LEAP NEWS

Friday 23rd October 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Necesito una bufanda y guantes….. *I need a scarf and gloves….*

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

CHANGES AT HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD

The Hackney School of Food marks the end of an era as we bid farewell to our Managing Director, **Zoe McIntyre**, who is leaving us to begin an exciting new adventure in the Devon countryside.



Zoe joined us in October 2023 and played a pivotal role in steering us through a critical transition as we established ourselves as an independent Community Interest Company. Over her time here, she brought incredible energy, vision, and dedication to our food education mission. Her leadership delivered transformative results across our site and programmes, including the creation of our new Early Years Sensor Garden, the Garden Room refurbishment, and the completion of our new facilities and pathways. Beyond physical improvements, Zoe expanded our school lesson offerings, secured vital funding for impactful new initiatives, and established key community partnerships. While it will certainly feel strange not having her warm, team-first presence in the garden office, looking back at everything accomplished under her guidance leaves no room for sadness—only immense pride. Thank you, Zoe, for your hard work and leadership. A part of School of Food will always belong to you, and we wish you every success as you set off for Devon.



At the same time, we are thrilled to announce that **Aoife Allen** will be joining us as our new Managing Director. Aoife comes to us with an outstanding track record in sustainability and practical food education. She previously served as Chief of Staff at WRAP, and before that as Director of Programmes and Head of Food at Hubbub, where she spearheaded major community food and nature initiatives. Earlier in her career, she worked directly as a chef, cookery teacher, and community food educator.

Aoife brings a brilliant combination of strategic leadership, partnership development, and hands-on food education experience. We are confident she will lead us smoothly into our next chapter and be a fantastic addition to the team. Please join us in sending Zoe off with our warmest wishes and giving Aoife a huge welcome to the Hackney School of Food family as she steps into her new role.

LEAP FAMILIES SKILLS REGISTER

COULD YOU HELP SHAPE OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY?

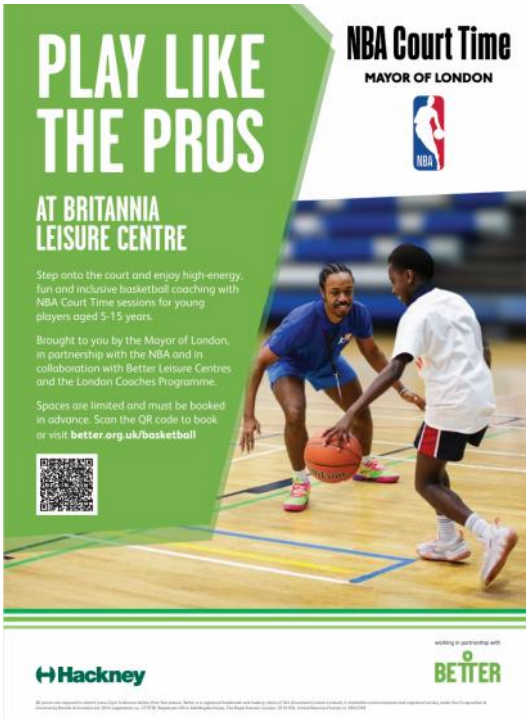
At LEAP, we believe one of our greatest assets is the incredible community of parents and carers around us — and we'd love to tap into that! We're building a register of parent and carer skills and professions to draw on for future projects, workshops and enrichment opportunities for our pupils. Thanks to those who already responded to a previous call out to LEAP families last academic year — we have your details on our register.

Whether you're an engineer, an artist, a chef, a builder, a photographer or anything in between — your expertise could make a real difference to our children's learning. Being on our register doesn't commit you to anything. We would simply get in touch if a relevant opportunity arises, and you're always free to say no. If you'd like to be included, and have not already responded to our previous call out last year, please email **admin@leapfederation.org** with **LEAP Families Skills Register** as the subject line, giving your name, your child's school and class, and a brief description of your profession or skill.

Thank you — we look forward to hearing from you!

BASKETBALL COACHIING

Brittania Leisure Centre are offering basketball coachinig for young players from age 5+



PTO

LEAP NEWS

Page 2

HACKNEY THINKING SPACES HALF TERM OFFER

Free Half term digital mania workshops are on offer for children aged 8—12 years from 9am—3pm at Rising Tide Studios & Hub, 270 Mare Street, London E8 1HE.

