

LEAP NEWS

Friday 10th July 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

¡Gracias maestro/ maestra! *Thank you teacher!*...

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

SCIENCE @ LEAP

Our children have had a busy and exciting summer term in science, with pupils across the LEAP Federation asking thoughtful questions, carrying out practical investigations and developing their scientific understanding through hands-on enquiry.



At Gayhurst, Year 3 unearthed the secrets of rocks, fossils and soils before discovering what plants need to thrive. Year 4 became budding electrical engineers through their work on electricity, while Years 5 and 6 explored animals, including humans and living things and their habitats.



At Grasmere, Year 3 investigated rocks and plants, Year 5 learned about animals, including humans, and Year 6 developed their understanding of habitats and classification, learning how scientists organise the living world.



At Kingsmead, Year 3 explored forces and magnetism before studying plants, while Year 4 investigated states of matter and sound through a range of engaging experiments. Older pupils continued their learning about the human body, habitats and ecosystems.

Meanwhile, at Mandeville, Year 3 also explored rocks, fossils and soils and plants, while Year 5 studied animals, including humans and Year 6 investigated how organisms survive and interact within ecosystems.



Across the federation, our youngest scientists explored life cycles, plants, habitats and seasonal change, showing great curiosity and enthusiasm as they made sense of the world around them.

"I loved learning about electricity because we got to build circuits!" – **Gayhurst**

"Studying habitats and classification helped me understand how scientists group living things and how everything in nature is connected." – **Grasmere**

"My favourite science lesson was learning about magnets. I was surprised by how strong they were and enjoyed testing what they could attract." – **Kingsmead**

"Learning about the human body was really interesting because it helped me understand how exercise and healthy choices affect our bodies." - **Mandeville**

KINGSMEAD REPORTING FOR BBC NEWSROUND

We are delighted to be able to share a link to the BBC newsround clip featuring reporters **Evan, Cormac and Aylan** from Kingsmead's Year 4 interviewing Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson with questions about his up-coming film **Moana**, which the children saw at a special press screening.

You can watch their interview [here](#).



FREE SWIMMING LESSONS

Thanks to Better who are funding free Swimming Lessons **for Year 5 & 6 students** in Hackney in the summer holidays 2026, at Britannia Leisure Centre or London Fields Lido. Children must currently be in school year 5 or 6. They must be available to attend at least 80% of lessons in the two weeks at either Britannia Leisure Centre or London Fields Lido. Lessons will be 30 minutes long and take place in the mornings. Apply using [this form](#).

LEAP HOLIDAY CAMPS

Don't forget to book for the Kingsmead & Mandeville or Gayhurst and Grasmere holiday camps running for three weeks this summer. The camps will run from **Monday 20th July to Friday 7th August** from 10—2pm daily and are open to children from Reception to Year 6. The camps will be staffed by adults from our schools who know the children, and everyone attending will be offered a hot meal freshly prepared every day. There will be plenty of great activities for children to choose from at both camps including lots of sports and physical games, arts and crafts, gardening and Forest School fun and cooking at the School of Food, as well as some trips which are being planned. Don't forget to book your child's place.



GRASMERE NEWS



GOLDEN AWARDS

Nur: Whole class	Yr 3: Daya
Rec: Keshvi	Yr 4: Kian
Yr 1: Cassi	Yr 5: Gisele
Yr 2: Jowayne	Yr 6: Malachi

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

GRASMERE BBQ 2026

What a fantastic turnout for this year's Grasmere Summer BBQ! Families gathered together to tuck into tasty BBQ food, get creative with face painting, and enjoy plenty of music and dancing from parents, children and staff alike.

As the last plates were cleared and the tables packed away, it was clear this had been a wonderful celebration of our school community.

A huge thank you to our brilliant staff team for all their hard work in making the day such a success, and a special thank you to our fantastic kitchen team, **Sergio, Helen, Dolly, Bina, Zenaida & Nigel**, for the delicious food. And of course, thank you to **all the families** who came along and made the day so special — we loved seeing you there!

'I had so much fun, I love getting my face painted.' - **Bella**

'I love all of the music and dancing with my friends.' - **Sienna**

'Amazing BBQ today! Thanks to all involved! Great food and good vibes. A lovely end to the year!' - **Parent**

'It was a fantastic evening & so wonderful to see everyone, especially the kids, have such a brilliant time together along with the teachers.' -

Parent



EYFS GRADUATION

This week we celebrated our wonderful Nursery and Reception children! We are so proud of everything they have achieved this year, from their very first days finding their feet, to the confident, curious and kind young learners they've become. As they move on to the next stage of their learning journey, we can't wait to see all the amazing things they go on to accomplish.

'We are so proud of all of the achievements Nursery have made throughout the year and we wish them all the best' - **Sarah & Radhia, Nursery**



'It has been a joy to watch Reception become confident and independent learners. We can't wait to see all they achieve in Year 1 and a huge thank you to all of the families for their continued support throughout the year' - **Kashmir & Shakara, Reception.**



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.



GRASMERE GOODBYES

After five years with us, we're saying goodbye to **Hugo** as he joins a new school that's much closer to home. We're incredibly grateful for everything he's brought to our school community over the years, he has been a great part of our team! We wish Hugo the very best of luck in his new school!

Sinead, who is currently on maternity leave, has decided to make the exciting move back to Ireland to be closer to family. Sinead has worked at Grasmere since 2019, and has been a great part of the Grasmere team over the years. While we are sad to see her go, we are delighted for her as she begins this new chapter.

