



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Wednesday 17th December 2025

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Me gustan los regalos..... *I like presents*

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

END OF TERM MESSAGE FROM LEAP GOVERNORS

Dear Parents and Carers

It's been a busy start to the school year for all four schools in our Federation. We're so pleased with Grasmere's integration and how well the schools have been collaborating.

Two Parent Governors - Erin Boreham and Sarah Fox, have joined the LEAP Federation and we're pleased that all schools have a reflection on the wider governing board.

As always, we thoroughly enjoy the Newsletter updates which showcase incredible displays of learning, fun and amazing adventures.

We hope you yourselves have enjoyed coming into the schools to see your children take part in shows and special performances organised by the school teams.

We want to say thank you to:

- parent and carers, as the backbone for our students and your contribution to the school communities;
- the pupils, for their continued curiosity to learn and enthusiasm to engage; and
- staff teams for inspiring and supporting our pupils.

Members of the LEAP Governing body look forward to meeting you at Parent Consultation Evenings in the Spring Term, so please do say hello. We wish you a wonderful break and look forward to even more achievements in the new year.

Best Wishes

Gill Brady and Shanielle Shrouder
Co-chairs of the LEAP Governing Body

THANK YOU FOR NATIVITY COSTUMES

Thank you so much to the parents of Gayhurst children who donated costumes for our LEAP nativity performances.



All of our children benefitted from having new costumes and we were thrilled to be able to share them with all of our schools, as we will for years to come!

A heartfelt thank you from us all.

A MESSAGE FROM LOUISE

Thank you to everyone who has helped to make this a happy, safe, creative, and fun term across all our schools.

It has been wonderful to see the fantastic work developing in every classroom across the federation as part of the **Justin Thompson Project**. There is much more planned over the next two terms as we continue to deliver on our shared vision of 'Celebrating the power of story to build connections, empower parents and communities, and change lives.'

As many of you know, this project is named in honour of a father who supported his son to achieve highly in life through his commitment to education. As parents and educators, we all strive to do the same, helping our children to grow, thrive and develop the resilience they need to face whatever life brings.

To our children, school staff and parents, a heartfelt thank you to you all for helping and supporting us all to do our own personal best.

I wish you a wonderful rest over the break and look forward to seeing you all in January.

Louise

Executive Headteacher - LEAP Federation

SCHOOL OF FOOD SPRING AFTER SCHOOL COOKING CLUB

This Spring, let your child explore cooking with the Hackney School of Food After School Cooking Club - for children **aged 7 and over**.

Designed to build confidence and curiosity in the kitchen, this hands-on club teaches children practical cooking skills such as knife-handling and bread-making through creative, child-friendly



recipes. Each week focuses on a new dish, encouraging young chefs to explore different cultures, ingredients, and incorporating seasonal produce grown in our gardens.

The cost is £170 for the full 10-week term. To book, follow [this link](#). A limited number of reduced-price places (10%) are available for children eligible for free school meals or from low-income households. To apply, please email hello@hackneyschooloffood.com for a discount code.

Sessions will run on **Tuesdays, from 3.45 to 5.15pm** from **13th January – 24th March** (No session during half term on 16th February)

Location: Hackney School of Food, Oswald Street, London E5 0BT



SPRING TERM 2026

1st half of term: 05.01.26 - 13.02.26

Half term: 16 - 20 Feb 2026

2nd half of term: 23.02.26 - 27.03.26

GREEN POINTS	Class	Points	TOP ATTENDANCE
Phase 1 (EYFS)	Squirrel	93	Ocean 98.4 % Mars 98.1%
Phase 2	Ocean	265	
Phase 3	Mars	287	



WEEKLY CLASS AWARDS

Rabbit class (2-3 Nur) Autumn & Saint
Hedgehog class (3-4 Nur) Whole class
Squirrel class (Rec) Jaylen
Owl class (Rec) Jonah
Ocean class (Yr 1) Paddy & Rihanna

River class (Yr 2) Whole class
Jupiter class (Yr 3) Resharn & Ayaz
Mercury class (Yr 4) Archie & Ibrahim
Mars class (Yr 5) Merita & Sasha
Venus class (Yr 6) Damilare & Nevaeh

YEAR 1 NATIVITY

Mandeville's Year 1 pupils truly shone in this year's Nativity performance which took place last week. After just a few weeks of practising the songs and learning all their lines, they gave a fantastic performance to a hall full of parents and carers.

