



December 2024

## A message from The Headteacher

As another busy and eventful term nears an end, it is a good opportunity to review and share some of the highlights from this academic year to date. As with last year's Christmas newsletter, I have scrolled through our social media to remind us of just some of the excellent opportunities and experiences our students have had and of the superb achievements and contributions they have made. Some of the highlights include:

- Supporting charities including Brain Tumour Research, Young Minds, Save the Children, Children in Need, The Royal British Legion and RSPCA.
- Our superb school performance of Grease.
- The Scholastic book fayre which again sold over £1000 worth of books resulting in £530 worth of free books for our school.
- Taking part in UK Parliament Week.
- Harry Potter Day.
- Hosting an excellent Year 11 revision strategy workshop with Positively You.
- Raising awareness about embracing diversity and promoting inclusion as part of Anti-Bullying Week.
- A range of sporting participation and achievements.
- A number of trips and visits.
- Careers events and guidance.
- European Languages Week.
- Hosting visiting authors.
- GCSE presentation and awards evening with special guest Tom Davis (former GB Judo athlete and British and Commonwealth champion).

In addition we have also received the following accolades:

- National School Attendance Award for 2023-24 Top 25% of ALL Fischer Family Trust Schools in England.
- National School Attendance Award for 2023-24 – Top 25% of SIMILAR Fischer Family Trust Schools in England.

- Barclays Girls' Football School Partnerships – Equal Access School 2024

- The Alex Timpson Attachment Research Community Award (to recognise and celebrate the best attachment and trauma aware practice in schools and settings nationally) – nominated.

Your children have continued to be a credit to themselves and their families throughout this first term of 2024-25. They have consistently displayed our core values of *safe, smart, responsible, kind* and have been rewarded handsomely for doing so. In addition to their personal reward point totals, they are also contributing towards their House total. As the House rivalry and competition builds, you can keep up to date with who is in the lead via the home page of our website ([Lakeland Academy](https://www.lakelandacademy.co.uk)).

At the time of writing, your children collectively have received almost 303,000 reward points which is incredible! Many have also received 'Golden Tickets' (which sees them receive a card to be entered into a prize draw to win a voucher), 'Subject Commendations' and 'Thank You Friday' postcards.



A reminder please, all students return to school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025**





# LAKELANDS NEWS

December 2024



On the topic of our new website, please can I remind you that it also includes lots of other important information including our 'Thought for the Week', term dates, CIEAG (curriculum information, education, advice and guidance) and important safeguarding information and signposting.

A major development this academic year has been the introduction of Bromcom as our new Management Information System. I would like to thank all of you who have provided positive feedback about the associated My Child At School (MCAS) App' which provides access to information, reports and communication. We look forward to developing this further throughout the year.

I would also like to say thank you to all of you who took the time to complete the recent parent/carers voice survey. The responses demonstrate a steady, or in some cases vast, improvement in many key areas. Highlights in terms of improved positive responses include:

- My child is happy at this school.
- My child feels safe at this school.
- The school makes sure its students are well behaved.
- The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.
- Communication (through ParentMail and Social Media) from the school is effective and timely.
- When I have raised concerns with the school, they have been dealt with properly.
- The school has high expectations for my child.
- My child does well at this school.
- The school lets me know how my child is doing through academic reports and any pastoral concerns (when appropriate).
- My child is appropriately challenged by learning in lessons.

- The school supports my child's wider personal development (PSHE program, assemblies, tutor time, trips, Student Senate, careers etc.).

- The school values everyone equally and teaches students that difference is a positive, not a negative.

- I would recommend this school to another parent.

As is almost always the case, the end of a school term sees some movement of staff. This term is no different and we are saying goodbye and good luck to Mr Nicholls, Mrs McGill, Mr Carson, Ms Vilhena, Miss Lovatt and Miss Dodd. We thank them all for their contributions to Lakelands Academy and wish them the very best of luck for their new challenges and opportunities. We are looking forward to welcoming our new staff in January and are excited to begin working with them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a peaceful new year.