Huge congratulations to **Jasmine** on successfully completing her teacher training at Grasmere this year! She has been a valued member of our school team & community and we have been lucky to see her develop into a great teacher. Jasmine has secured a job at another school closer to family, we wish her the very best of luck!

THE GARDEN CLASSROOM'S NATURE WORKSHOPS

On Wednesday Years 1 and 2 visited Butterfield Green for a wonderful nature workshop lead by The Garden Classroom (TGC). They are an award winning outdoor education charity based in Islington that aims to connect inner city children and young people to nature by providing transformative outdoor learning sessions. Studies show that children benefit hugely both mentally and cognitively from outdoor learning and virtually all curriculum areas can be adapted to go outdoors. In the Year 1 session children took part in a bug hunt and a bird watching activity using magnifying glasses and even powerful binoculars. In addition to this they learnt which habitats suit different creatures and



THE GARDEN CLASSROOM'S NATURE WORKSHOPS CONTINUED...

developed understanding of how living things are adapted to suit their habitat. At the outset, one child said a habitat means 'A village, town or city', but by the end of the workshop there was a deeper understanding that a habitat can mean a wetland, woodland or grassland and that these areas are so important for building biodiversity. Hackney Council part funded 6 workshops for Grasmere, plus a staff training session that took place on Tuesday after school.

This was to support and encourage teachers to use the 'nature classroom' on our doorstep that is the wonderful Butterfield Green.

Thank you so much to The Garden Classroom, especially Siri and Venus, and Hackney Council for funding support to create and develop these outside learning opportunities.





GRASMERE'S OFSTED ACHIEVEMENT CELEBRATED IN HACKNEY GAZETTE

We were delighted to have Grasmere's recent Ofsted inspection and report featured in this week's Hackney Gazette. [Click on this link](#) to read the article.



JULIA KINDNESS AWARDS

Grasmere Primary School is proud to introduce the Julia Kindness Award, a new annual award dedicated to celebrating the values of kindness, compassion and care that were so deeply embodied by former staff member, Julia.

Julia worked at Grasmere Primary School for 17 years, where she became a much-loved member of the school community. She was known for her warmth, kindness and unwavering dedication to the children, families and staff. Following her recent passing, the school, alongside Julia's parents, decided to establish the award as a lasting tribute to her.

The Julia Kindness Award will be presented each year to a pupil who consistently demonstrates kindness, consideration and a willingness to help others, reflecting the qualities that Julia showed every day.

We are delighted to announce that the first recipient of the award is **Amaia in Year 2**. Amaia was chosen in recognition of her ongoing kindness, helpful nature and her willingness to support her classmates and others throughout the school. She is a wonderful role model, and her thoughtful actions make a positive difference to those around her every day.

Congratulations to Amaia on this well-deserved recognition.



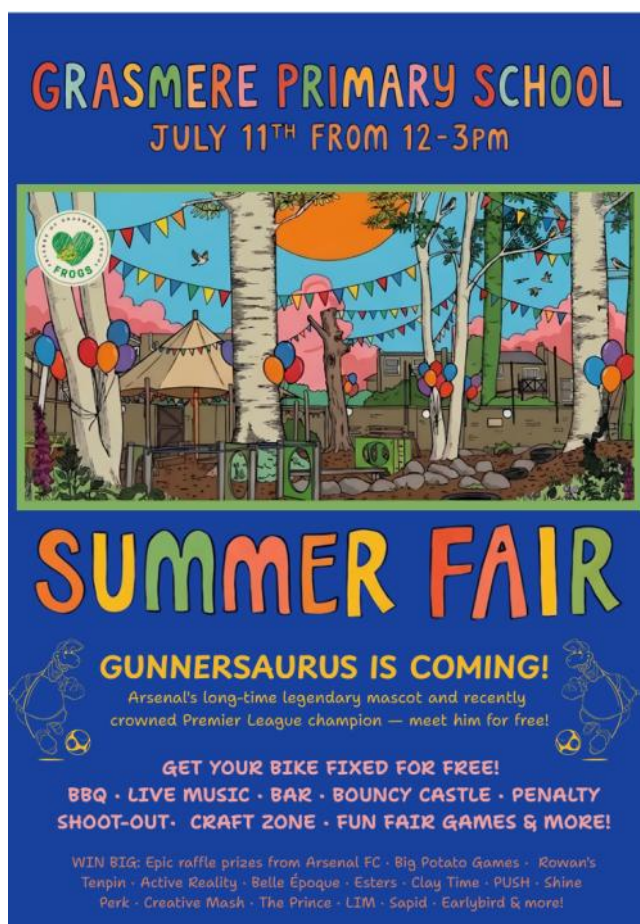
FROGS SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 11th July 12—3pm

Grasmere's Annual Summer Fair is tomorrow 12-3pm and is set to be a fantastic day of fun!

- Meet Gunnersaurus
- Bring your bike for a free service
- Watch a circus show
- BBQ food, drinks, live music
- Waterplay in the sprinkler zone 2-3pm
- Bouncy castle and games for all!

Come and celebrate the wonderful Grasmere community!



KEY DATES THIS TERM

Sat 11 July	FROGS Summer Fair 12—3pm
Mon 13 July	Nursery Sports Day at 9:30am + Year 6 End of Year performance 2:30pm
Tues 14 July	Drumming and Dance Performances Years 1, 3 & 5 at 2pm Years 2, 4 & 6 at 2.45pm
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