The team at School of Food are particularly keen to hear from people with experience in fundraising or income generation, business development or social enterprise, or those with strong networks in Hackney and East London.

If you bring relevant skills or expertise, or if you're passionate about food, community, and creating positive change, this could be the role for you! Find out more about [applying here](#)



### HACKNEY'S FAMILY COACH SERVICE

At the start of Spring Term, Hackney's Family Coach service are offering a range of different support for families with children with special educational needs and disabilities (no formal diagnosis or EHCP necessary to access this support). Take a look at what is on offer.

**The Family Coach Service's 5 week**  
Building a Behaviour Toolbox Parent Empowerment Group  
Wednesdays 1pm -2.30pm @ Hackney Service Centre  
STARTING WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

All families with a child that has a need within **any of the 4 areas of SEND** are welcome  
We are a needs based service. **No EHCP or formal diagnosis** is needed.

4 Areas of SEND		14TH JANUARY	21ST JANUARY	28TH JANUARY
Communication & Interaction	Cognition and learning	What's already in your behaviour toolbox?	Understanding your child's behaviour	Responding to your child's behaviour
Social, Emotional & Mental Health	Sensory and Physical	4TH FEBRUARY	11TH FEBRUARY	<i>"Coming to the group helped me realise I'm not alone in this"</i>
		Repairing after challenging moments	Preventing parental burnout	

There are **10 spaces available**. We ask that families are able to attend **all 5 sessions**.  
To sign up send an email to [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)

### FAMILY COACH SERVICE OFFERS CONTINUED...

## Understanding Autism Training

Are you waiting for assessment or does your child already have an Autism Diagnosis?

Are you curious and would you like to know more about Autism?

**"Helping to develop good autism practice"**

### Understanding Autism Training for Parents

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 10am - 12pm @ Hackney Service Centre, 1 Hillman Street, London, E8 1DY

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am - 1.30pm ONLINE

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 6pm - 8pm ONLINE

**Sign me up!**

[familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)  
Let us know which session you'd like to attend. We look forward to working with you!

### Family Coach Service

Winter Wellbeing Walks 2026

For parents of children with **special educational needs and disabilities**.  
No formal diagnosis or Educational Health Care Plan necessary.

All walks will meet at [Hackney Service Center](#)

<p style="font-size: x-small;">Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January 12pm-1pm</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"><b>A walk for focus</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Take notice to your surroundings whilst focusing on your own choices</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 12pm-1pm</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"><b>A walk to change</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">An opportunity to view the changing seasons and reflect on how you might change.</p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 12pm-1pm</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"><b>A walk to appreciate</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Take a moment to notice all the beauty and excellence around you</p>
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To sign up please email: [familycoach@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:familycoach@hackney.gov.uk)

Can't make the walks but still want to be part of the community?  
Please email us to be sent the walks to complete in your own time.

### NEXT NEWSLETTER OF AUTUM TERM

There will be no newsletter next week on Friday 12th December. Instead we will be issuing a final newsletter for this Autumn Term on the last day of school - **Wednesday 17th December**.



## 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

GREEN POINTS	Class	Points	TOP ATTENDANCE
Phase 1 (EYFS)	Owl	71	Ocean 97.6% Mars 98%
Phase 2	Ocean	286	
Phase 3	Jupiter	204	



## WEEKLY CLASS AWARDS

**Rabbit class** (2-3 Nur) Nelaiyah & River  
**Hedgehog class** (3-4 Nur) Rio  
**Squirrel class** (Rec) Angelina  
**Owl class** (Rec) Louis  
**Ocean class** (Yr 1) Whole class

**River class** (Yr 2) Jesse & Halima  
**Jupiter class** (Yr 3) Millie & Azra  
**Mercury class** (Yr 4) Jayden B & Malu  
**Mars class** (Yr 5) Jayden & Kamara  
**Venus class** (Yr 6) Anayah & Taeyah-Mae

## YEAR 5 SCIENCE WORKSHOP AT CARDINAL POLE

Year 5 had a fantastic day at Cardinal Pole Secondary School, taking part in a hands-on science workshop. The children explored real science labs, learned how to use Bunsen burners safely, and discovered how different substances create different coloured flames—a key part of how fireworks are made!

It was a great opportunity for the pupils to experience practical science in action, and they returned to school full of excitement and new knowledge. A big thank you to Cardinal Pole for making this possible!



