

LEAP NEWS

Friday 11th September 2026

SPANISH PHRASE of the week

Estamos felices con nuestros amigos.... We are happy with our friends....

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

LEAP PUPIL IS A WATERWAYS DESIGN CHALLENGE WINNER!

Last term children were invited to take part in the Mayor of London's Clean and Healthy Waterways Design Challenge.

This creative competition encouraged young people to think about the future of our environment. London's waterways are part of what makes our city special. From the Thames to canals, wetlands and smaller rivers, these spaces connect communities, support wildlife, and help people enjoy nature close to home. The design challenge encouraged children to explore what rivers and waterways mean to them—from wildlife and adventure to wellbeing, community, and the future of our city. The theme was 'River of Life', and winning designs would be painted onto picnic benches and placed in four London boroughs, including Hackney.

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the fantastic achievement of Kingsmead's former Year 6 pupil, **Ali Ulger**, who created one of the winning designs in the Mayor of London's Clean and Healthy Waterways Design Challenge!

Ali's creative entry impressed the judges, who particularly loved his vision of nature and people coexisting together and imagining a thriving future for London's waterways.

Even more excitingly, Ali's winning design is now being transferred onto a bench, bringing his artwork to life and allowing others to enjoy his creative vision.

We are so proud of Ali's creativity and imagination and look forward to seeing his winning design on the finished bench.



Ali's design

YEAR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

A reminder to all Year 6 parents and carers to make sure you visit as many secondary schools as possible, before making your secondary school choices. You can find a list of Hackney's Secondary school open events and their dates [here](#).

Please note **City Academy** have just released two additional open morning dates due to high demand:

Thursday 22nd & Friday 23rd October, 2026

Both from 9:00am to 10:30am

HACKNEY FOODBANK OPEN DAY

Ever wondered about the logistics of feeding hundreds of people every week?

For the first time, Hackney Foodbank is opening the doors to its Homerton HQ with warehouse tours, a chance to meet the team, games, a bouncy castle, crafts and a cake sale. The Open Day (on **Saturday September 26th** between **10am and 3pm**) is free, with any donations of **long-life food gratefully received!**

Guests can also book to take part in the food bank's legendary Supermarket Sweep Challenge, which sets off at 10am.

Jenna Fansa, Head of Fundraising at Hackney Foodbank, said: "Feeding hundreds of people every week takes a lot of organising and we'd love the chance to show people around. Our caseworkers will be there talking about the work they do and the difference that makes and we'll have some lovely activities for children.

"The Open Day is free, but we'd welcome any donations of long-life food. We're also inviting guests to sign up for our Supermarket Sweep challenge. Working in teams of up to six people, they'll head to the Supermarket with trolleys and shopping lists and will compete to bring back the most food with a £100 budget. There are other challenges along the way and bonus points on our fun inflatables at the end. The winner will walk away with our coveted supermarket trolley trophy!"

Places for the Sweep are limited and can be purchased by clicking on this link.

The Open Day takes place at the **Wally Foster Community Centre, Homerton Road, Hackney, E9 5QB.**





GRASMERE NEWS



GOLDEN AWARDS

Nur:	Sama	Yr 3:	Omi
Rec:	Rocco	Yr 4:	Daya
Yr 1:	Sidney	Yr 5:	Zeynah
Yr 2:	Cassi	Yr 6:	Nina

AUTUMN TERM 2026

1st half of term: **03.09.26 - 23.10.26**
Half term: **26 - 30 October 2026**
2nd half of term: **02.11.26 - 18.12.26**
INSET day - Weds 2 Sept 26

NURSERY & RECEPTION NEWS

Our Nursery and Reception children have made a fantastic start to their school journey. They have been busy exploring their new environment, enjoying playtime with their new friends and beginning to build wonderful relationships with the adults in their classrooms. It has been a joy to see them developing their independence and turn-taking skills, while learning to work and play together as part of a community. Lunchtimes have quickly become a favourite part of the day, with the children trying new foods and enjoying their meals with friends. We're so proud of how confidently they are settling in and can't wait to see all the amazing things they'll continue to do this year.

'I like drawing and playing with the Lego'- Vittoria
Reception

'I love the home corner and cooking!'- Rafferty
Reception.

'I like playing and doing maths'- Amilia Nursery.



OUR NEW KITCHEN

Following an upgrade, our kitchen is now fully electric, supporting our commitment to a cleaner, more sustainable and efficient way of preparing meals for our children.

The new system has already made a positive difference to our catering team, allowing them to work more efficiently and provide a quicker, smoother service at mealtimes. The updated layout has also created valuable additional space, giving our team more space to move around and prepare food safely and effectively.

One of the exciting new additions is a bratt pan. This allows our kitchen team to prepare a wider variety of dishes efficiently, all in one place, giving them greater flexibility when creating meals for the children.

OUR NEW KITCHEN CONTINUED.....

We look forward to seeing our new kitchen in action and continuing to provide our children with delicious and nutritious meals.



HOMEWORK CHALLENGES

As part of our ongoing approach to homework, children in Years 1-6 will bring home their red Homework Challenge Book each half term. Inside, children will find a selection of activities linked to the learning currently taking place in their class.

The challenges will cover a range of curriculum areas, including Maths, Humanities and English activities linked to the book children are studying in class at the time. There are 5 tasks listed in each section and children are expected to choose one task from each section each half term but can do more if they like.

