



LAKELANDS NEWS

A message from The Headteacher

As I write this, the daffodils are in full bloom, we're promised temperatures in the twenties (centigrade!) for the next few days, and the first lifting of lockdown restrictions has come into force. There's a guarded optimism in the air, as we keep our fingers crossed that the next provisional date, 12th April, will see more freedoms restored to us too.

However, the news from Europe sounds a note of caution, as levels of infection are rising at the moment in France, Germany and Italy, as well as in other countries. New mutations of the virus are still emerging, and the race to vaccinate the population, though impressive, is far from complete.

All of this means that the gains we have made together need to be protected. By continuing Covid testing over Easter, we will be helping to keep things moving in the right direction. Thank you for your ongoing support and co-operation.

I need to pay public tribute to our 'in house' team who supported and delivered the Lakelands Covid testing programme in the first few weeks back in school. I'm very proud of the way our own staff stepped up and volunteered to undergo training (to exacting clinical standards) so that our pupils had the comfort of entering the on-site testing area and seeing only familiar, trusted faces. I'm sure this helped minimise their anxiety, and was one of the reasons why pupil behaviour was excellent through every long day of testing. The two testing stations were a masterclass in efficiency and teamwork, allowing us to stay on schedule and deliver more than 1500 tests. As one Year 10 wryly commented as he waited to go in: "I bet you never thought you'd be running a clinic when you went into teaching." He's not wrong, but as so often in the last twelve months, #TeamLakelands rose to the challenge, and made the impossible, possible.

Though we've only been back in school for a few weeks, I sense that we're all ready for a break. The winter months have drained us, and readjusting to the hustle and bustle of school has been quite testing. It's frustrating to hear some commentators in the media suggesting that children weren't studying during this latest lockdown, as in fact, we know that the vast majority worked really hard, getting to grips with unfamiliar technologies and reacting constantly to new situations and demands.

Staff and pupils switched to remote teaching and learning literally overnight, and together kept the wheels of learning turning, from January to March.

This year's Year 11 students deserve special praise, for demonstrating huge resilience in the face of the ever changing situation that has dominated their two years at Key Stage 4. I'm glad that the government has stated clearly that formal GCSE exams will not go ahead, as this provides one certainty for this year's cohort. After Easter, and through the next half term, staff will be drawing together the evidence that will inform the Centre Assessed Grades, so Year 11 have every reason to stay focused and engaged. Those who feel confident in the work they've done over the last two years can consolidate their performance, and those who suspect that at times they could have done better, can use this golden opportunity to produce their very best work.

At this time of year, just when we begin to think about one year group preparing to leave us, we receive notification from the LA of the number of new Year 7s who will be joining us in September. I'm delighted to be able to report that for the third year running, Year 7 will be full, and in fact there will be a waiting list.

Spring is always a wonderful time of year, as it hints of brighter, more colourful days to come, after the bleakness of winter. It's an optimistic season, when we all look forward to better days ahead. I hope you all have a particularly happy break, that the sun shines for all of us, and that our journey back to normality continues in the new term.

Happy Easter!

Mrs S Bellis

Headteacher



Well, it's been another busy half term for #TeamEnglish! The lockdown was as busy as ever for us, with all classes continuing their usual programmes of study...with Teams lessons thrown in for good measure. As usual, our students worked hard and impressed us with their enthusiasm and maturity throughout what was a testing time for us all.



As part of our World Book Day celebrations, we decided to launch a competition for our KS3 students. Years 7, 8 and 9 were given the task of learning how to write and construct a Mr Men book and then were given the challenge of creating a character and story book of their own. We have been absolutely blown away with the standard and volume of entries received! From Mr Engineer to Little Miss Mindfulness, our students have, again, demonstrated their creativity and ability to create characters that relate to modern day themes and ideas! Choosing the overall winners was a difficult task indeed and the winners are: Alyssa Meade (Little Miss Mindfulness), Ella McMullen (Little Miss Dyslexia) and Stella Shishkova (Little Miss Creative). Each of these students won a hamper of reading-related goodies, including a mug, hot chocolate, biscuits, bookmarks and a good book for Easter holiday reading. We also awarded runner up prizes to Lucy Gaden (Little Miss Slow) and Alexis Botham (Mr. LGBT) for the most diverse characters. There will be additional runner-up prizes in each year group for best story, most original character and best illustrations. All entrants received a smaller prize and everyone who entered should feel very proud of themselves. We will be creating displays of our modern-day Mr Men books up in the English corridor-watch this space!

