



LEARNING EDUCATION ARTS PARTNERSHIP



LEAP NEWS

Friday 24th April 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

No necesito mi chaqueta..... *I don't need my jacket.....*

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

LEAP STEM WEEK

Learning, Creativity and Sustainability in Action

Last week, LEAP was buzzing with excitement as children across the federation took part in our annual STEM Week. Through hands-on projects, teamwork and creative problem-solving, children explored science, technology, engineering and maths in meaningful and enjoyable ways – all with a strong focus on sustainability and caring for our planet!

In Nursery and Reception, our youngest learners delighted in scientific discovery as they experimented with bubbles and ice. Children explored questions such as What makes bubbles strong? and How does ice change as it melts? Through play, observation and discussion, pupils developed early scientific vocabulary and a sense of curiosity about the world around them.

'The ice melts really fast!' - Jeremiah (Rec, Mandeville)

'It all just looks brown.' - Zayn (Rec, Mandeville)

'My tower is melting fast'—Mya (Rec, Mandeville)



Year 1 turned their attention to sustainability by creating recycled planters. Using reused materials, children learned about reducing waste and the importance of plants for our environment. They proudly designed planters that combined creativity with care for nature.

In Year 2, children became mini conservationists by constructing bug hotels. They explored habitats and learned why insects are so important for biodiversity. The finished bug hotels are a wonderful example of practical science supporting wildlife.

Year 3 focused on helping birds, designing and building bird feeders. Pupils investigated what birds need to survive and how humans can support local ecosystems, linking design and technology with environmental responsibility.



"I enjoyed making the bird feeders and I felt excited that birds were going to come" - Immanuel(Y3 Kingsmead)

LEAP STEM WEEK CONTINUED...



Year 4, our enthusiastic "Wind Warriors", explored renewable energy by making wind turbines. Children tested different blade designs to see how efficiently they could capture wind energy, learning about forces, engineering and the importance of clean energy sources.

In Year 5, pupils tackled the challenge of climate change head-on by "Beating the Flood". They designed and built sustainable houses on stilts, considering real-world flooding risks and how thoughtful design can protect communities while working with the environment. *"I loved using recycled materials to create a flood-proof home. Ours survived the flood (testing in water!)" – Sianna (Y5, Grasmere)*



Finally, Year 6 took on the ambitious task of designing a sustainable 'green' city. From renewable energy and transport to green spaces and waste management, pupils created detailed models and wrote a city charter, setting out the values and rules their city would live by. This project combined science, geography, citizenship as well as leadership skills.



"Our city uses renewable energy and has lots of green spaces. The city charter helps everyone live fairly and look after the planet." – Mohammed (Y6, Gayhurst)

STEM Week was a fantastic example of learning coming to life. We are incredibly proud of the curiosity, creativity and teamwork shown by children across the federation – and we hope they enjoyed sharing their ideas and creations with you at home too!

PTO

LEAP & BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

This week all four LEAP schools were treated to an amazing concert at the Hackney Empire. Performed by musicians from the BBC Symphony Orchestra, and presented by renowned saxophonist and broadcaster Yolanda Brown, the concert presented pieces from the BBC 10 Pieces collection. The pieces in this concert represented the history of classical music from Hildegard of Bingen, writing 1000 years ago, to Margaret Bonds, responding to 20th Century struggles for civil rights in America. Each piece, all of them performed fantastically, was full of wonder and inspiration. There was even the opportunity to create a musical Time Machine, learn a dance, and sing a 3-part round! It was a fantastic afternoon of listening and learning.

