



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."



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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

GREEN POINTS	Class	Points	TOP ATTENDANCE
Phase 1 (EYFS)	Rabbit/ Hedghog	55	Owl 97.8% Mercury 98%
Phase 2	Ocean	106	
Phase 3	Jupiter	287	



WEEKLY CLASS AWARDS

Rabbit class (2-3 Nur) Autumn
Hedgehog class(3-4 Nur) Tolu
Squirrel class (Rec) Lexi
Owl class (Rec) Myla
Ocean class (Yr 1) Rihanna & Jamal

River class (Yr 2) Jesse & De'Kiyah
Jupiter class (Yr 3) Millie & Sidney
Mercury class (Yr 4) Dave & Xia
Mars class (Yr 5) Yusuf & Kyla-Rose
Venus class (Yr 6) Alvin & Ibadah

CELEBRATING SUCCESS WITH MATHLETICS



Mathletics is a fun and interactive online learning platform that helps children build confidence and fluency in maths through engaging activities, games, and challenges. It's designed to support the curriculum

and allows pupils to learn at their own pace—whether they're mastering times tables, exploring shapes, or solving word problems.

We're incredibly proud of the children who have been working hard and earning Bronze and Silver certificates—a fantastic achievement that reflects their dedication and progress. These awards are given for consistent effort and participation, and they show just how committed our learners are to improving their maths skills.

Congratulations to all our certificate winners! Keep up the brilliant work—you're setting a great example and inspiring others to aim high!

Children have all got individual log ins which have been sent home, but don't hesitate to ask if you need us to send home another copy!

Our fantastic maths ambassadors love using the learning platform! Here's what they've got to say:

'I often use Mathletics at home because I find it calming and so fun to do!' -**Taeyah-Mae**, Y6

'Mathletics is fabulous because it helps you to understand all different parts of maths better. I often use it at home to gain more points and get certificates. It's really cool and also fun!' -**Jahvari**, Y5

'It's actually really important because you can learn new concepts from home as well as at school. Usually, I spend my weekends playing on Mathletics so I can keep learning all week! My favourite thing about it is when you finish and get points you can celebrate with a certificate!' -**Iqra**, Y4



MEET OUR NEW PUPIL LIBRARIANS!

We are delighted to introduce our new pupil librarians, **River, Ameerah and Jaspreet** from Mars Class & **Rejoice and Elliot** from Venus Class.

They will be helping with the day-to-day management of books, assisting during set library times and supporting with library displays to keep our space fresh and engaging.

Importantly, they'll also encourage children to explore the magic of books and will be reading to younger children in Nursery and Reception, to help foster a love of stories from the very start of their school journey.

We are proud of their enthusiasm and commitment and we know they will be fantastic ambassadors for reading across the school.



FOOTBALL NEWS

On Wednesday children from the Mandeville Football team represented the school in a tournament at Mabley Green, playing against different schools from across the borough. All of the children put in a great effort, worked incredibly hard, and supported each other well throughout the matches.

'I liked how well we all worked as a team' **Hussain** Y4

'We got to play against so many teams' **Jayden** Y5

'We got to play against so many teams' **Jayden** Y5



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NURSERY NEWS

In Nursery, we have been doing lots of amazing learning!

Rabbit Class – Me and My Family

This term in Rabbit Class, our topic has been 'Me and My Family.' The children have been talking about the special people in their families and sharing what they love to do together. Everyone was excited to bring in photos from home and proudly show their friends who is in their family.

The children have also been exploring ways to play alongside and with their friends. At just 2 years old, they are enjoying making new friendships, learning to share toys and take turns.



Hedgehog Class – Developing Our Motor Skills

This term in Hedgehog Class, the children have been focusing on developing their motor skills. We have been practicing activities that strengthen fine motor skills, such as pouring and manipulating small objects, as well as



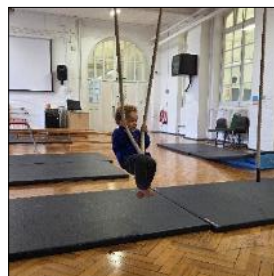
NURSERY NEWS CONTINUED.....

gross motor skills through gymnastics, balancing, and swinging. The children have loved exploring these activities, which are helping them build confidence, coordination, and control.

"Look I can hold on tight and swing on the rope!" – Nate

"I'm painting with purple paint!" – Rio

"I'm cutting" – Evander



KEY DATES THIS TERM

- Wed 22 Oct** Coffee Morning: Early Years Maths for Nur, Rec, & r 1 & Yr 2 parents 9—10am
- Thurs 23 Oct** Yr 5 assembly 3pm + JTP The Story of My Name exhibition 3.30—4pm
- Fri 24 Oct** PTA Cake Sale KS2 playground 3.30 -4.15pm
- Mon 27 -Fri 31 Oct** Half term break
- Fri 7 Nov** Autumn Trail at the Hackney School of Food 16:30-19:30
- Tues 11 Nov** Odd Socks Day
- Thurs 20 Nov** Yr 4 assembly 3pm
- Tues 2 Dec** Panto comes to Mandeville
- Wed 3 Dec** Parent & Carer consultations
school closes early at 1.30pm for children
- Wed 10 Dec** Gymnastics performance Rec - Yr 5
- Thurs 11 Dec** Festive Jumper day
- Wed 17 Dec** Last day of Autumn term -
school closes early at 1.30pm for children