



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



# LEAP NEWS

## Friday 24th April 2026

### SPANISH PHRASE of the week

No necesito mi chaqueta..... *I don't need my jacket.....*

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

## LEAP STEM WEEK

### Learning, Creativity and Sustainability in Action

Last week, LEAP was buzzing with excitement as children across the federation took part in our annual STEM Week. Through hands-on projects, teamwork and creative problem-solving, children explored science, technology, engineering and maths in meaningful and enjoyable ways – all with a strong focus on sustainability and caring for our planet!

In Nursery and Reception, our youngest learners delighted in scientific discovery as they experimented with bubbles and ice. Children explored questions such as What makes bubbles strong? and How does ice change as it melts? Through play, observation and discussion, pupils developed early scientific vocabulary and a sense of curiosity about the world around them.

*'The ice melts really fast!'* - **Jeremiah** (Rec, Mandeville)

*'It all just looks brown.'* - **Zayn** (Rec, Mandeville)

*'My tower is melting fast'*—**Mya** (Rec, Mandeville)



Year 1 turned their attention to sustainability by creating recycled planters. Using reused materials, children learned about reducing waste and the importance of plants for our environment. They proudly designed planters that combined creativity with care for nature.

In Year 2, children became mini conservationists by constructing bug hotels. They explored habitats and learned why insects are so important for biodiversity. The finished bug hotels are a wonderful example of practical science supporting wildlife.

Year 3 focused on helping birds, designing and building bird feeders. Pupils investigated what birds need to survive and how humans can support local ecosystems, linking design and technology with environmental responsibility.



*"I enjoyed making the bird feeders and I felt excited that birds were going to come"* - **Immanuel**(Y3 Kingsmead)

### LEAP STEM WEEK CONTINUED...



Year 4, our enthusiastic "Wind Warriors", explored renewable energy by making wind turbines. Children tested different blade designs to see how efficiently they could capture wind energy, learning about forces, engineering and the importance of clean energy sources.

In Year 5, pupils tackled the challenge of climate change head-on by "Beating the Flood". They designed and built sustainable houses on stilts, considering real-world flooding risks and how thoughtful design can protect communities while working with the environment. *"I loved using recycled materials to create a flood-proof home. Ours survived the flood (testing in water!)"* – **Sianna** (Y5, Grasmere)



Finally, Year 6 took on the ambitious task of designing a sustainable 'green' city. From renewable energy and transport to green spaces and waste management, pupils created detailed models and wrote a city charter, setting out the values and rules their city would live by. This project combined science, geography, citizenship as well as leadership skills.



*"Our city uses renewable energy and has lots of green spaces. The city charter helps everyone live fairly and look after the planet."* – **Mohammed** (Y6, Gayhurst)

STEM Week was a fantastic example of learning coming to life. We are incredibly proud of the curiosity, creativity and teamwork shown by children across the federation – and we hope they enjoyed sharing their ideas and creations with you at home too!

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### LEAP & BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

This week all four LEAP schools were treated to an amazing concert at the Hackney Empire. Performed by musicians from the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and presented by renowned saxophonist and broadcaster Yolanda Brown, the concert presented pieces from the BBC 10 Pieces collection. The pieces in this concert represented the history of classical music from Hildegard of Bingen, writing 1000 years ago, to Margaret Bonds, responding to 20th Century struggles for civil rights in America. Each piece, all of them performed fantastically, was full of wonder and inspiration. There was even the opportunity to create a musical Time Machine, learn a dance, and sing a 3-part round! It was a fantastic afternoon of listening and learning.

“The music and lights were really calming” **Shiloh** (Mandeville Y4)

“The orchestra played their instruments so well!” **Archie** (Mandeville Y4)

“The music helped me to imagine stories in my mind” **Echo** (Gayhurst Y4)

“I loved watching the lights change as they performed” **Rufus** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I really liked how they time travelled from music from 1 thousand years ago to now. It made me so excited.’ **Romi** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I liked how funny the show was ad I really liked how they played lots of music from all over the world and time-lines.’ **Cecelia** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I really enjoyed going to Hackney Empire and one of my favourite pieces was by Beethoven’. **Sasha** (Gayhurst Y4)

“One of the pieces reminded me of playing video games with my brothers” **Ziggy** (Grasmere Y4)

‘I really enjoyed the orchestra because I love listening to classical music’ - **Emir** (Grasmere Y4)

‘The colours looked cool and matched the music very well. I liked how they told us about the music that was popular from different generations, starting in 1770’ - **Gideon**, (Kingsmead Y5)

‘It was fun and I liked the way they were playing together, it sounded good. I liked the cellos best’ - **Skye**, (Kingsmead Y5)



### BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT CONTINUED.....





## SUMMER TERM 2026

1st half of term: 13.04.26 - 22.05.26

Half term: 25 - 29 May 2026

2nd half of term: 02.06.26 - 17.07.26

**INSET days** - Mon 1 June &  
Mon 20 July

GREEN TOKEN	Class	Tokens
Rec, Year 1 & 2	1A	75
Year 3 & 4	4RA	175
Year 5 & 6	6J	171



## GOLDEN AWARDS

NH - **ZAHRA**  
RPG - **OVI**  
RS - **BRIGID**

1A - **RAPHAELLE**  
1M - **SANNE**  
2L - **ACEN**  
2S - **KAYLA**

3J - **ASTRID**  
3E - **ORAN**  
4V - **ROMILLY**  
4RA - **LUCA**  
4RT - **ALAYNA**

5E - **CONNOR**  
5F - **BILAL**  
5/6D - **TYANA**  
6J - **YOUSRA**  
6C - **ROMY**

## YEAR 2 WORKSHOP

On Thursday, Year 2 were very lucky to have a visit from Hackney Museum who brought us their Suitcase Stories to learn all about Hackney in the past. We explored what Hackney used to look like - back when London Fields was actually a field - compared to how it looks today - it was very different! We became History Detectives to look at clues to investigate what was happening over the last 200 years, right where we are now!