“The music and lights were really calming” **Shiloh** (Mandeville Y4)

“The orchestra played their instruments so well!” **Archie** (Mandeville Y4)

“The music helped me to imagine stories in my mind” **Echo** (Gayhurst Y4)

“I loved watching the lights change as they performed” **Rufus** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I really liked how they time travelled from music from 1 thousand years ago to now. It made me so excited.’ **Romi** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I liked how funny the show was ad I really liked how they played lots of music from all over the world and time-lines.’ **Cecelia** (Gayhurst Y4)

‘I really enjoyed going to Hackney Empire and one of my favourite pieces was by Beethoven’. **Sasha** (Gayhurst Y4)

“One of the pieces reminded me of playing video games with my brothers” **Ziggy** (Grasmere Y4)

‘I really enjoyed the orchestra because I love listening to classical music’ - **Emir** (Grasmere Y4)

‘The colours looked cool and matched the music very well. I liked how they told us about the music that was popular from different generations, starting in 1770’ - **Gideon**, (Kingsmead Y5)

‘It was fun and I liked the way they were playing together, it sounded good. I liked the cellos best’ - **Skye**, (Kingsmead Y5)



BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT CONTINUED.....





GRASMERE NEWS



GOLDEN AWARDS

Nur: **Ada**
 Rec: **Finnbar**
 Yr 1: **Ivy**
 Yr 2: **Amaia**
 Yr 3: **Tailer**
 Yr 4: **Archie**
 Yr 5: **Elliot**
 Yr 6: **Teddy**

SUMMER TERM 2026

1st half of term: **13.04.26 - 22.05.26**
 Half term: **25 - 29 May 2026**
 2nd half of term: **02.06.26 - 17.07.26**
INSET days - Mon 1 June & Mon 20 July

YEAR 6 AT SAATCHI GALLERY

On Thursday Year 6 visited The Saatchi Gallery on the Kings Road. The Long Now exhibition brings together an incredible array of contemporary artists celebrating 40 years of The Saatchi Gallery. The collection brings together themes from the past present and future , challenging today's throw away culture . Year 6 were lucky enough to have a guided tour by The Saatchi Gallery education team leader. They also participated in a fantastic workshop that mimics one of the artists random approaches to making abstract art.

Not only this, but Arin's (year 6) Dad, Alejandro, has a selection of paintings in the exhibition. One of his paintings explores what happens in the mind when it becomes saturated with images. He joined us in the gallery to talk through the process he used to make the art. He actually used the drawings that Arin and his brother would draw at home .

They particularly enjoyed the Allan Kaprow's interactive 1961 installation YARD, featuring a chaotic, climbable mountain of used tyres.

Rita - *'I liked our workshop because we had a lot of artistic license and freedom with our task and it was very fun!'*

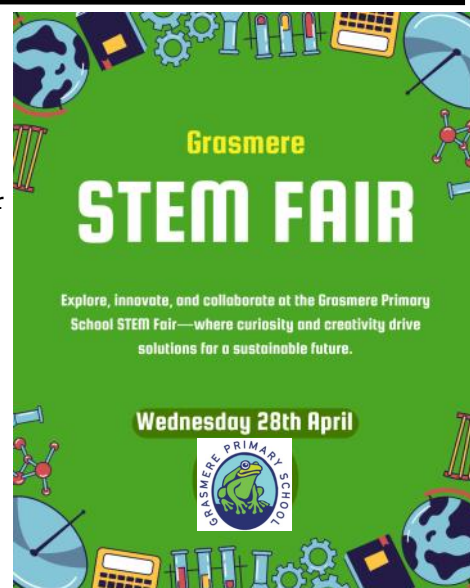
Arin - *'I really enjoyed the experience of the workshop, of just trying to fill in a piece of paper with colour and finding out how incredible it can be. I also really enjoyed the artwork because it was abstract and I was in it.'*

Ava - *'The art gallery was amazing, there were so many cool things there, like the mirror maze that was left in the forest for ten years. Also, the oil tank and the mountain of tyres that we got to climb on. I would definitely go back to this gallery.'*



STEM FAIR

A reminder that next week on Wednesday, after school, from 3.45 - 4.45pm we'll be holding our STEM Fair for parents to come and see all the great work the children carried out during STEM week.



