



# LEAP NEWS

**Friday 24th January 2025**

**SPANISH PHRASE** of the week  
*Está lloviendo mucho..... It is raining a lot*

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

## CAMDEN COUNCIL VISIT HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD & MANDEVILLE

Last Friday, senior leaders from Camden council visited Hackney School of Food and Mandeville's school kitchen to see first hand the LEAP Federation's achievements in school lunches and food education.

Camden council, in collaboration with the charity Chefs in Schools, is embarking on an ambitious new food strategy. Their visit to Hackney aimed to explore best practices in food education and school meals, and we were delighted to showcase what's possible with our unique model of food and education in schools.



**Hodan**  
 Mandeville's Head Chef

The visit began with a tour of the Hackney School of Food gardens, led by the General Manager Zoe McIntyre and Naomi Duncan, CEO of Chefs in Schools. The Camden team were wowed when they stepped into the teaching kitchen to witness Year 5 students from Sebright Primary fully immersed in a cooking session. Children eagerly learned how to tell when their meatballs were cooked as the fragrant aroma of freshly chopped onions filled the air. The lively session was a joyful reminder of how food education can inspire curiosity, creativity, and learning.

Following the cooking lesson, the group enjoyed a delicious lunch in Mandeville's dining room, prepared by school chef Hodan and her kitchen team. The meal featured perfectly cooked fish and a colourful, vegetable-packed salad that left our visitors impressed.

The Camden leaders were brimming with questions about how such a high standard of school food had been achieved. They were so inspired by the experience that they plan to return with other senior leaders from Camden council to learn more.

Naomi Duncan reflected on the visit, sharing, *"Honestly, that was one of the best school meals I've had in the last twelve months. Simple but delicious—perfectly cooked fish with a vibrant, colourful plate of food. Watching the children so engaged in cooking was genuinely magical. The Hackney School of Food is always such a pleasure to see in action."*

This visit reinforced the importance of LEAP's focus on good school food and education—helping to create healthier, happier children.

## HACKNEY FOSTERING

Have you thought about fostering?  
 There is a growing need for new foster carers and Hackney are running a series of online and in person information sessions to share information about what is involved in fostering

You can find more information [here](#).

**Fostering Information Sessions 2025**

**What's stopping you from fostering?**

As a foster carer for Hackney, you will benefit from a variety of support, training and professional development opportunities, competitive allowances as well as Council Tax reductions. If you'd like to find out more about fostering for Hackney, contact us, or join one of the following sessions:

Online (Tuesdays)		In Person (Tuesdays)	
Register via email and join us via <a href="http://hackney.gov.uk/fostering">hackney.gov.uk/fostering</a>		Register via email and join us at Hackney Service Centre, 1 Hillman Street, London E8 1DY	
7 January 2025	6-7:30pm	4 February 2025	12-1:30pm
4 March 2025	6-7:30pm	1 April 2025	12-1:30pm
6 May 2025	6-7:30pm	3 June 2025	12-1:30pm
1 July 2025	6-7:30pm	5 August 2025	12-1:30pm
2 September 2025	6-7:30pm	7 October 2025	12-1:30pm
4 November 2025	6-7:30pm	2 December 2025	12-1:30pm

**For more information**  
 Call: 0800 0730 418  
 Visit: [www.hackney.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hackney.gov.uk/fostering)  
 Email: [fostering.recruitment@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:fostering.recruitment@hackney.gov.uk)



**WINTER WARMER HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB!**

## HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

Hackney School of Food are running holiday clubs this February Half term - warm up in the kitchen with seasonal, slurp-able and super simple

recipes! Young chefs will get to grips with essential kitchen skills & bring home treats for the whole house to enjoy.

**Dates: Feb 18th, 19th & 20th.**

For children aged 7+

Sessions are £20 each with discounts available for families registered for free school meals. [Book here.](#)

**HACKNEY SCHOOL OF FOOD** FSM DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

**HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUB**

**18-20TH FEBRUARY**

Warm up this February half-term with our Winter Warmers Holiday Club!

