



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."



PTO



Follow us on Instagram: @leapfederation

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.





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 TOKEN RESULTS	Class	Tokens
Rec, Year 1 & 2	1A	122
Year 3 & 4	4RT	242
Year 5 & 6	5F	161



GOLDEN AWARDS

NH - RIVER
 RPG- MONA
 RS - DIMITRIS

1A - EMILIE
 1M - MILO
 2L- MOKI
 2S- AZRIAH

3J - KAEDON
 3E - YAQUB
 4A - ZEBEDEE
 4RA- MILLIE
 4RT- LILI

5E - ALESSANDRO
 5F - BETTY
 5/6D - WREN
 6J- FREDRIK
 6C - MAX

PARENT MATHS WORKSHOP

A heartfelt thank you to all the Year 3 and Year 4 parents who joined us for our recent Maths Workshop. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaging with the strategies and approaches we use in school to support mathematical learning.

Your enthusiasm, questions, and participation made the session truly special. We hope you found the workshop informative and that you left feeling more confident in supporting your child's maths journey at home.

If you were unable to attend, don't worry - we'll be sharing key resources and tips via the school website soon.

Next week on **Wednesday 16th October at 9am** we have a Maths workshop for **Year 5 & 6 parents** and we look forward to welcoming as many parents as can make it to the session.



FOOTBALL NEWS

On Wednesday children from the Gayhurst Football team represented the school in a tournament at Mabley Green, playing against different schools from across the borough. All of the children all worked incredibly hard and supported each other well in the matches. The boys' team got to the quarter finals and the girls' team got to the fourth round.

FOOTBALL NEWS CONTINUED....

Miray 5E: 'We played really well and we were unlucky.'

Aaron 5E: 'It was a good tournament. We got to the quarter finals and lost 1-0.'

Well done to both teams! You did Gayhurst proud.



THE STORY OF MY NAME WHOLE SCHOOL PROJECT

As a school we are sharing and celebrating the stories of our names. Please take some time this weekend to share the story of their name with your child. Some questions below to help with the conversation.

- Who chose your name and why?
- Does it have a meaning?
- Was it always like this or has it changed?
- Do people sometimes pronounce or write your name in a wrong way?
- Do you like your name?
- Is there a different way of writing/pronouncing your name in another language?
- Is there a story connected to your name?



PTO

YEAR 2's TRIP TO YOUNG V&A

On Thursday, Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Young V&A to explore the Egyptian Art exhibition. In our Art lessons, we have been learning about Ancient Egyptian art and design, and we even created our own cartouches inspired by hieroglyphics. It was fabulous to see real examples of Egyptian art up close and to make connections with what we've been learning in class. The children were fascinated by the intricate designs and the stories behind the artefacts—a truly inspiring trip for our young artists!

Uma - 'I really liked the Egyptian dress especially the blue one!'

Gillian - 'The Minecraft pyramids were cool.'

Emma - 'The blocks for the great pyramid were so big!'

Misty - 'I liked listening to the stories.'

In class 2L **Reagan** had their friends walking like an Egyptian!

Acen couldn't believe the pyramid could be bigger than Big Ben!



GAYHURST'S INTERNATIONAL EVENING

Be sure to save the date for our up coming International Evening on **Thursday 20th November**. More info below:



International Evening 2025

Thursday 20th November
4:30pm – 6:30pm

Adults: £2 Children £1

If you provide a dish or perform, receive a free ticket!

Come together to celebrate the many cultures and heritages that make up our Gayhurst Community. Dress up in traditional clothes, sample different foods, watch a range of performances and socialise.

There will be food available to sample different cuisines from around the world, but it is not guaranteed. We rely on the generosity of families to contribute to the dishes. When the food runs out, it is gone, so please arrive early to avoid disappointment.

KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- Wed 15 Oct** Maths workshop for Yr 5 & 6 parents 9am
- Thurs 16 Oct** 5E Class Assembly 3pm
- Thurs 23 Oct** 6C Class Assembly 3pm + Yr 6 Residential meeting for Yr 6 parents & carers 5pm
- Mon 27—Fri 31 Oct** Half term break
- Tue 4 Nov** Writing workshop for Rec & Yr 1 parents 9.15am
- Thurs 20 Nov** International Evening 4.30—6.30pm
- Sat 6 Dec** COGs Winter Fair 12—4pm
- Mon 8 Dec** Yr 1 Nativity performances: 1M at 11am and 1A at 2pm in middle hall
- Wed 17 Dec** Last day of Autumn term - **school closes early at 1.30pm for children**