With wonderful singing, confident lines, and plenty of festive spirit, they brought the story of Christmas to life in a heart-warming way. We were all really impressed by their confidence on stage and how every line was projected with clarity. We were so proud of our younger performers, learning all the songs, their lines and performing to such a big audience. Well done Year 1! Everyone was blown away by their fabulous acting, singing and the narrators and choir from Year 2.

Huge congratulations to **Jodie, Latifah and Sultana** who prepared them so well and thanks to the Mandeville staff team who helped with the wonderful costumes.

Thanks to all the parents and carers who came along to watch them—what a fantastic start to the holiday season!

'I felt nervous at the start but it was so much fun'- Akuol

'I really loved being Angel Gabriel'- Findlay GS

'I really loved my angel dress'- Elif

'Practicing has been so fun'- Rihanna

YEAR 1 NATIVITY CONTINUED.....



PANTO FUN!

What a blast we had at this year's pantomime! The whole school got together for a performance of Dick Whittington in the hall, and it was full of laughs, singing, and classic "He's behind you!" moments.

The children loved the colourful costumes, catchy songs, and jokes. They cheered, laughed, and definitely booed the baddies loudly! It was awesome seeing everyone get into the magic of live theatre.

A big thanks to the performers and all the staff who made the event run smoothly.

These kinds of experiences create lasting memories and remind us how great it is to be a school community.





CHRISTMAS LUNCH & FESTIVE JUMPER DAY JOY!

Our Christmas celebrations were magical this year! The Christmas lunch was a highlight, with pupils and staff coming together to enjoy a great meal in our lovely dining hall – we even had crackers! A huge thank you goes to **our amazing kitchen team**, who worked so hard to prepare such a tasty and beautifully presented meal for everyone. It was wonderful to see the sense of community and togetherness from the Mandeville community, adding to the celebratory time of year!

A double Festive Jumper Day brought a splash of colour and creativity to our school and the variety of jumpers was incredible. The children loved showing off their festive outfits, and the staff joined in too, making the day even more memorable.

There were even a few pairs of Christmas tights spotted around, adding an extra dash of festive flair! It was a fantastic way to spread joy and raise festive spirits across the school.



GYMNASTICS PERFORMANCES

Our Reception to Year 5 children did an amazing job in their gymnastics performance, and we couldn't be prouder of them! Every child performed brilliantly, demonstrating a wide range of skills including forward rolls, somersaults and even balancing on each other with confidence and control. It was wonderful to see the clear progression in skills from our youngest gymnasts to our eldest, highlighting their hard work, perseverance and enthusiasm for learning. The children showed fantastic focus and teamwork throughout their performances. We were also delighted to welcome so many families who came along to support the event. Your encouragement made the occasion even more special, and we know you were just as impressed as we were by what the children achieved. A huge thank you to Autumn, our gymnastics teacher, for all the work you have done with the children this term. Well done to all our gymnasts- you were brilliant!

"I really liked balancing on my partner. We did well."-
Taynara, yr 4



"I had so much fun!"-
Angelina, Rec

"I enjoyed all the performances. It was organised really well."-
Rec parent



STORY JAR COMPETITION

A huge thank you to all the children who brought in their Story Jars inspired by their favourite books. We were so impressed by the creativity and effort that went into each entry—they were amazing! One winner from each class will be chosen by the JTP Ambassadors and the winners will be revealed in the first newsletter of the Spring term.



LEYTON ORIENT HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMP

On Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December 2025 from 12- 4pm Leyton Orient are running a Holiday Sports Camp at Wyke Estate Community Hall, 15 Berger Road, E9 6HA. The camp is for children aged between 8—14 years old and is free for those who qualify for free school meals. A hot, nutritious meal will be provided on both days. You can sign up here:

www.eequ.org/experience/13493

CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT – A CELEBRATION OF READING!

Last week, our school launched the Children's Book Project, and it was a huge success! Every pupil, from Nursery through to Year 6, had the opportunity to browse a wide selection of books from different genres. The excitement in the air

was palpable as children explored stories, discovered new authors, and carefully chose two books to take home.

This initiative is all about fostering a love of reading and giving every child access to books they can enjoy and treasure. The browsing sessions were fantastic – pupils showed great curiosity and enthusiasm, taking time to find books that sparked their interest.

We're thrilled to share that this will happen two more times during this academic year, so there will be even more chances for our young readers to build their personal libraries and dive into new adventures.

It was a joy to see our children so engaged and excited about reading! Thank you so much to the Children's Book Project charity for the donation of books.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Mandeville staff would like to wish all our children and their families a Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

We look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Monday 5th January** for the start of Spring Term