



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 16th January 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

¿Tienes algún propósito de Año Nuevo?... *Do you have any New Year 's resolutions? ...*

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

ROYAL ACADEMY YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER SHOW



It's time again for LEAP children to start getting creative and enter the competition to have their art work selected for the **Royal Academy of Arts Young**

Artists Summer Show.

Now in its eighth year, the Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for students aged 4–18 studying in the UK. Artworks are judged by a panel of artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the Royal Academy of Arts.

Last year we had three LEAP pupils who were successful in getting their work selected, which was fantastic given that there were over 23,000 entries nationwide!

There is no theme so the children can do any piece of art work that they want. Children can submit a drawing, painting, photograph, collage or sculpture—the only restriction is that all artworks must be original pieces so please encourage children NOT to copy other famous artworks as they won't get chosen for the exhibition.

The children will need a parent or carer to submit the work. Please visit the link below for more information and to instructions on how to submit your artwork.

<https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/get-involved>

If you have difficulties submitting work, please speak to your child's class teacher.

The deadline for submissions is **4 March 2026**

Judging then commences in May and any successful artists will have their work displayed in this years Summer Show at the RA in July and August.



BAGS OF TASTE IN HACKNEY

This fun free cooking course with ingredients provided is run by the charity Bags of Taste and is open to anyone on benefits to apply.

It is particularly aimed at those needing support around food and/or cooking. All skill levels welcome

Save money and cook better than the takeaway

JOIN OUR FREE FUN COOKING COURSES

...all you need is a kitchen and a phone!

Free, fun cooking courses AT HOME. Cook great food in just two weeks! Impress friends and family

Exciting meals can be quick, fun, easy and cheap to cook with our **FREE** (ingredients included), flexible, home-based short courses

CHANA MASALA ITALIAN PASTA SAUCE MIDDLE EASTERN PILAF

To register
Phone or text/Whatsapp 07701 304 555
or email: hackney@bagsoftaste.org
or you can sign up online:
<https://bagsoftaste.org/students>

parochial charities
HPC

Are you worried about the rising cost of food and how to eat healthily on a tight budget?

Then join one of our free, fun cooking courses. Learn how to make delicious, healthy meals from all over the world whilst saving money.

All you need is a kitchen and a phone!

About the course

- **FREE**, ingredients included*
- Cook tasty, healthy meals, cheaply
- Get tips on how to budget and save money when you're shopping
- Learn how to waste less

How does it work?

- We deliver three step-by-step recipes and all the ingredients you need, straight to your door
- Your personal mentor will support you by phone or WhatsApp with lots of tips and advice along the way
- At the end you'll get a free gift of wallet-friendly recipes

What do I need to do?

- All we ask is that you cook the three recipes and send us photos of your lovely food!

How long does it take?

- About two weeks but you can work at your own pace

How do I join?

- Register online: <https://bagsoftaste.org/students>
- Call/WhatsApp **07701 304 555**
- Email hackney@bagsoftaste.org

Once we've confirmed your registration we'll contact you to arrange your delivery

LEARN TO COOK EAT LESS TAKEAWAYS SAVE MONEY IMPROVE HEALTH HAVE FUN

* For qualifying participants only



GRASMERE NEWS



GOLDEN AWARDS

Nur: **Rory**
 Rec: **Leo**
 Yr 1: **Arda** Yr Yr 5: **Yusuf**
 2: **Olivia B** Yr 6: **Harleen**

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**

POETRY WORKSHOPS

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome Desree, a visiting poet, who delivered creative poetry workshops to every class across the school, linking to our work on belonging and story as part of the Justin Thompson Project. The children explored storytelling through poetry, using words, rhythm, actions, and imagination to build shared stories together. The workshops were lively and engaging, encouraging children of all ages to express their ideas confidently and work collaboratively. It was wonderful to see pupils so enthusiastic and immersed in the creative process.

