



# LAKELANDS NEWS

July 2023

## A message from The Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

This is always an incredibly busy half term, and this year I'm particularly grateful for the whirlwind of activity that is each new day, as it means that I have little time to reflect on my imminent departure!

The last two weeks have reinforced everything that we know to be the cycle of life at Lakelands.

The new cohort of Year 7s completed their transition day. They arrived with faces full of anxious anticipation but departed six and a half hours later with broad smiles, waving to newly made friends and declaring that they couldn't wait to start in September.

Then, this week, we were able to witness the spectacle of the annual Prom, where we said a final farewell to Year 11 who looked magnificent, and in some cases almost unrecognisable, in their finery. This year I'm obviously in a particularly nostalgic frame of mind, as, looking around the room, I recalled the individual journeys that they had been on over the last five years. All had experienced highs and lows, good times, and hard times but there they were – mission accomplished, success achieved and absolutely ready for the next stage of life's adventure.

This is what Lakelands does for its students, has always done and will continue to do in the future. As I've said in all my final assemblies, Lakelands is bigger than all of us. Those of us who are lucky enough to study here or work here are merely passing through, writing our own chapters - for sure - and making our own memories, but then passing the baton on.....

There are a number of us who are leaving this time, and on behalf of all of us I want to thank Mrs Parkinson, Mrs Keeling, Mrs Hanmer, Miss Douthwaite and, from the site and kitchen teams, Christine Jones, aka 'Tig'! All have made a fantastic contribution in their time at Lakelands and will be much missed.

Across Europe temperatures are breaking records as people shelter from the searing heat. I'm very relieved that the highly successful Year 8 Normandy trip went a few

weeks ago when the weather was kinder, and I'm very grateful to all the staff who accompanied our 'etudiants'.

I'm also extremely grateful to everyone who has given their time to plan and run all the wonderful enrichment activities that have been on offer this year. They are what we all remember years later, and they're so important.

Next Monday Year 10 will come back into school after an incredibly successful Work Experience week. We've had some terrific feedback already and I know that Year 10 will have many tales to tell on their return.

Today we've had a glorious English Faculty fete taking place in the hall. In typically British Summer fashion, this was planned to take place outside, but the weather had other plans! There will be a lot of anxious nail biting going on over the weekend as the forecasts for next week's Sports Day, Music Festival and Sponsored Walk day are looking very uncertain. I know we'll all make the best of it whatever the weather.

So, as I sign off for the last time, I want to wish all our Year 11 students the very best on Results Day (Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August). Thank you to all members of the Lakelands staff team for their incredible hard work this year and every year. Thank you for your support as parents / carers, and last but certainly not least, thank you to all the amazing pupils who have made sure that I've never had a dull moment in 27 years! Have a wonderful summer :-)

Sophy Bellis

### **REMINDER:**

***Years 7 and 11 only will return on Wednesday 6th September, and Years 8,9 and 10 will return on Thursday 7th September.***

# Goodbye and Good Luck Mrs Bellis.....



Mrs Bellis joined the staff at Lakelands in January 1996 as a teacher of RE. Following her appointment, she was promoted to the post of Assistant Head in 2005 and in 2018 took up the Headship following a period of some turbulence at the school. Her appointment served to unify staff into a team that could move forward with confidence.

Throughout her years at Lakelands, she has given unstintingly to the school. It has been her passion, and her contribution has been immense. Mrs Bellis works long hours and as a consequence is always fully aware of everything that happens at Lakelands - nothing passes her by!

She believes in Lakelands, its students, parents, and its achievements. She has a resilience and a deep sense of commitment that has enabled the school to grow from strength to strength. She is hugely respected by her peers and as an inspirational speaker has forged excellent links with feeder schools, their staff and parents which has contributed to the popularity of the school in the wider community.

Lakelands is a successful school, and this is a reflection of the quality of leadership and vision. Mrs Bellis cares deeply and helps nurture an ethos in which each student is special. Post Covid, she has worked hard to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our students, forming strong relationships with a range of professionals to ensure that students are supported and helped to manage the challenging situations some have found themselves experiencing. Everyone matters and is encouraged to aspire and achieve their optimum potential taking pride in their journey throughout our school.

Mrs Bellis is a very generous and warm person, never afraid to dip into her own pocket, special days are recognised, charities are supported, prizes are bought. These qualities mark her out as a very special human being.