Young chefs get hands-on cooking experience will take them from seed to spoon, using hardy produce from our winter garden. For children 7+

**BOOKING LINK** OR **SCAN TO BOOK:**



1st half of term: 06.01.25 - 14.02.25

Half term: 17 Feb — 21 Feb 2025

2nd half of term: 24.02.25 - 04.04.25

GREEN TOKEN	Class	Tokens
Rec, Year 1 & 2	2S	53
Year 3 & 4	3E	91
Year 5 & 6	5/6A	64



### GOLDEN AWARDS

NH - RIVER  
RC - MARY  
RK - MOHAMMED

1PG - LUNA  
1M - MARNI  
2S - LORELEI  
2J - CLEMENT

3L - MAE  
3E - MUSTAFA  
3/4L - MOLLY  
4F - OTIS  
4E - GEORGIE

5T - AARON  
5D - CHIDI  
5/6A - JAMES  
6J - YASA  
6C - TYLER

## YEAR 6 TAKE PART IN JUNIOR CITIZENSHIP SCHEME

It was a happy time for the Year 6's as they took part in the Hackney Junior Citizenship Scheme (JCS) at Forest Road Youth Hub. The JCS is a long-running annual 'life-skills' event which helps prepare the children to successfully transition to secondary school. The group attended interactive workshops run by various agencies in the council, and covered topics such as road safety, dental care, using public transport safely, opening a bank account, and what to do in the case of a fire.

*"I really enjoyed the trip and it was good to find out about ways I can keep safe when I go to secondary school."* **Yigit**

*"The activities were fun but my favourite part was hearing the statistics from the police."* **Dylan**



### YR 6 TAKE PART IN JCS CONTINUED.....

The children took part in sessions with teams from:  
**Hackney Health & Wellbeing Team:** exploring the importance of dental hygiene and strategies to support positive mental health.

**Transport for London:** a session on safe and sensible travel provided tips for using buses and trains responsibly with a Zip Oyster card.

**Met Police Safer Transport Team:** information about staying safe on public transport.

**Hackney Road Safety Team:** looking at the importance of crossing roads safely.

**London Fire Brigade:** proactive advice on fire safety and planning escape routes in an emergency.

**London Ambulance Service:** practical quick first-aid techniques.

**Met Police School Officers:** session on the risks surrounding knife crime and how to make safe choices.



## KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- Thurs 30 Jan** 4E class assembly at 3pm
- Thurs 6 Feb** 1M class assembly at 3pm
- Wed 12 Feb** COGS Wine tasting fundraiser 7-8.30pm
- Mon 17 - Fri 21 Feb** Half term break
- Thurs 27 Feb** Yr 3 & 4 TAG gallery opening 4.30 - 6pm
- Wed 12 March** Talking Therapies information sharing session 9.10- 9.45am
- Thurs 20 March** Parents evening - **early finish for children at 1.30pm**
- Fri 4 April** Last day of Spring Term - **early finish for children at 1.30pm**



### YEAR 2 CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Thursday, 2J performed their class assembly in front of their peers and family. They amazed the audience with their fantastic performance of 'Who's Afraid of The Big Bad Book', which they studied in English last term. Viewers were treated to acting, songs and even piano performances about everything they had been learning in traditional tales.

**Jeremy** (class teacher) - *"Congratulations on your amazing performance! You have all worked so hard and its wonderful to see your dedication and talent shine. You should all be incredibly proud of yourselves! A big thank you to the teachers and parents who supported every step of the way."*

**Taskeen** - *"I really enjoyed performing, it was so much fun"*

**Maia** - *"I wish we could perform everyday"*

**Oto** - *"My favourite part was when Goldilocks had eaten all the porridge"*



### COGS FUNDRAISER Introduction to Wine Tasting



Join CoGS on **Wednesday 12 February between 7 and 8:30 pm** for a wine tasting event led by James Lockett, a wine buyer, educator and

Gayhurst parent.

This engaging session will guide participants through the essentials of wine tasting, exploring the unique characteristics of popular grape varieties and how production techniques influence their flavours. Sip, savour and enjoy a delightful evening, all while contributing to a great cause. Don't miss this opportunity to deepen your wine knowledge and support Gayhurst school!



Tickets are £20 each and you can buy them by clicking on this link: <https://www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/introduction-to-wine-tasting>. Note, this event is for grown-ups!

### CAPTAIN'S TABLE

Throughout the week at Gayhurst, staff look for children who have made them proud in the lunch hall, whether it's trying a new food, helping younger children or sitting next to someone new and getting to know them. Those children receive a Captain's Table token and can join the Captain's Table on a Friday. This week, the proud recipients were from Year 2, who ate with Y2 teacher Jeremy and enjoyed fish stir fry or Haloumi fritters with couscous and salad.

