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?

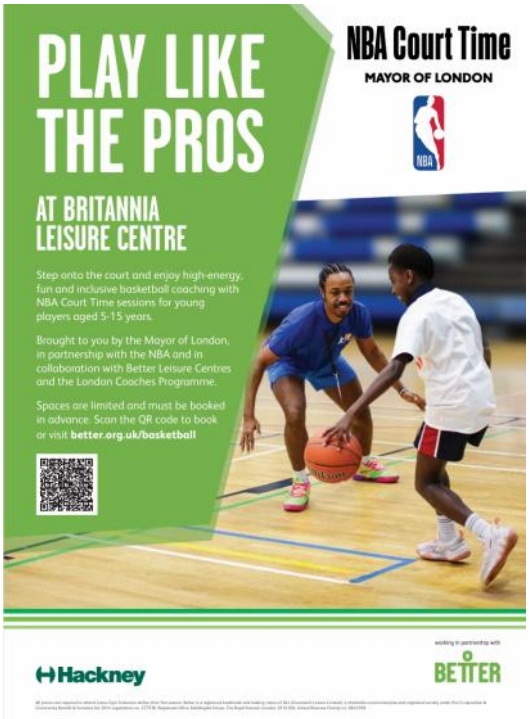
At LEAP, we believe one of our greatest assets is the incredible community of parents and carers around us — and we'd love to tap into that! We're building a register of parent and carer skills and professions to draw on for future projects, workshops and enrichment opportunities for our pupils. Thanks 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+



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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**

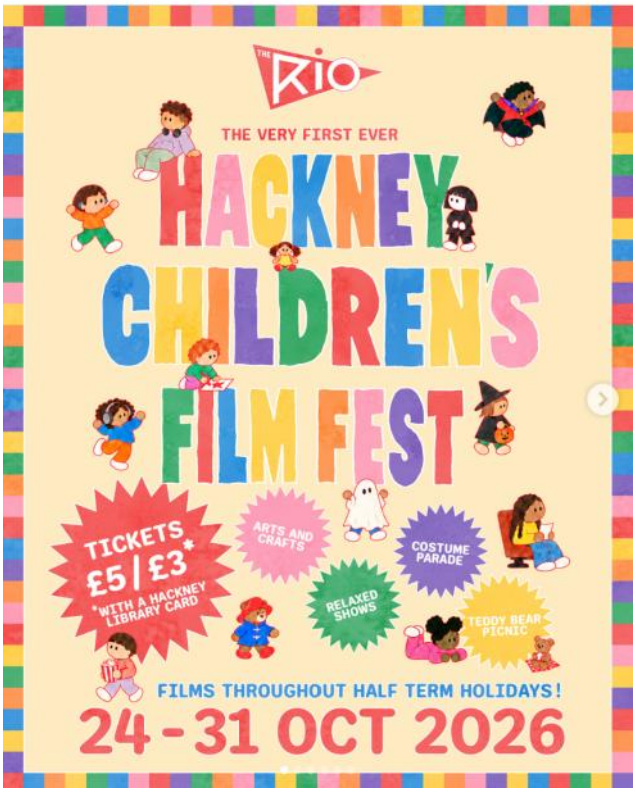
Time: **3—4pm**

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.



GAYHURST NEWS

Gayhurst Community School

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 TOKEN	Class	Tokens
Rec, Year 1 & 2	**1G**	154
Year 3 & 4	**3K**	132
Year 5 & 6	**5/6R**	163



GOLDEN AWARDS

NC - **FINLEY & LANA**
RH - **HERCULES**
RS – **NORI**

1A - **SANDRO**
1G– **GEORGE**
2L – **COREY**
2S –**ALMA**

3J - **OTTILIE**
3K - **FABIEN**
4E– **PANDORA**
4R–**EZRA**

5D - **VIVIEN**
5L – **ALYNA**
5/6R– **SEHER**
6J – **TAIGA**
6C – **CLARECIA**

GREEN DAY

This week some of our classes took part in Green Day. Green Day is our special half-termly reward event for the class that has earned the highest number of Green Tokens through consistently demonstrating excellent behaviour, positive attitudes to learning, respect, kindness & our school values. The winning class is recognised for their collective effort and commitment to making positive choices both inside and outside the classroom. They get to choose how to celebrate their Green Day. A huge well done to **2L, 3E** and **6J**! We hope you had a wonderful time for your Green Day!









SCHOOL COUNCIL

This week, children took part in our School Council Polling Day, casting their votes to elect their class representatives. It was wonderful to see everyone engaging in the democratic process and having their voices heard. Congratulations to all of our newly elected School Councillors, and thank you to everyone who took part. We look forward to the positive impact they will make this year.