Parents and carers are encouraged to support their children with completing the activities, while allowing them to develop their independence and take pride in their work. Children can be creative in how they present their learning, where appropriate.

Please check the return date provided on the Homework Challenge Sheet and ensure that the red homework book is returned to school by this date so that teachers can celebrate the children's efforts and achievements.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support with learning at home.

NEW SPORTS KITS

Huge thank you to FROGS for funding our brand-new Grasmere Sports Kits. The children are ready to represent Grasmere in style.



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 NEWS

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FROGS NEWS

The Frogs (Friends of Grasmere School) team would like to welcome the new children and families who've joined Grasmere this term, and welcome back to everyone continuing into this new school year.

Here are the first two Frogs events of this school year:



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
FROGS AGM
FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER

SCHOOL HALL 9AM EVERYONE WELCOME

PARENT POWER
VISIT FRIENDSOFGRASMERE.COM/PASTPROJECTS TO SEE WHAT DIFFERENCE FROGS HAS MADE TO YOUR KID'S SCHOOL IN THE PAST FEW YEARS

GET TO KNOW US!
ATTENDING FROGS MEETINGS AND VOLUNTEERING AT EVENTS IS A GREAT WAY TO GET TO KNOW OTHER PARENTS. YOU WILL ALSO GET THE INSIDE SCOOP ON FUNDRAISING AND SPENDING PLANS

VOLUNTEER WITH FROGS
DO AS LITTLE OR AS MUCH AS YOU WANT. EVERY LITTLE HELPS! A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO USE YOUR TALENTS, OR LEARN NEW SKILLS

DONATE TO FROGS
ONE-OFF OR MONTHLY DONATIONS VIA PAYPAL, KINDLINK OR WORKPLACE MATCHED GIVING. SEE FRIENDSOFGRASMERE.COM/DONATE

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER ON FRIENDSOFGRASMERE.COM
CONTACT US ON CHAIR@FRIENDSOFGRASMERE.COM



READING AT GRASMERE

Regular reading at home plays an important part in developing children's confidence, fluency and enjoyment of reading. We would really appreciate parents and carers continuing to support children by reading regularly at home.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 - Home reading books will be changed in school on Mondays & Thursdays. This means children need to bring in their book zip lock bag with the home reading log and book they are reading on those days.

Year 4, 5, and 6 - Children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be expected to take greater responsibility for their reading and change their books independently on their designated Accelerated Reader (AR) day.

Below are the days that children need to bring in their book zip lock bag with the home reading log and book they are reading.

AR Days: Yr 6 – Monday **Yr 5** – Tuesday **Yr 4** – Friday

READING AT GRASMERE CONTINUED.....

Please ensure that your child brings their book zip lock bag, home reading book and yellow Reading Record Book to school on the appropriate day. Both books should be kept together in the zip-lock wallet school provided to help keep them safe and organised. We encourage parents and carers to read with their child regularly and talk to them about what they have read. Please also write a short comment in the yellow Reading Record Book to let us know how your child is progressing with their reading at home.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us develop confident, enthusiastic readers.

KEY DATES FOR THIS TERM

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Mon 14 Sept | Specialist clubs start |
| Thurs 17 Sept | Meet the Teacher 3:30- 4pm |
| Fri 18 Sept | FROGS AGM in school hall 9am |
| Tues 22 Sept | Nina CAMHS Worker in school drop in session for parents 9-10am |
| Weds 23 Sept | Nursery & Reception Parent lunch start |
| Thurs 24 Sept | Year 5 Class assembly at 3pm |
| Fri 25 Sept | FROGS Welcome Garden Party |
| Fri 2 Oct | FROGS Year 6 cake sale |
| Fri 9 Oct | World Mental Health Day - Hello Yellow - option to wear something yellow to school |
| Sat 10 Oct | FROGS Jumble Sale |
| Mon 12 & Tues 13 Oct | Kapla Workshop |
| Tues 20 Oct | Understanding Behaviours Parent Workshop 9-10am |
| Mon 26 – Fri 30 Oct | Half Term Break |
| Fri 6 Nov | Yr 6 Brain Buddies Parent Workshop 9- 9:45am |
| Tues 10 Nov | Managing Challenging Behaviours parent workshop 9-10am |
| Fri 13 Nov | FROGS Year 5 cake sale + Children in need day—option to wear PJs |
| Mon 16 Nov | Anti-Bullying Week starts—option to wear odd socks to celebrate difference |
| Thurs 19 Nov | Year 6 Class Assembly at 3pm |
| Tues 24 Nov | Low self esteem and negative self-talk parent workshop 9-10am |
| Thurs 26 Nov | International Evening (No hoppers or Specialist clubs) |
| Fri 27 Nov | FROGS Year 4 cake sale |
| Weds 2 Dec | Parent & Carer consultations |
| | School closes early at 1.30 for children (Hoppers available - No Specialist clubs) |
| Fri 4 Dec | FROGS Winter fair |
| Tues 8 Dec | Nina CAMHS Worker in school drop in session for Parents 9-10am |
| Mon 14 Dec | Drumming and Dance Performances 1:45pm- Years 3 & 5, 2:30pm- Years 2, 4 & 6 |
| Friday 18 Dec | Last day of Autumn Term |
| | School closes early at 1.30pm for children |