We talked about Victorian Hackney and learned about different people that came here from lots of different places, including a gardener from Germany, Mary Vance - who was somebody from the Windrush generation who came from Trinidad and became a bus conductor & then there was Mohamed from Sierra Leone, whose diary we were lucky enough to look at.

We got the chance to handle some objects from the past and guess what they may have been used for - some were very different to what we use today! It was really interesting to see just how much times have changed, from the area we live in now, the things we use and the clothes we wear!

**Billie** - 'I really liked it because we got to handle different objects from different times'.

**Peppy** - 'It was really cool - we got to look at people's belongings from a long time ago.'

**Samara** - 'I liked the clothes they wore - the white maid's outfit and hat looked great and we got to dress up!'

**Felix** - 'My favourite object was the iron - it is nothing like our irons today!'

**Fabian** - 'I liked hearing about all the things people did and the things they liked when they came to Hackney years ago - it was fun to learn about other people's stories that are so different from our own.'



## YEAR 5's HSOF TRIP

This week Year 5 visited Hackney School of Food as part of their DT curriculum. The classes have been learning all about healthy food and the importance of a balanced diet. At the School of Food, the classes cooked some delicious lamb meatballs with an accompanying spicy tomato sauce and couscous. There was also falafel cooked by the vegetarians. There were some wonderful smells coming from the kitchen and everyone was keen to taste the food as soon as it was made.

The verdicts on the sessions and the food were very positive. Well done, chefs!

"It was so tasty." **Ayanna** 5E

"It was great at the School of Food."  
**Annieth** 5F



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### RECEPTION VISIT LOCAL MOSQUE

This week, Reception visited the Suleymaniye Mosque in Hackney. When we arrived, we had to take off our shoes and put them in small cupboards. As a sign of respect, you can't walk on the carpets with your shoes on. We listened to a presentation that taught us about Islamic prayer, how the Minaret is used for a call to prayer and we listened to an example of a prayer. We enjoyed exploring the beautiful things in the mosque including the soft blue carpets, hand-painted walls and the carved wooden staircase. We learnt that this mosque is based on a famous mosque in Turkey called The Blue Mosque.

When we left the mosque we looked up and saw the tall, pointy Minaret attached to the mosque!



### STEM FAIR REMINDER

A reminder that next week on Monday after school, from 4 - 5pm we'll be holding our STEM Fair for parents to come and see all the great work the children carried out during STEM week.



### KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Mon 27 April</b>            | STEM Fair 4—5pm  |
| <b>Thurs 30 April</b>          | Coffee Morning—Meet the WAMHS Team 9.15 - 10am +<br>2S class assembly at 3pm +<br>COGS Wine Tasting Event 7—8.30pm |
| <b>Mon 4 May</b>               | Bank holiday   |
| <b>Thurs 7 May</b>             | 3J class assembly at 3pm   |
| <b>Thurs 14 May</b>            | RPG class assembly at 3pm  |
| <b>Tues 19 May</b>             | Nursery Sports day am<br>Reception, Y1 & Y2 Sports day pm  |
| <b>Thurs 21 May</b>            | 4RA class assembly at 3pm  |
| <b>Mon 25 - Fri 29 May</b>     | Half term break  |
| <b>Mon 1 June</b>              | INSET day— school closed to children   |
| <b>Mon 1 June - Fri 5 June</b> | Y6 Residential trip  |
| <b>Tues 2 June</b>             | Children return to school for second half of Summer Term   |
| <b>Thurs 4 June</b>            | EYFS & Y1 & Y2 # TAG event 4.30-6pm  |
| <b>Thurs 11 June</b>           | 1M class assembly at 3pm   |
| <b>Thurs 18 June</b>           | RS class assembly at 3pm   |
| <b>Wed 24 June</b>             | Y5 & 6 Sports day pm   |
| <b>Mon 29 June</b>             | Y3 & 4 Sports day pm   |
| <b>Sat 4 July</b>              | COGS Summer Fair   |
| <b>Mon 6 July</b>              | Y6 production at 5pm 6C & 5/6D group   |
| <b>Tues 7 July</b>             | Y6 production at 5pm 6J & 5/6D group   |
| <b>Wed 8 July</b>              | Gayhurst Summer BBQ 5—8pm  |
| <b>Tues 14 July</b>            | Gymnastics performances:<br>2.30pm for 1A, 4RA & 5/6D 3pm for 5F & 5E +<br>Y6 Disco 5—6.30pm                       |
| <b>Wed 15 July</b>             | Y6 Leavers' assembly at 2.40pm   |
| <b>Thurs 16 July</b>           | Meet the teacher (Rec—Y6) +<br>Class parties   |
| <b>Fri 17 July</b>             | Last day of Summer Term—<br><b>school closes early for children at 1.30pm</b>                                      |