YEAR 5's TRIP TO LONDON AQUATIC CENTRE

Y5 had a huge surprise waiting for us when we got to our swimming trip at Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park! We had been invited to take part in a swimming safety workshop at the London Aquatic Centre, home of swimming for Team GB and the setting for all of our Olympic and Paralympic swimming successes in the London 2012 games. After getting changed we went to the pool side to find out what we would be learning in the session. To our great surprise, two of Team GB's swimming athletes had come to visit! We had multiple Olympic champion and world record holder in both 50m and 100m breaststroke, Adam Peaty and Ellie Challis, a Paralympic silver medalist from the 2020 Tokyo games. We all learned how all the water safety flags work, how to handle unconscious people in the water and how to maneuver them. We also had lots of fun retrieving rings and seeing how many of us could pile on to floats. It was the perfect trip before we started our 2-week swimming lesson block at Clissold Leisure Centre.

"I can't believe we got to meet Adam Peaty and Emma Challis!" - Isabella

"I asked Emma how she got into swimming and became a champion!" - Elliot



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.

NEW ADVENTURE PLAY STRUCTURE

We are delighted to share that our garden area has been enriched with a beautiful new Adventure Play Structure. It has been designed to encourage imaginative play, balance, climbing and collaboration, while helping children feel connected to nature.

The children have already been enjoying exploring, climbing and creating their own adventures on the new structure, and it has quickly become a much-loved feature of outdoor learning and play.

We would like to thank FROGS for their fundraising and continued support which paid for this brilliant development. This resource would not have been possible without their commitment to enhancing our outdoor spaces for all children.

To develop our outdoor area further, we will be having a joint FROGS and school team project day on **Saturday 9th May**.

We will be remodelling & developing our garden space. We are looking for volunteers to support by donating an hour or two of your time on Saturday 9th May. FROGS will be circulating further information on how to volunteer and support on Monday 27th April.



EYFS ST MATTHIAS TRIP

This week, our Nursery, Reception and Year 2 children enjoyed a special visit to St Matthias Church to deepen their understanding about Easter. The children were warmly welcomed by Fr David, who shared the Easter story in an engaging and meaningful way. During the visit, the children were keen to learn more about the

EYFS TRIP CONTINUED.....

resurrection of Jesus and had lots of questions.

'I liked looking at the pictures of Jesus on the cross' -

Isabella Reception

'I liked listening to the story of Jesus in the Bible' - **Louie** Reception

'It's not Goof Friday, it's 'Fun Day Friday!'' - **Arlo** Nursery

'Miracles are like magic' - **Wynne** Nursery

'I enjoyed learning about Good Friday and Easter Sunday' - **Jowayne** Year 2

'I really like the colourful patterns on the stained-glass windows' - **Lottie** Year 2



KEY DATES THIS TERM

- Weds 29 April** Grasmere STEM Fair at 3:45
- Thurs 30 April** Year 1 class assembly- 3pm + Year 6 residential meeting at 5pm
- Fri 1 May** FROGS Year 1 Cake Sale
- Thurs 7 May** School photographer in today
- Sat 9 May** FROGS & school team project day
- Fri 15 May** FROGS Chess contest 3.45—6pm
- Fri 22 May** FROGS meeting open to all 9am
- Mon 25 - Fri 29 May** Half term break
- Mon 1 June** INSET day- school closed to children
- Tues 2 June** Children return to school
- Fri 12 June** Supporting transitions to Secondary parent workshop at 9:10am + FROGS Enterprise Fair 3.30pm
- Fri 19 June** FROGS Nursery & Reception cake sale
- Weds 24 June** Sports day
- Fri 26 June** Supporting transitions for neurodiversity parent workshop at 9:10am
- Fri 3 July** FROGS Year 6 Ice lolly Sale + Grasmere Summer BBQ
- Wed 8 July** FROGS meeting open to all 8pm (location tbc)
- Sat 11 July** FROGS Summer Fair
- Mon 13 July** Year 6 End of Year performance 14:30
- Tues 14 July** Drumming and Dance Performances Years 1, 3 & 5 at 14:00 Years 2, 4 & 6 at 14:45
- Weds 15 July** Year 6 Leavers assembly- 3pm + Year 6 disco - 5pm-7pm +
- Fri 17 July** Last day of Summer Term - **school closes early for children at 1.30pm**