## PLANT GROW COOK CLUB CONTINUED....

This has been a funded programme, thanks to The Fishmongers. Company's charitable trust.



## STORY JAR COMPETITION & FAMILY WORKSHOP

As part of our whole-school story telling project, we are challenging children at Mandeville to create a story jar with someone at home. There will be prizes available for the winning entries! To enter, you must:

- Pick your favourite story
- Fill a jar with images or objects that remind you of that story (see the pictures for some inspiration)
- Put a label on the bottom of the jar with your child's name and class (we can provide you with a label)

Hand in your jar to class teachers or the office by **Friday 12th December**

We are also hosting a Story Jar Making Workshop on **Tuesday 9th from 15:45-16:30 pm**

where any family member can come and make a jar with their child.

We will provide arts and crafts resources but please bring along an empty jar. We can't wait to see your entries!



## PLANT GROW COOK CLUB

Last week, we celebrated the end of the Plant Grow Cook after-school club at the Hackney School of Food. Over the past few months, a number of pupils from **Year 3** at **Mandeville** and **Kingsmead** have been taking part in an exciting programme, learning how to grow, cook and enjoy their own food.

The children have got stuck into a wide range of activities - from harvesting sweet potatoes to making their own flatbreads and curry! They also discovered which fruits and vegetables grow in different seasons, and explored what makes a healthy, balanced meal. Parents have been feeding back that their children have been more willing to try new foods, and have grown in confidence in the kitchen.

We finished the term with a lovely celebration in the Garden Room, where families were invited to join us and share some of the delicious dishes the students had made. It was a wonderful way to wrap up a fantastic project!

### YEAR 1 VISIT A CHURCH

Recently, Yr1 had the amazing opportunity to visit St. Michael's and All Angels Church to learn more about Christianity. First, they took part in a matching game where they had to match images together that were all related to Christmas festivities.

Yr1 are currently practicing for their upcoming Nativity performance. At the church some of the children had the opportunity to re-enact the scenes from this story.

We also had the pleasure of learning more about the beautiful murals displayed on the walls. Yr1 recognised key characters such as Angel Gabriel and Mary.

*'The Church was very big with lots of chairs'* - **Ethan**

*'I liked being one of the animals'* - **Tyler M**

*'There are lots of pictures of Jesus on the walls'* - **Findlay G**

*'I liked the matching game'* - **Pip**



### CALLING ALL PARENT & CARER VIDEOGRAPHERS!

We are looking for a parent or carer with videography and editing experience who would be willing to volunteer to film a short piece for our Justin Thompson: My Story section. If you are available and interested, please speak to Kaltum or email the school office.

### COFFEE MORNING REPORT

Last Wednesday we held our second Maths Coffee Morning for parents of Year 3 and 4 children with our LEAP maths lead Sarah, and it was great to see parents who were so enthusiastic and engaged. We discussed how to increase children's confidence in maths and the expectations for learning times tables in all the year groups. Parents took away different ideas on how to help their children practice at home, including games and how Mathematics can be used.

### MANDEVILLE HELPING HANDS (PTA) NEWS

#### MANDEVILLE HELPING HANDS CAKE SALE

On **Friday 12th December from 3.30—4pm** we're holding a cake sale in KS2 Playground. Volunteers are needed on the day. Sweet or savoury food donations also needed. Donations can be left at the school office on the day. If you're able to volunteer please let either the school office or your class ambassador know.

#### WE WANT YOUR IDEAS

The MDV Helping Hands (PTA) want to hear from you!



We are reaching out to ask you for ideas about how you would like to see the funds raised by the PTA used to benefit the children.



Class reps will be collecting ideas to present a "wish" from each year group.

Please send your ideas to your Class Rep and/or email to [PTAmandeville@outlook.com](mailto:PTAmandeville@outlook.com) by 12th December



### KEY DATES THIS TERM

- Tues 9 Dec** Panto comes to Mandeville + JTP Story Jars Family Workshop 3.45- 6.30pm
- Wed 10 Dec** Gymnastics performance Rec - Yr 5 2.45—3.20pm + Christmas Lunch (wear a festive jumper)
- Thurs 11 Dec** Yr 1 Nativity performance 2.30pm
- Fri 12 Dec** Cake Sale 3.30pm—4pm
- Thurs 11 Dec** Festive Jumper day
- Tues 16 Dec** Class parties in the afternoon—please donate £1
- Wed 17 Dec** Last day of Autumn term - **school closes early at 1.30pm for children**