New for this half-term is our 'Half Term Heroes' award scheme, that recognises one student in each English class each half term. Students will have their names displayed on the HTH notice board and will receive a certificate of thanks for outstanding effort. Reasons to win include making a great effort with work; being polite and well behaved in class or adopting a positive change in attitude. Again, choosing just one student from each class has proven a difficult task with so many showing a great attitude to work every day.

Next term sees our first ever Stephen Lawrence Day in the English department. This day is acknowledged in many schools across the country and celebrates the life of Stephen Lawrence, who made headlines in the 90s when he was sadly murdered in a racist attack. The day should be informative and interesting, allowing our students to consider the importance of racial equality.

We wish our students, parents and carers a healthy and lovely Easter holiday - we all thoroughly deserve it!

#TeamEnglish

NEW ADMISSIONS 2022/2023



The admission arrangements 2022/23 for community and voluntary controlled schools in the Shropshire local authority area were determined by Shropshire Council Cabinet on 8 February 2021. Please click on the link below for more information:

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/media/17492/shropshire-council-arrangements-2022-2023.pdf>

Global Schools Race-5KM



During lockdown Shrewsbury School invited schools across the globe to take part in a 5KM race. The challenge was to complete the 5KM distance over a flatish course, record your time and send it through to Shrewsbury School where they would collate the results. Eight students from Lakelands took up the challenge and duly completed the distance in some fantastic times. Special mention must go to Tom Johnson from Year 7 who was an amazing 10th overall!!! and not to be outdone by his sister Beth Johnson who also finished 10th!!

The full list of runners are; Beth Johnson, Tom Johnson, Ollie O`Connor, Jacob Moore, Owen Ross Edwards, Elliot O`Connor, Ethan Hamner, Archie Calloway and Chloe Lewis.

Special mention also goes to the 3 members of staff who took part - Mrs Cole Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Lewis (who was the first lady overall - amazing!!)

WELL DONE all, flying the Lakelands flag high!!



Rugby World Cup 2015 Legacy programme

The RFU launched All Schools in September 2012 as a Rugby World Cup 2015 Legacy programme.

The aim was to increase the number of secondary state schools playing rugby union and to encourage new players to join local clubs.

By Rugby World Cup 2019 a total of 750 additional state secondary schools will have introduced rugby through this initiative.

It has created a positive legacy for 1 million children through rugby and its core values, making school life happier and healthier, reducing anti-social behaviour, enhancing learning and increasing self-esteem.

In partnership with the Rugby Football Foundation, All Schools supports state secondary schools to start and sustain playing rugby union, with kit and equipment, coaching, student volunteer training and links to a local club.

The schools have been identified by England Rugby's Rugby Development Officers, targeting locations with rugby union growth potential, and areas of social deprivation.

The programme is being delivered to Yrs7, 8 & 9 by experienced and licensed coaches from Beyond (Coaching)Ltd, a local coaching company, in conjunction with the All Schools Hub Club, Oswestry RFC.

This exciting project has already generated great interest, with a number of Lakelands pupils having started their rugby playing journey at Oswestry RFC and hopefully many more will follow and become part of the rugby family.

STiTC - Shrewsbury Town In The Community



STiTC otherwise known as Shrewsbury Town In The Community, for the ones who don't know about us we are the official charity for the football club, we are more than just football coaches, with sessions running for people aged 4-94.

The partnership with Lakeland's Academy started back in September 2019, 3 lockdowns and 18 months later we find ourselves in a very different position. Since April last year the goal of providing every pupil with an equal opportunity within sport has become somewhat a challenge, nonetheless STiTC have managed to adapt and still provide pupils with life changing experiences.

During the lockdowns when sport was put on hold STiTC gave the pupils of the school chance to get up and get moving whether that was in school or at home. It gave the pupils chance to continue playing sports they loved and also get much needed time away from the technology screens! But as mentioned before, the club offer more than just sport during lockdown 3.0, STiTC supported 4 pupils who were suffering from a range of different situations and were able to get them prepared for the return to Lakelands Academy.