Call **02081455532** for more info and to book a slot



ACCESS TO SPORT PROJECT HALF TREM OFFER

FREE ICE SKATING SESSION

Join Us for an Ice Skating Trip at Lee Valley Ice Rink!

We're excited to invite you to a fun-filled ice skating trip at **Lee Valley Ice Rink on Friday 30 October, from 11am-12pm OR 12pm-1pm for 8—16 yr olds.**

Whether you're a beginner or a confident skater, this is a great chance to enjoy the ice and spend time with friends. All equipment will be provided, and lunch is included — just bring your enthusiasm!

Spaces are limited, so please register your interest as soon as possible. We will confirm places by Tuesday 27 October.



FREE TENNIS SESSION

Join us for a thrilling Tennis session for **6-12 year olds**! Enjoy a variety of Tennis, activities, training, games, competitions and more. Plus, join our Access to Sports term-time programmes. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity!

Please make sure your child brings a bottle of water to stay hydrated.

info@accesstosports.org.uk

Dates: **26 Oct, 27 Oct, 28 Oct, 29 Oct 2026**

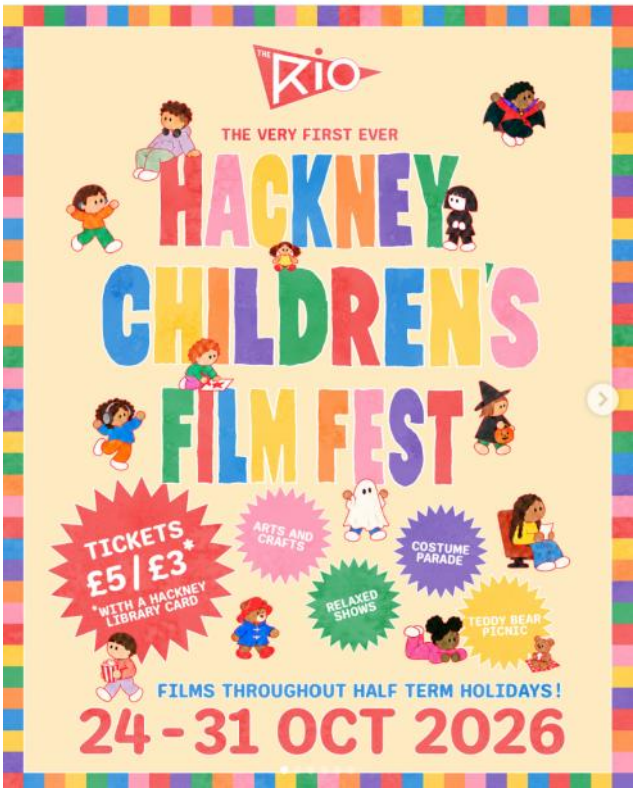
Time: **3—4pm**

Venue: **Guinness Partnership Community Centre & Pitch, London N16 5TQ**



RIO CINEMA CHILDREN'S FILM FESTIVAL

This October half term Rio is excited to launch the very first Hackney Children's Film Festival from Sat 24th - Sat 31st October! If you have a library card tickets cost only £3! Click here for more information.



MANDEVILLE NEWS

AUTUMN TERM 2026

1st half of term: **03.09.26 - 23.10.26**

Half term: **26 - 30 October 2026**

2nd half of term: **02.11.26 - 18.12.26**

INSET day - Weds 2 Sept 26

GREEN POINTS	Class	Points	TOP ATTENDANCE
Phase 1 (EYFS)	Squirrel	105	
Phase 2	Ocean	132	**Mountain** 99.2%
Phase 3	Venus	391	**Jupiter**98.8%

WEEKLY CLASS AWARDS

Rabbit class (2-3 Nur) Whole claass
Hedgehog class(3-4 Nur Sani
Squirrel class (Rec) Nina
Owl class (Rec) Linora
Ocean class (Yr 1) Destiny
Mountain class (Yr 1) Nino

River class (Yr 2) Findlay & Tasvir
Jupiter class (Yr 3) Hamid & Ohana
Mercury class (Yr 4) Lulu & Io
Mars class (Yr 5) Whole Class
Venus class (Yr 6) Martin & Ariam

DEMOCRACY WEEK

This week, we celebrated Democracy Week at Mandeville with our annual School Council elections! During our Monday assembly, children learnt about the importance of democracy, having their voices heard and making decisions together, before putting their learning into practice by voting for their new class representatives. The process began with each class nominating four children to stand for election. "*I stood for election as I am very confident, a good listener and I work hard!*" **Ameerah** Yr6

The nominees then took part in speech-writing workshops, where they developed their ideas and thought about how they could represent their classmates and make a positive difference to our school.