On a personal note, I have greatly enjoyed working with Mrs Bellis. She is a true professional and we will miss her greatly. As Chair of governors, we have developed an excellent working relationship over many years. On numerous occasions I have been able to draw upon her remarkable knowledge of the school and its history. I know from personal experience that Headship can on occasions be a lonely and difficult position. She has managed the challenge of her role with great presence and has maintained a sense of humour throughout.

I wish her well and am sure that she will continue to be driven by a belief and concern for others in whatever she chooses to do next, once she has taken a very well-deserved rest. Her legacy will be a hard act to follow, she will leave the school in the best of places for the new Head to take it forward. Thank you Mrs Bellis.

Mr G Corfield - Chair of Governors





# PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS

## TOUCH TO TWICKENHAM

Year 9's went to Worcester where they faced a number of tough fixtures in the blazing heat with resilience, determination and have shown outstanding teamwork! We were playing the best schools across the country. Only lost 2 out of 8 games and with only 1 try in it each time. As joint winners, we have been invited to Twickenham stadium for the 6Nations match between Ireland and England on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The intent would be that we would take part in the pre-match curtain raiser and then be guard of honour as teams take to the pitch!



## North Shropshire Schools Athletics – Queensway



Liked by thesidingsworkshop and 85 others  
 lakelandsacademy Huge congratulations to Luke Edwards in year 9 who won gold in both 100m and 200m sprints at Telford and at Stoke competing for Shropshire. He also got a PB of 11.4s in the 100m. He's now been selected to represent Shropshire at The English School Championships at The Alexander Stadium in Birmingham. Well done Luke!



Liked by thesidingsworkshop and 101 others  
 lakelandsacademy Wear pink for Ella  
 #ellarmy





# SPORTS DAY 2023







## English End of Term Newsletter

Well, we've made it to the end of the year- and what a busy final half term it's been! One of the highlights has been the incredibly successful Readathon which raised over £1000 for our lovely school library and Hope House in memory of Ella. Readathon week was filled with exciting reading activities and encouraged year 7 and 8 to read as much as possible- setting themselves a personal reading challenge. Some went above and beyond; raising amazing



amounts or pushing themselves to read more than they ever had before! A huge thank you again to all the families who supported the challenge. We'd like to give a special mention to Kennedy Curley in 7N who also contributed by crocheting some gorgeous baby items and blankets to donate to Hope House. They were collected in assembly by Vicky from the Hope House fundraising team, who was absolutely blown away by the effort, kindness and generosity of Lakelands students.



Well done to our wonderful year 10s, Dougie Thomkins, Sam Appleyard, Zak Roberts, Daniel Williams, Chloe Payne, Gracie Dann and Ollie Harrison, who represented us in the Viva Voce competition at Ellesmere College. They all performed brilliantly, and returned to school with first place for Chloe in the Dramatic Reading category, and second place for Zak in the Presentation category. The English Faculty couldn't be prouder of all of them!

We have celebrated the end of term with our English fete on Friday 14<sup>th</sup>. This was lots of fun; there were some brilliant entries for the competitions, including decorating a biscuit as a member of staff, which were entertaining to say the least! The ones of Miss Mansfield and Mr Wood were particularly good likenesses! The coveted prize of 'Best in Show' was won by Jesse Williams in 7B. He won prizes in various categories, but his Lego model, based on the novel Maze Runner was outstanding! It was accurate down to tiny details, and even had lights and moving parts! A very well deserved trophy and gift voucher! Well done, Jesse!

We love a competition in English and this half term we were thrilled to present Alicia Harris with an Amazon voucher as the winner of the Year 10 Horror Story creative Writing Competition. Well done, Alicia!

This half term we were sad to bid farewell to our year 11s -a fabulous, hard-working and entertaining year group. Their attitude towards revision and exams was amazing; it was lovely to see so many smiling faces leaving the exam hall, too. They are absolute credit to the school and we wish them every success for results day in August and beyond.

And, finally, it's time for three of us in The English Faculty to bid Lakelands a fond farewell. Mrs Parkinson, Miss Douthwaite and Mrs Hanmer will be moving on to new adventures. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you, the parents, for your fantastic support and all of our wonderful students and colleagues for making our time here so enjoyable. It's been a privilege to be part of #TeamLakelands and we wish everybody every happiness for the future.

Wishing you all a very happy summer 2023!

From the English team!





