



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 13th February 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Necesito mi abrigo y mi sombrero.... *I need my coat and hat....*

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

ROYAL ACADEMY'S YOUNG ARTISTS SUMMER SHOW REMINDER

A reminder to families that the deadline for submitting children's artwork to the Royal Academy's prestigious Young Artists Summer Show is **4th March 2026**.

Half term could be the perfect opportunity for your child to get creative and produce some artwork to submit to the Royal Academy's Young Artists show with the chance of it getting selected for the online or physical exhibition later this summer.

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.

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.



LEAP STAFF GOVERNOR ELECTED

We are delighted to share that we have a newly appointed staff member on our LEAP Governing Body. After members of staff nominated themselves for the role, an election was carried out to decide on our new staff member. **Winnie Cox** has been successfully appointed to this position. Winnie is currently a Year 6 teacher at Grasmere, and has previously been a teacher at Gayhurst

LEAP STAFF GOVERNOR ELECTED CONTINUED.....

for twenty years. Being such a dedicated member of our LEAP team, showing such commitment to our children and families, we know that Winnie will be an asset to our Governance team, as we continue in our strategic work for the federation.



FREE HALF TERM FAMILY ACTIVITIES AT HACKNEY LIBRARIES

There are a range of different drop in family activities being offered across Hackney's libraries this half term for children aged 5–11 including:

- Making Your Own Book at the Stamford Hill Library on **Tues 17 Feb at 2– 4pm** and Woodberry Down Library on **Wed 18 Feb from 3—4.30pm** for ages 6+
- Collage Your Favourite Books activity at Dalston CLR James Library on **Mon 16 Feb at 11am - 12** for ages 5+
- Make a Hiccup-inspired Shield at Homerton Library on **Mon 16 Feb at 4-5pm** for ages 6+
- Plant a Beanstalk at Clapton Library on **Tues 17 Feb at 11am-12** for all ages
- Share your Love of Books by creating a poster at Hackney Central Library on **Tues 17 Feb at 4-5.30pm** for ages 6+
- The Magic Book Circle - an interactive storytelling event on **Thurs 19 Feb at 3-4pm** for ages 5-11
- Children's Classic Storytime storytelling session on **Fri 20 Feb at 3-4pm** for ages 6+

You can find out more information on all these workshops [here](#).



Follow us on Instagram: [@leapfederation](#)



GRASMERE NEWS



GOLDEN AWARDS

Nur: **Indie** Yr 3: **Eleni**
 Rec: **Matilda** Yr 4: **Bruno S**
 Yr 1: **Rory** Yr 5: **Maya**
 Yr 2: **Ciaran** Yr 6: **Nancy**

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**

CREATIVITY WEEK AT GRASMERE

Children across the school have also been busy celebrating Creativity Week. This year, pupils explored and responded to two inspiring artworks, *A Muse (Calliope?)* by **Cosimo Tura** and *Eleventh* by **Lina Iris Victor**. It has been a fantastic week filled with imagination, innovation and creativity. The children worked with a wide range of materials including paint, recycled items and fabric, experimenting with techniques such as printing, sculpture and mixed media to create their own unique pieces.

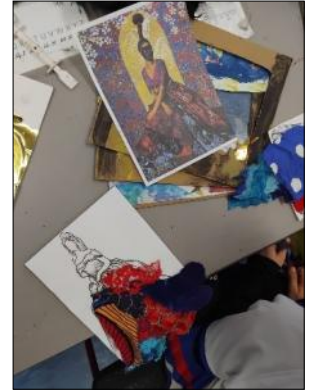
We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm and artistic achievements and hope you enjoy seeing some of their wonderful creations.

'It was interesting learning about the different artists.' – **Adam**



CREATIVITY WEEK CONTINUED....

'I love being able to represent myself through art.' – **Kendra**
'Creativity week was very fun.' – **Cassie**



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This week we marked Children's Mental Health Week with a range of thoughtful and engaging activities across the school.

We began the week with yoga workshops led by Vlada. Every class, from Nursery to Year 6, took part and thoroughly enjoyed the relaxing and energising sessions.



On Tuesday, our Mental Health Champions delivered a whole-school assembly based on this year's theme, "This Is My Place." They spoke confidently about belonging, community and the importance of feeling safe and valued within our school.

Throughout the week, children were encouraged to try one small positive action, such as saying hello to someone they do not usually talk to, sharing a toy or taking turns in a game, or inviting someone new to join their group. In class, pupils explored what mental health means and discussed the different emotions we all experience. They talked about the things that might affect how they feel and learned strategies to help build resilience and develop a growth mindset.

Our Mental Health Champions were incredibly supportive throughout the week, sharing helpful advice with their peers.

'Take deep breaths and count back from ten' – **Isaiah**
'We all belong to many communities.' – **Vincent**
 See more on our Yoga sessions overleaf.

PTO

YOGA SESSIONS

As part of Children's Mental Health week we had relaxing yoga sessions for the whole school. The sessions focused on particular moves but also how to manage your breathing and how to relax their bodies. Children were very keen and practised positive phrases and affirmations.

"I like that it was relaxing" Mia, Reception

"I think it was very nice and calming and will help me like and keep me focused." - Harleen, Yr 6

"Doing the bridge with my body was super fun" - Daya, Yr 3



YEAR 1 & 2 MATHS PARENT WORKSHOP

We were delighted to welcome so many families last Friday to our Year 1 and 2 Maths Parent Workshop. The session offered an opportunity for parents to gain insight into how maths is taught across Year 1 and 2 and to experience the strategies and approaches their children use in class. If you were unable to attend, all resources and information is on our parent workshop page on our website. Grasmere Primary School - Parent Workshops & Meetings

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

To help keep all our children safe at drop-off and pick-up times, we ask parents not to park immediately after the zebra crossing outside school. When cars stop too close to the crossing, it blocks sight lines, making it difficult for drivers to see children stepping onto the road. Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe.

TERMLY UPDATES PAGE NOW ON GRASMERE WEBSITE

Just to let you know that you can now find PDFs of the termly curriculum letters, giving information to parents and carers about what their child is learning about for the term, on the Grasmere school website—in the Our News section. Click here to find the page.

KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- Mon 16—Fri 20 Feb** Half term break
- Wed 25 Feb** FROGS event: Grasmere Pub Quiz 7pm at The Shakespeare
- Thurs 5 March** World Book Day
- 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 + SEND Wellbeing Parent Workshop 9:15-10:45am
- 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