"Desree was amazing. She made sure all of the children were consistently engaged, and I'm really looking forward to next week's workshop." – **Winnie**, Year 6 Teacher

"I loved the story we made!" – **Junaid**, Reception
"It was fun telling the story with all of the actions." – **Olivia**, Year 2

"I really enjoyed the poetry activity where we had to think about smells, objects and places. Her reading of the poem, The Magic Box, was very interesting and I was fully engaged." - **Harleen**, Year 6

We are looking forward to continuing these workshops and seeing how the children's creativity develops further.



YEAR 1 NEWS

Year 1 had a wonderful time going on a short walk around our local area as part of their geography learning. They carefully looked at the features around the school and talked about what they could see.

They spotted physical features, such as trees and grass, and human features, such as houses, roads, and shops.

They were very excited and asked lots of great questions and all enjoyed learning about their local area while having fun together outdoors.



KITCHEN UPDATE

Huge thank you to our brilliant kitchen team this week. On Thursday the kitchen had no gas and the team needed to move very quickly in providing a lunch alternative to feed all 219 children plus staff.

On Monday next week, we will be emailing out updated lunch menus which will be in place while the kitchen issue is resolved.

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.

FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT SUCCESS

On Thursday, our Key Stage 2 boys' football team proudly represented Grasmere at the Hackney Schools' Athletic Association football tournament. The boys played four challenging matches against schools from across the borough, showing excellent teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship throughout the day. They achieved an impressive three wins and one draw, a fantastic result that has earned them a well-deserved place in the grand final. The team supported one another brilliantly on and off the pitch and were a credit to the school.

Well done to all the players involved. We wish the team the very best of luck in the grand final.

"It was a great tournament, I can't wait for the grand final!"

– **Sonny**



YEAR 4 SOUND INVESTIGATORS

This term year 4 have been learning about sound in science. They have carried out two investigations into the properties of sound.

Last week they investigated how distance impacts how well we can hear sound because the sound waves spread out as they travel from the sound source.

They also created their own animal ears to investigate how the shape and size of the pinna (the outer ear) affects how well we hear sound

Rei: *The sound was way louder when we used our animal ears.*

Jesse: *I really enjoyed making the animal ears*



YEAR 4 SOUND INVESTIGATORS CONTINUED...



HACKNEY SEND PARENT WORKSHOP



HACKNEY SEND
PARENT CARER FORUM

On Wednesday, Grasmere hosted a SEND Parent Workshop led by Olu and Shauna from the Hackney SEND Parent Carer Forum.

The session gave parents a welcoming space to share their experiences, ask questions, and connect with other families.

Parents were able to discuss a range of topics and learn more about the different forms of support available to children and families across Hackney. The workshop encouraged open conversation and helped strengthen links between parents, the school, and local support services.

Thank you to Olu and Shauna for leading such an informative session, and to all the parents who attended and contributed.

KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- Tues 27 Jan** Years 1—6 Poetry performances:
Yrs 1, 3 & 5 at 2pm Yrs 2, 4 & 6 at 3pm
- Thurs 29 Jan** Rec class assembly 3pm
- Fri 30 Jan** FROGS Cinema night 3.30—6pm
(Hoppers will still be running)
- Fri 6 Feb** Year 1 & 2 Maths parent workshop 9am +
FROGS Yr 3 cake sale
- w/c **Mon 9 Feb** Creativity Week
- Mon 16—Fri 20 Feb** Half term break
- Fri 6 March** Year 1 & 2 Phonics parent workshop 9am
- Thurs 12 March** Year 4 class assembly 3pm
- Fri 13 March** FROGS Yr 2 cake sale
- Thurs 19 March** Parent & Carer consultation evening
school closes early at 1.30pm for children
- Fri 20 March** Last day of specialist clubs
- Wed 25 March** Gymnastics performances
- Thurs 26 March** Year 2 class assembly 3pm +
FROGS Easter Egg Hunt
- Fri 27 March** Last day of Spring term -
school closes early at 1.30pm for children