Some children also got creative and designed posters to share their messages & encourage others to vote. *"I made a poster so that children can see my ideas*" **Martha** Yr1



Every child had the opportunity to head to the polls and cast their vote! It was a great way for everyone to experience democracy in action and learn about the importance of participation, fairness and having their voices heard. *"I loved going to the polls as I felt like I was an adult for the day!"* **Farrah** Yr6



"*The best part about the elections is listening to all the different speeches and then having time to make up your mind,"* **Taynara** Yr5.

A huge congratulations to our newly elected School Council representatives:



Year 6: **Hanif & Ameerah**
Year 5: **Taynara & Kamari**
Year 4: **Sidney & Esila**
Year 3: **Lilian & Henry**
Year 2: **Tyler M & Zoya**
Year 1: **Martha & Jonah**



We are very proud of all the children who put themselves forward, prepared speeches, created posters and took part in the voting process. Well done to our elected representatives. We look forward to seeing you share your classmates' ideas, champion their voices and help make Mandeville an even better place for everyone.

FOREST SCHOOL IN NURSERY

Exploring the Hackney School of Food Gardens



Our nursery children had a wonderful time at Forest School this week, visiting the beautiful gardens at Hackney School of Food! Using magnifying glasses, the children became little explorers, looking closely at the plants, fruits and herbs growing in the garden. They enjoyed discovering what they could find and developing their curiosity about the natural world around them.



A very special highlight was meeting the garden's newest arrival – a beautiful baby chicken! The children were fascinated to meet our fluffy little friend, creating a lovely opportunity to observe living things and learn about how we care for animals.



Through hands-on exploration and real-life experiences, the children continued to develop their observation skills, curiosity and understanding of the world around them. What a lovely morning of outdoor learning and discovery!









PTO

Please remember to inform the main office of any changes to your contact details i.e: home number, mobile phone number, address, or if your child has a medical condition.

MANDEVILLE NEWS

Page 2

YEAR 1 PHONICS COFFEE MORNING REPORT

This week we welcomed our year 1 families to our Phonics Coffee Morning. Families had the opportunity to find out all about the sounds the children are learning, explore the strategies we use in school and discover simple ways to support phonics at home. We also talked about the Phonics Screening Check and how they can help their children prepare with confidence. A big thank you to all the families who joined us!



"Very informative and helpful to see the new sounds they will be learning this year" **Year 1 Parent**

YEAR 5 CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, year 5 put on their class assembly for parents and carers and some other Mandeville classes. The assembly was on the book **There's a Boy in the Girl's Bathroom** by Louis Sachar, which they have been reading in class. They delivered an incredible performance making Izzy and Shona very proud.

"*My favourite part was when Bradley (Ismael) got called a monster by the whole class!* -**Opemipo.** At the end of the assembly, they sang Count On Me by Bruno Mars with a two-part Harmony! "*I think the song went really well*!" - **Malu.**

Well-done Year 5!





HACKNEY READING CHAMPIONS

Our newly appointed Hackney Reading Champions, Archie-Lee, Amelia and Melike, took part in their first trip of the year with a visit to the Hackney Town Hall. They met and were inspired by Eric Huang a writer of the popular Guardians of the New Moon series. The children had the chance to meet other ambassadors and to talk about what they are excited for this coming year, as reading champions.

"I enjoyed the trip as we were given some freebies to take home! Including the author, Eric's latest books- signed copies!" **Archie -Lee.**

"I am looking forward to the next trip already because it was cool being in the Hackney Town Hall" **Melike**

"I enjoyed meeting other children from other schools; it will be good to get to know them at the next meet up" **Amelia.**









KEY DATES THIS TERM

Sat 31 Oct Deadline for Secondary School admissions

Mon 26—Fri 30 Oct Half term break

Fri 13 Nov Children in need day—option to wear PJs

Mon 16 Nov Anti-Bullying Week starts—option to wear odd socks to celebrate difference

Thurs 19 Nov Year 6 class assembly 3pm + Book Fair delivered (will be at Mandeville for one week)

Weds 25 Nov Parents Consultation evening - **School closes early at 1.30pm for children**

Friday 18 Dec Last day of Autumn Term **School closes early at 1.30pm for children**