Leon & Primrose	6C
Taiga & Peggy	6J
Edison & Reine	5L
Jax & Aleeka	5D
Emil & Sasha	5/6R
Roman & Sienna	4E
Santiago & Aleya	4R
Viggo& Bella	3K
Clayton & Cianna	3J
Felix & Ines S	2S
Maksim & Khalisah	2L

FOREST SCHOOL

This autumn, Gayhurst Nursery, Reception and Year 1 have been enjoying exciting outdoor learning experiences in the surrounding green spaces we call the Green Classrooms!

Our Green Classrooms are where the children explore, discover and learn in nature. Not all classrooms have walls or desks, the outdoors is our learning space, offering endless opportunities for curiosity, creativity and adventure.

As the seasons change, the children have been discovering the signs of autumn all around them. From collecting colourful leaves, exploring natural materials and noticing changes in the weather to investigating the trees and plants, there has been plenty to spark their interest and imagination.

For our Nursery children, Forest School provides valuable opportunities to explore through their senses, develop their confidence and enjoy the freedom of outdoor play. The children have been working on building their communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

Forest School supports so much more than learning about nature. A big thanks to all the wonderful adults helping to support the children on their Forest School Journey.

"We have been doing arts & crafts like leaf rubbing and leaf paintings. The children love to collect leaves and sticks so they can build safe habitats for insects, small animals and the Choo-choos & Chee-chees!" Toki (Pastoral Support Manager)















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.

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2S CLASS ASSEMBLY

2S put on a spectacular, circus-themed assembly that brought their recent classroom learning to life! Inspired by their English book, Leon and the Place Between, the children transformed the hall into a bustling big top filled with energetic clowns, acrobats, trapeze artists, and jugglers. They wove in their wider curriculum studies, teaching the audience about animal diets and habitats from science, health and safety from PSHE and historical figures like Walter Tull and Edith Cavell. The performance wrapped up with a powerful, roof-raising rendition of "This Is Me" from The Greatest Showman, leaving everyone thoroughly entertained.





INDEPENDENT TRAVEL WORKSHOP

Last week some of our year 6 children went on a trip to learn about independent travel. The children looked at bus routes, train routes and how zip cards work. They met some ticket inspectors who told them all about their jobs and how to stay safe on the transport system. They also had a private bus ride whilst learning about road safety.

"It was a good trip. Max told us facts about road safety. We learnt about Zip cards and the sensor and the charges."





CLUB DISMISSAL CHANGES

As the days become shorter and darker, we want to ensure that all children remain safe when leaving school after after-school clubs.

From the start of next half term, all children attending after-school clubs must be collected by a responsible adult at the end of the session. This applies to all year groups, including Year 5 and Year 6 children who have permission to walk home independently at the end of the normal school day.

This additional safety measure is because after-school clubs finish later in the day when visibility is reduced and it is often beginning to get dark. We appreciate your support in helping us ensure that all children arrive home safely.

COGS NEWS

WINTER FAIR RAFFLE - To buy your raffle tickets use QR code below or click on this link

Gayhurst Raffle

Your chance to WIN one of an ever-growing list of amazing prizes generously donated by parents, friends & local businesses.

ALL FOR A GREAT CAUSE: our kids at Gayhurst!

Please scan the QR code below to see what amazing prizes you can win and to purchase your tickets (£1 each)!!

Share with your family and friends!

Please contact gayhurstcogs@gmail.com if you have any (gratefully received) donations you would like to offer to our prize list.

Ticket Sales are Open now

Ticket Sales Close: 28th November at 4pm with the Raffle drawn automatically on 28th November at 6pm.

You will be alerted by email if you have won and how to collect.

Charity number 1139038

KEY DATES THIS TERM

Mon 26—Fri 30 Oct Half term break

Sat 31 Oct Deadline for Secondary School admissions

Thurs 12 Nov **6C** class assembly at 3pm

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 **5L** class assembly at 3pm

Thurs 26 Nov Parent & Carer Consultation 1.50 - 7pm

School closed at 1.30pm for all children

No clubs or Extended Day

Sat 28 Nov CoGS Winter Fair

Thurs 10 Dec **5/6R** class assembly at 3pm

Fri 11 Dec Drumming & Dance performances

1.45pm for **1G** & **2L**, 2.45pm for **3J** & **3K**

Tues 15 Dec Gymnastics performances:

2.30pm for **2S** & **1A**, 3pm for **4R** & **4E**

Fri 18 Dec Last day of term

School closed at 1.30pm for all children

No clubs or Extended Day