# NORMANDY

2023



Normandy was the best experience ever, I will never forget the things we did. I felt so proud of myself, we spoke French for the first time and the pancakes were delicious. My favourite part was the market as there was lots of jewellery and food after that we went to the caramel factory and there were so many different flavours. There was so much to see at the American Cemetery, with gravestones as far as the eye can see. After that we went to the 360 cinema which was a emotional roller coaster, a few tears here and there.

I learnt something new at the bakery, we made baguettes and they tasted amazing but the snails were questionable!! I will warn you that not only is it the thought of eating a slug as it doesn't have a shell by then, there is way too much garlic. But the frog legs are good.

Finally on the last night we had a quiz and my team drew with one other team. We both got one on the bonus round so Mr Purslow got 2 leaves which were 2 different sizes and we had to pick the bigger leaf and Seth went up and picked the smaller leaf so WE WON!!! I had such an amazing time, Normandy definitely has a place in my heart.

It was so much fun and I loved every second. We did so much that it was hard to think of home. I really enjoyed the market. I wish I could go back.

Tilly Norton & Gracie Rowe

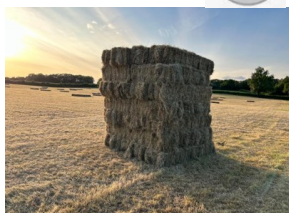




7C's winning photos for this term. Our theme was "Summer" and the 3 winning ones are:



Mabel 1st    Abbie 2nd    Isaac 3rd



### German Exchange Student

I have come to Lakelands Academy to practice my English speaking and to see what English schools are like. I have enjoyed some of the lessons that I have seen; in particular, the cooking lessons and the Drama. In my school, we do not have such lessons and so it was very interesting to see them.

Everybody has been very kind to me and very nice to me. I would like to say thank you to the staff and pupils. I will go home to Germany and tell my friends all about my experiences.

Wishing you all a very happy summer holiday.

Anna Renzel



## Start and Discover Award



A group of Lakelands students have been enjoying Paddle Boarding sessions on the Llangollen Canal this half term thanks to a grant from Sport England. Working alongside The Paddle Bros and Ellesmere Yard the students have followed a 7 week course and have achieved the Paddle Start Award from British Canoeing.

If you are interested in Paddle Boarding the Paddle Bros run sessions on the canal at weekends, more information can be found on their website : [www.thepaddlebros.co.uk/](http://www.thepaddlebros.co.uk/)



### Foodbank Collection 5<sup>th</sup> June – 23<sup>rd</sup> June

We had an amazing response to our collection this year and on behalf of Oswestry & borders Foodbank I would like to thank everyone for your generous support.

We also went bag packing on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June at Tesco in Ellesmere and received donations of £189.00

All proceeds went to the Foodbank. The pupils taking part were fantastic and we received lovely feedback from the public.

One lady commented "they are a credit to the school".

Also, a big thank you to Tesco Ellesmere for agreeing to host us.

The pupils helping were:

Year 10: Iliyana Bedzheva, Ella Evans, Katie Meddins, Kyle Thomas & Axel Price

Year 9: Jamie-Lea Robertson

Year 7: Rosalie Smith, James Hyde, Oliver Payne & Riley Finch.



## Library News

It's been a busy half term in the library – starting with a jam-packed Readathon week and finishing with a fantastic Book Swap! In between we celebrated Pride month with a virtual author talk from YA author Simon James Green and focussed on books celebrating LGBTQ+ themes, characters and storylines. **Celebrating Success**

Once again, all students who hit their own personal reading target for this term were entered into our Reading Hamper Prize Draw, and we were thrilled to hand out our special reading hampers to the following winners:

Y7: Olly Addison (7B), Y8: Ruby Steen (8N), Y9: Evie Edwards (9N)

Congratulations to you all and enjoy your summer treats!



### Celebrating our Word Millionaires!

A huge congratulations to all our students who read over a MILLION words this year! Becoming a Word Millionaire is a fantastic achievement and we're really proud of all these students for their commitment to reading.

Our Millionaires this year were:

Year 7: Evie Green, Kennedy Curley, Ella Thornhill, Daniel Barney, William Davies, William Brook, Mia McGivern, Megan Hollingsworth & Luke Kavanagh

Year 8: Zoe Lopez-Hansen, Michael Jones, Evie Payne, Andrea Cyganik, Kacey Rogers, Tilly Manford, Alex Barney, Elsie Gough-Yeandel, Jim Barlow, Owen Carvell & Orielle Norton-Hamilton

Year 9: Evie Edwards, Grace Cheetham, Lydia Grindley & George Butler

All our Word Millionaires were entered into the Golden Ticket prize draw and one lucky reader from each year won a £20 Amazon voucher. Congratulations to Ella Thornhill (7N), Tilly Manford (8N) and Evie Edwards (9N) for their wins!

