



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



GRASMERE NEWS



GOLDEN AWARDS

Nur: **George** Yr 3: **Frida**
 Rec: **Junaid** Yr 4: **Cosima**
 Yr 1: **Cassandra** Yr 5: **Edith**
 Yr 2: **Zakai** Yr 6: **Malachi**

SPRING TERM 2026

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**

GRASMERE NATIVITY

The Year 1 children performed a beautiful Nativity play as part of our Religious Education (RE) curriculum, helping children understand the Christian story through performance. After a few weeks of practising the songs and learning all their lines, they gave a fantastic show to a packed hall!

Everyone was blown away by their fabulous acting, singing and the narrators. We were so proud of our younger performers, learning all the songs, their lines and performing to such a big audience. Well done Year 1!

Huge congratulations to **Meryem** and **Jasmine** who prepared them so well and thanks to the Grasmere staff team who helped with the wonderful costumes and props.

Thanks to all the parents and carers who came along to watch them.

Cassie (Year 1): *'I loved doing the Nativity! As the Narrator I had to be loud and clear so that the actors would know what to do.'*

Devran (Year 1): *'I loved being King Herod an getting to perform in front of all of our families and friends.'*

Bailey (Year 1): *'I liked being an angel! My favourite part was when we got to sing 'An angel appeared in the sky.''*

Meryem (Teacher): *'The children were amazing! The were all so brave and confident when they were performing!'*

Junaid (Reception): *'I liked everything!'*



GRASMERE NATIVITY CONTINUED.....



PANTO MAGIC AT GRASMERE

Grasmere was buzzing with excitement this week as the children enjoyed a brilliant performance of Dick Whittington. The hall was filled with energy from start to finish, with children joining in, shouting out, and laughing along throughout the show.

The vibrant costumes, lively music, and jokes kept everyone entertained, and there was no shortage of cheers for the heroes, or loud boos for the villains! It was wonderful to watch the whole school sharing such a joyful experience together.

Reuben (Year 3): *'It was fantastic! I loved when the chicken came out.'*

Pasha (Year 3): *'It was amazing! I can't wait to see it again next year!'*

Dylan (Year 6): *'It was a lot of fun, I really enjoyed the surprise.'*

Albi (Reception): *'It was so good!'*



PTO

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.

DRUMMING & DANCE PERFORMANCES

On Monday, **Year 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6** treated our families to some brilliant end of term drumming and dancing performances. We were all very proud of how the children worked together, supporting one another and having lots of fun throughout. Huge thank you to **Ms Harley and Victor**, you could see how much effort and practice had gone in and we will look forward to having them both back at Grasmere in the summer term!

Special thanks to all the staff and parents who also performed on Monday! .



CELEBRATING GRASMERE

We are really pleased to share with you an amazing short film celebrating what Grasmere School is all about. The film has been made thanks to **Luke Vyner**, who is a Grasmere parent and Creative Director of [Creative Listening](#), a film company that make promotional education films for some really prestigious clients.

Luke kindly offered to make this film for free for Grasmere and we think he and his team, especially **Jackaby**, have done an amazing job of capturing everything that is special about our school. We hope you agree.

You can [watch the film here](#).

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Children and staff dressed up in festive jumpers last week to celebrate the season together. We enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch cooked by our amazing kitchen staff, pulled crackers, and shared lots of jokes and laughter. A huge thank you to **Sergio, Terry, Helen & Dolly** for the fantastic food. Everyone had a wonderful time, and the playground looked fantastic, full of colour and festive cheer.



MUSIC PERFORMANCES

Nursery & Reception

On Friday 12th December Nursery & Reception shared the wonderful singing they have been doing over the past term. The children sang a range of songs that they have been working on with Ben, the singing and music teacher. The children learned key skills around remembering words and repeated phrases as well as the joy of singing together as a group. Finn said that he "loved the song I've been eaten by a boa constrictor as it is about a snake and is funny." The children loved singing and JJ said that after he sang his song, he "gave a thumbs up to his family and a heart and kiss to his mummy who clapped lots". **Pheobe** explained that Ben was a great music teacher "because he likes to sing too". **Martine** explained that she liked all the songs but she really liked "the big ship sails as it is a calm song". A wonderful assembly from Early Years and such a joy to see your energy and enthusiasm for singing.



Year 4 & the Choir

Year 1 and the choir put on a beautiful end of term assembly for delighted parents. The choir sang some beautiful songs that made many adults teary eyed. Year 4 played recorders to rapturous applause from parents. Well done to all our children.



FROGS WINTER FAIR

Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Winter Fair and made it such a festive and fun-filled success! We are so grateful to everyone who came along to celebrate, shop, and soak up the seasonal spirit. With the help of our brilliant volunteers and the generosity of local businesses, we raised an incredible **£2,800** for the school while enjoying some of the students' favourite winter games, carolling, visits from Santa and his elf, and delicious food and drinks. A perfect way to close out the Winter Term!



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Grasmere staff would like to wish all our children and their families a Merry Christmas and a happy & peaceful New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back to school on **Monday 5th January** for the start of Spring Term