Moving into the final term of the school year and from September we are looking to build upon our relationship even more, with opportunities for pupils to ball retrieve for the first team matches (when fans return), chances to gain valuable life experiences through different coaching opportunities and lastly,, we are looking to build a bespoke leadership program for the pupils at Lakeland's. We want to give them tangible qualifications to leave with so the leadership programme will look to provide them with coaching/refereeing qualifications for when they leave us at Lakelands.

The team at Lakelands and Harry from STiTC are looking forward to continuing the great relationship built and developing further opportunities for the pupils of Lakelands Academy.



UNIFORM

We have recently sent you, via Parentmail, our uniform booklet and guide from September as a reminder as we are aware that some of you are planning to purchase various items of uniform after the long lockdown as a lot of our youngsters appear to have had a huge growth spurt!

We all appreciate how difficult things have been during this pandemic and during the latest lockdown so we are trying to be as understanding and as flexible as possible around uniform issues. A lot of parents are struggling in lots of ways, including financially, because of the Covid pandemic. It is essential therefore that you keep the lines of communication open between yourselves and your son/daughters form tutor and Head of Year if you are experiencing any issues around making sure they have the correct uniform and PE kit to wear after Easter.

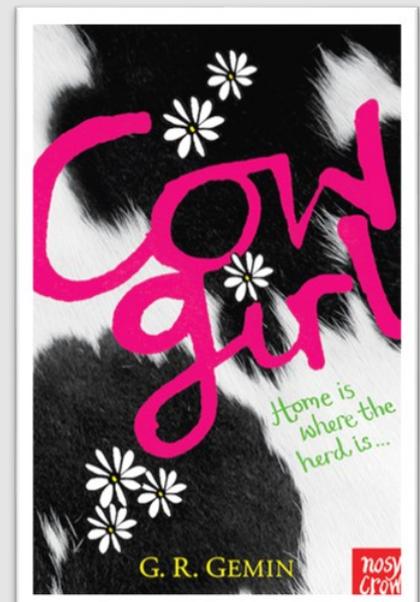
Please can we also remind you that pupils should only wear their PE kits to school on the days that they actually have PE lessons!

Recommended Read.....

G R Gemin: Cow Girl

Growing up on the embattled Mawr Estate in South Wales, all Gemma sees are burglaries, muggings, sadness and boredom. With a dad in prison and a mum who has given up hope, she, like everyone around her, is holding on to memories of the times when happiness wasn't so hard to find.

When her search for the scene of a perfect childhood day takes her up into the surrounding hills, Gemma is forced into a meeting with the legendary Cowgirl. But with her abrupt arrival in Gemma's life, everything starts to look different. A gently funny story of a community coming together, this is a tale of happy endings in unexpected places.



About The Author: G R Gemin

G R Gemin is a Welsh author who has written many successful young adult books. His books have been translated into many languages, including Welsh and German.

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

Please be advised that we can only accept **telephone calls and messages** regarding student absences, **not email**. If your child is absent for more than one day, please note that we require you to phone **every morning**, not just on the first day of absence.

These are safeguarding requirements.

To report an absence please ring 01691 622543

2020/2021 TERM DATES

SPRING TERM 2021

EASTER - Friday 2nd - Friday 16th April

HALF TERM - Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June

SUMMER TERM 2021

Monday 19th April - Tuesday 20th July

First day of Summer holidays - Wednesday 21st July



Reminder

Pupils must arrive at school on time in the mornings and be on site ready for the 8.55am bell.



CYCLE PERMITS

Please collect a letter from reception if you want to bring your bike to the Academy.

The additional items which are now acceptable as part of PE kit are:

- **Sports leggings/ skins/ undershorts in black or navy (no designer brands)**
- **School shorts or skorts should be worn over the top** and there should be no visible logos or alternate colourways visible once the shorts or skorts are on. This means that a logo may be present but it is covered up by the shorts or skorts. Please ensure that they wear leggings as well as their shorts/ skorts not instead of them.
- **Jogging bottoms in black or navy**
There may be a small logo at the top of the trousers as we appreciate it is very difficult to buy jogging bottoms without a logo however this logo or branding should only be at the top of the trousers and the rest of the jogging bottoms should be plain with no other colourways.
- **School jumper/ Lakelands PE fleece maybe worn if it is cold or BTEC hoody for BTEC students.**



A reminder of the uniform and appearance code is in your child's diary on page 3.

