



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



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 TOKEN RESULTS	Class	Tokens
Rec, Year 1 & 2	2S	110
Year 3 & 4	4R/A	239
Year 5 & 6	6C	162



GOLDEN AWARDS

NH - LILA
RPG - MADDIE
RS - AURELIA

1A - RUFUS
1M - MOHAMED
2L - OTTILIE
2S - XAVI

3J - OTO
3E - RIVER
4A - VIKTOR
4RA - REED
4RT - VICTOR

5E - LARA
5F - MORA
5/6D - LEON
6J - ILAYDA
6C - AARON

YEAR 1'S NATIVITY

Classes 1M and 1A did a wonderful job performing the Nativity story this week! The children's singing and acting was amazing, and you could really see all the hard work they had put into rehearsals. Their final number - 'Ring Out the Bells' was high energy with lots of fantastic dancing. Well done, Year 1

Ray - I loved dressing up.

Abiboulaye - I used my big, loud voice!

Raphaelle - I loved singing the songs.

Mary - My parents loved it!

Molly, Annie and the whole Year 1 team were so proud of the children.

Molly - They are all superstars!

Annie - I was blown away!



GYMNASTICS PERFORMANCES

On Tuesday 9th December, 2S, 3J, 4RT, 4A and 6C, all took part in the end of term gymnastics performances.

Each class performed a different routine to a piece of music. The children were incredible and made sure to work together to ensure their routine was well-executed.

A huge thank you to Autumn for all her hard work!



CONGRATULATIONS TO SYLVIA!

Congratulations to **Sylvia Hopkins**, in Year 6, who won the Stephen Spender Schools Laureate Prize 2025. This is an outstanding achievement, we are incredibly proud.





GAYHURST'S WINTER FAIR 2025

A Magical Community Celebration!

This year's Gayhurst Winter Fair was a joyful occasion, bringing families, friends, and neighbours together for a fun-packed day bursting with creativity, entertainment, and festive cheer!

Visitors wandered through a dazzling array of stalls and activities—including an enchanting snow machine and Grotto, where the young ones met a very special guest, and the brand-new and energetic K-pop Demon Hunters Karaoke, which had everyone singing their hearts out. Our creative floor was alive with festive wreath-making (also new this year) arts and crafts, and beautiful henna designs, while talented volunteers offered face-painting and creative hair-styles for all ages. Shoppers browsed treasures old and new, from toys, books, clothes, and uniform to fun jewellery, plants, and tasty treats like home-made chutney and freshly baked cakes.

The fun didn't stop there—children and adults alike enjoyed our lively games and activities, and took part in the ever-popular tombola and raffle. Meanwhile, delicious food from Fun Guys tacos and BBQ KINGS (supported by the school's own Sergio) and drinks provided by the Mumosa's bar, cocktail queens and mulled wine and cider stalls kept everyone going, all soundtracked by our brilliant DJs, who brought winter warmth to with great music and good vibes.

It truly was a fantastic day out, celebrating the creativity and spirit of our community—all while raising just over a whopping **£8,500** for Gayhurst School! Thank you to everyone who came, volunteered and donated. And thank you to the teaching and school staff who brought their energy and enthusiasm in showing support. We couldn't have done it without you!

Here's to another magical Winter Fair next year!



WINTER FAIR CONTINUED.....



COGS FUNDRAISING NEWS

CoGS have SMASHED their fundraising target for 2025! Building on last year's record result of £18,000, CoGS are beyond pleased to announced the community has raised well over **£20,000** this year!!

This is down largely to efforts including: Wine tasting event; Hackney half sponsorships; Summer Fair; Juicebox disco; Winter Fair and the Fri-day bake sale.

A huge thanks to everyone who has contributed to this target. If you have any fundraising ideas for 2026 please get in touch with us at gayhurstcogs@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS LUNCH & FESTIVE JUMPER DAY

Children and staff had a great time wearing their festive jumpers to school on Monday. It would appear some elves also heard about our plans for end of term festive cheer and came to join in with the festivities from high above the playground on Monday morning.

Our wonderful kitchen team also treated us to a fabulous Christmas lunch. A huge thank you to the chefs and our lunchtime team for working so hard to create such a special meal for everyone; the food was delicious and we thoroughly enjoyed the music, crackers and jokes!



CAPTAINS TABLE

We welcomed back our Captain's Table last week, with children asked to come and eat at a special table for lunch. Children are given tickets across the weeks for using their manners in the lunch hall and for sharing their feedback with our kitchen team. They all enjoyed their lunch, especially the strawberry smoothie!



DRUMMING & DANCE

On Friday we were treated to the wonderful drumming and dance performances and each class' contribution was excellent! All of the children had worked so hard to learn the drumming and the dance routines. Thank you to **Miss Harley** and **Victor** for all of their work and also to all of the children who took part. Well done everyone!

'It was really fun!' **Annieth** (5F)

'It was hard performing in front of lots of people.' **Conor** (5F)

'I liked watching the adults perform.' **Hania** 5F

'I had fun. It was wat I liked doing the most. It was hilarious when the teachers danced.' **Remi** (3E)

'I liked it. We danced with passion, even if some of us were a bit scared.' **Sienna** (3E)



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Gayhurst 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**