### Top Readers

A special mention also needs to be made of our TOP READERS who clocked up some phenomenal word counts this year and were awarded with a Top Reader Trophy. They were:

William Brook (7N) for reading 4,512,891 words, Michael Jones (8W) for reading 4,566,744 words, Evie Edwards (9N) for reading 3,427,454 words

These word counts are **phenomenal**, and all our top readers should all be very proud of their achievements.

### The Big Book Swap!



The Big Book Swap was a great success again this year! Over 85 books were swapped in the school Hall on Thursday and students were delighted to go home with some fantastic new reading material for the summer. We also sold around 60 books at the book stall, which we ran at the English Fete, and students were thrilled to grab themselves some fantastic bargains.

We love to see our students getting excited about reading so thank you to everyone who brought in books to swap.



### Keep Reading Over the Summer!

We've seen students make some fantastic improvements in their reading this year and we don't want that progress to be lost over the summer holidays so please do try and fit in some reading alongside all your other exciting summer plans.

To make it easy for you, we've created a page on the school website giving you lots of information on ways you can access books (be they physical books, eBooks or audiobooks) and other reading material over the summer holidays. Just visit <https://www.lakelandsacademy.org.uk/> and click on the 'Keep Reading This Summer' logo. There are lots of book suggestions on there for you to have a look at and even a Summer Reading Bingo Challenge that you can get involved with.

**Happy Reading!**





## Year 10 Chemistry



Mrs Jones' Year 10 Chemistry class have been learning about Fullerenes and chemical bonding in Carbon atoms. They were tasked with making atomic models of the structure of Fullerenes and Carbon Nanotubes and to see if they could take it further by adapting the structures to show different properties. The students were able to demonstrate fantastic team working skills in order to produce new models using the Molymods, and even suggesting how the atomic structures could be used to make new products, including clothing and sports equipment. Well done Year 10!

### Bosch Professional Tools Student Training Event

The Bosch event went very well, the students really enjoyed the event.

Bosch gave all the students involved a chance to learn and use all their 18 v BiTurbo tools and the event ended with students getting some free merchandise from Bosch.

We hope to organise a similar event with other tools they produce, which will be great and give other students a chance of attending who missed out.

Thanks to everyone who helped and made this possible.



**IAN BYRNE**  
Member of Parliament for Liverpool West Derby  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
Email: [ian.byrne.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ian.byrne.mp@parliament.uk)  
Tel: 020 7219 3000

Miss Emily Douthwaite and Year 10 pupils  
Lakelands Academy  
Oswestry Road  
Ellesmere  
Shropshire  
SY12 0EA

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

**Re: Your letters re learning about Hillsborough and The Real Truth Legacy Project**

Dear Miss Douthwaite and your Year 10 English pupils,

I am writing in response to thank you all for your recent letters regarding the work you have been doing on the Hillsborough disaster and for your unequivocal backing of our Real Truth Legacy Project.

To say that my team and I were impressed by your letter, Emily, and those of your pupils would be an understatement.

Thank you so much to each and every one of you for taking the time to write to me about your response to our project and to learning about Hillsborough.

Our project relies on teachers and pupils such as yourselves to bring education on Hillsborough into the classroom and your letters show just how engaged and informed you all are. This was absolutely fantastic to see. So, thank you all.

Miss Douthwaite, I was so delighted to receive the correspondence from yourself and your pupils that I would love to visit you and your Year 10 pupils at the school to discuss the Real Truth Legacy Project and education about Hillsborough with you in person if that is possible. Please do get in touch on 0151 222 2345 or [ian.byrne.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ian.byrne.mp@parliament.uk) so that we can arrange this as soon as possible.

Thank you once again and keep up the great work! I hope to see you all soon.