UNIFORM REMINDER

Please see below a list of areas of concern to focus on as part of our uniform and appearance code. A reminder of the uniform code is in your child's diary on page 3.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation and for helping us to support the strong values of Lakelands Academy.

Please label all uniform and belongings. This really helps us when trying to reunite lost property with its owner.

GOOD



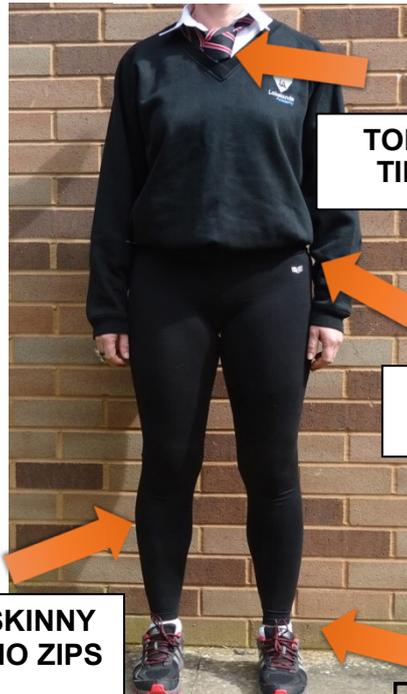
TOP BUTTON / TIE FASTENED

BLACK KNEE LENGTH SKIRT

BLACK SENSIBLE (FLAT) SHOES - NOT BOOTS

Single small stud in each ear is permissible but no other piercings are allowed.

BAD



TOP BUTTON / TIE UNDONE

JUMPER TUCKED IN

LEGGINGS/SKINNY TROUSERS/NO ZIPS

TRAINERS

BAD

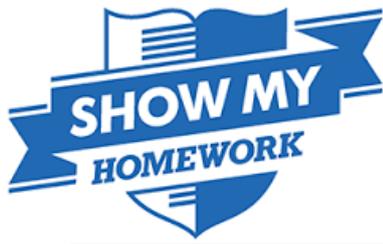


TOP BUTTON / TIE UNDONE

SHIRT UNTUCKED

SKIRT TOO SHORT/ TOO TIGHT OR LYCRA

TRAINERS



**PARENTS/CARERS PLEASE
REMEMBER TO CHECK SHOW MY
HOMEWORK. YOU WILL BE ABLE
TO SEE WHAT HOMEWORK HAS
BEEN SET AND IN SOME CASES IF
THE HOMEWORK HAS BEEN
HANDED IN.**

Attention All Parents!

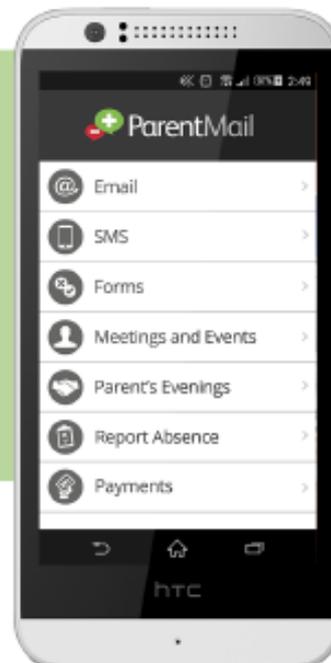


Have you downloaded the new ^{FREE} parent App?

Receive and respond to school messages from
your smartphone instantly!

You can:

- ✓ Find messages in a clear, uncluttered feed (separate from your busy email inbox!)
- ✓ Receive ALL school & club messages on one App
- ✓ Have instant access - no need to login
- ✓ Receive in-App notifications making sure you're alerted each time you're sent a message
- ✓ Read school messages even when there's no internet connection
- ✓ Preserve your data allowance



To download your FREE parent App, simply visit the
Apple or Android store and search for ParentMail



Follow the Lakelands
Academy feed
[@LakelandsAcad](https://twitter.com/LakelandsAcad)



There are several ways to buy items

Shop *Opening days/times overleaf*

Telephone *Call us on 01743 440 449*

Online *www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk*

Email *info@schoolshopdirect.co.uk*

Why not come and see us?

Unit 17 / 18
Sundorne Trade Park
Featherbed lane
Shrewsbury
SY1 4NS

www.schoolshopdirect.co.uk