Yours sincerely,

**Ian Byrne**  
Member of Parliament for Liverpool West Derby

**Constituency Office:**  
545 West Derby Road L138AA  
Phone No. 0151 222 2345 Email: [ian.byrne.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ian.byrne.mp@parliament.uk)  
[www.ianbyrne.org](http://www.ianbyrne.org)

## Year 10 English

Miss Douthwaite's Year 10 English class have been learning about the Hillsborough disaster. To practise their letter writing skills and use what they had learnt, they wrote to Ian Byrne, who is MP for West Derby in Liverpool, and runs a campaign called the Real Truth Legacy Project. The Project aims to put the disaster on the curriculum.

The letters were written in support of his campaign and the pupils told Mr Byrne what they had learnt and why they thought it was important.

We received a reply in May and hope to arrange a visit in which the pupils can talk to him in the autumn term.



## LAKELANDS PRE-LOVED CLOTHES SHOP

To make pre-loved school clothing available to our school community we have set up a school shop. All items available will be free of charge.

### How it works!

- Families kindly donate any old, unused or unwanted school uniform they no longer require. If you would like to donate any school uniform please drop it in at reception. Please make sure all uniform has been cleaned and washed prior to donating and any name tags removed.
- Uniform can be ordered using the Microsoft Form below and can also be found on our school website. Please copy the link and paste into your browser.
- You will receive an email confirmation when your order is ready to be collected.
- Orders can be collected from reception by the Parent or the pupil. We ask that orders are collected as soon as possible and will only be held for 5 days.
- If the item is not in stock you will be added to a waiting list and contacted as soon as it becomes available.

Link to form - <https://forms.office.com/r/Z19NqNvuRg>

### ITEMS AVAILABLE

These will all be free of charge  
Lakelands Black Sweatshirt  
Lakelands PE Polo & PE Rugby Top  
Lakelands PE Fleece  
Navy Skort  
Navy Sports Shorts  
BTEC PE Hoody



## YEAR 11 in September 2023??

We have pre-loved Year 11 burgundy sweatshirts in school.

Please click on the link or contact us at school.



## AUTUMN TERM 2023

Wednesday 6th September - Wednesday 20th December

PD Days - Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th September

Years 7 and 11 only will return on **Wednesday 6th September**, and Years 8,9 and 10 will return on **Thursday 7th September**.

HALF TERM: Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November

CHRISTMAS: Thursday 21st December - Tuesday 2nd January

## SPRING TERM 2024

Thursday 4th January - Friday 22nd March

PD Day - Wednesday 3rd January

HALF TERM: Monday 12th - Friday 16th February

EASTER: Monday 25th March - Friday 5th April

## REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If we are expecting your child to be in school and they are unable to attend, please telephone, **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

Garden party featuring the music of...

# The Tia-La-Lasses

Abbie, Lorna & Lin

2.00 PM  
Sunday 6th  
August

To be held on the Top Green

Free car parking, bar, home made cakes, tea/coffee available.

Celebrating 325 years of bowling in Ellesmere

Bring a picnic and enjoy the views from this historic site!

Note- flat soled shoes please!

Tickets £12.50pp (children under 16 free)

Available from Linda Arthan lathan@icloud.com or Ismay's and Moolah in Ellesmere

**ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS EBC FLOODLAMP APPEAL**

## Reminder

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





# 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.

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



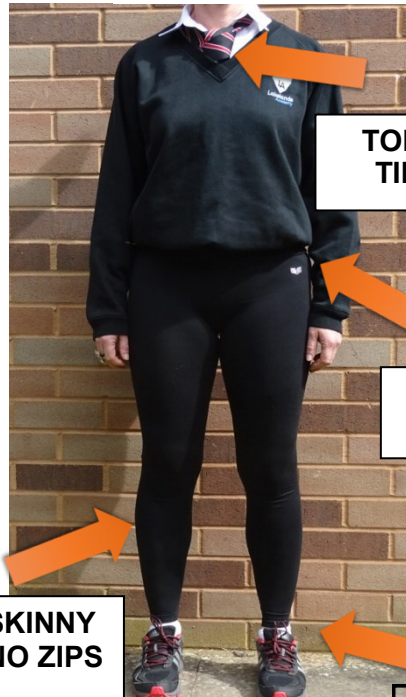
TOP BUTTON / TIE FASTENED

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!

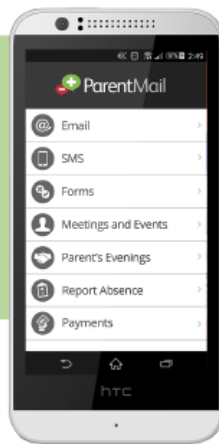


Have you downloaded the new **FREE** parent App?

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)