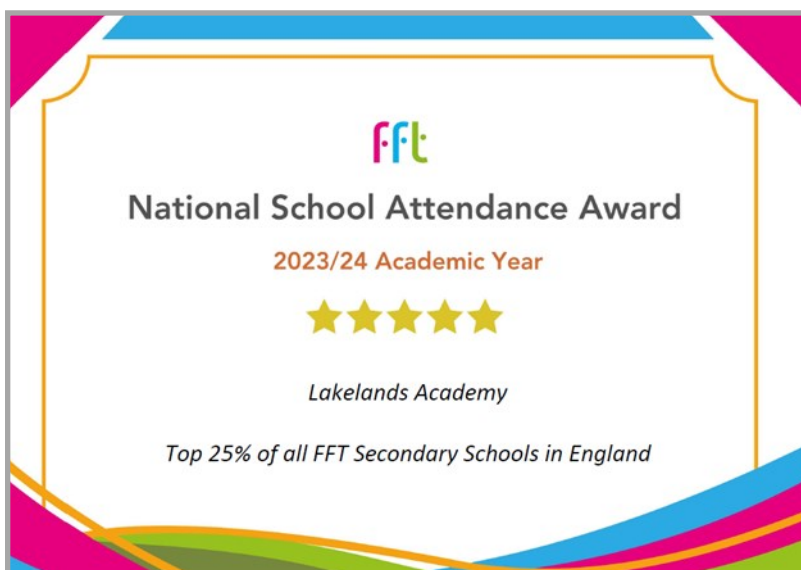
Mark Hignett  
Headteacher



# Awards, Grants and Achievements



**TESCO**



Lakelands has been successful in securing a £1,000 grant from Tesco following a bid we submitted in 2023 for students to do 3D Artwork and get into the world of ceramics by making use of the kiln that we have in school. This money will be put to good use to purchase materials and resources that will provide an exciting opportunity for our students to broaden their knowledge and skills in art and craft.

**These names are for the individuals with the most achievement points in their year:**

**Year 7: Pending**

**Year 8: Pending**

**Year 9: Pending**

**Year 10: Pending**

**Year 11: Pending**



# Drama



Grease is... indeed the Word..!!!



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



Huge congratulations to these girls who played some lovely netball in the afternoon and we all got drenched but they enjoyed the experience and represented Lakelands extremely well, as always!



We have achieved this beautiful award for being a school that provides equal opportunities for girls and boys in football.



Massive congratulations to our year 10 boys after being 2-0 down at HT to come back in the second half to win 3-2 in the ESFA cup first round



Fab day with Year 10 BTEC Sport students at the Careers in Sport event at Shrewsbury Club. We even got to watch some live tennis before a power cut ended proceedings early



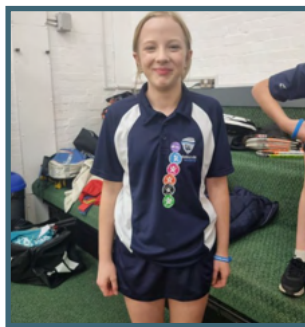
Well done to our Year 8 girls who played some fab netball friendlies against the Marches and St.Martins. Fantastic performance, effort, and attitude shown by all! [#teamlakelands](https://www.instagram.com/teamlakelands)





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

Amazing trip with some of the Year 7 and 8 girls to Lilleshall National Sports Centre. They got to try some different activities such as boxing, archery, cricket, squash and boccia!







# Congratulations



## Students Performing and Excelling in Out of School Activities

Our pupils entered a Young Writers Poetry competition back in October. They were asked to write a poem around the title of The Beautiful Truth, and however they interpreted that title. Lots of pupils have earned themselves a certificate for their efforts and now have the opportunity to get their work published into a poetry anthology of pupils' work from our region.

Well done to all of those that entered, and especially to those that have earned the honour of publication.

Thank you to Mrs Vardy, for organising and collating the entries.



Our very own Year 8 Ariana R, in her role as deputy member of youth parliament helping to open the brand new building at SYA, Shrewsbury, who provide youth services for children across Shropshire.

Ariana gave a speech at the event to Shropshire VIP's about her work to try to get CPR and first aid skills on the PHSE curriculum in Shropshire.



Lakeland's Academy student James Portlock attended the premiere and was fortunate enough to be cast in the film along with his father Martin Portlock who is known for his scary witch performances of Britain's Got Talent.

James played an innocent child villager that was taken over by an evil darkness turning him into a gruesome and aggressive bad guy!



Since Harry started riding in Aug 2024 he has been determined to do well and he has worked hard and achieved so much. Harry has won the junior show jumping league for the Equine Forces and received a golden ticket to compete at Weston Lawns in the Forces Equine Games in May 25.

At the North Shropshire Pony Club presentation, he received a beautiful trophy for the Top Junior Rider.

Well done Harry!!

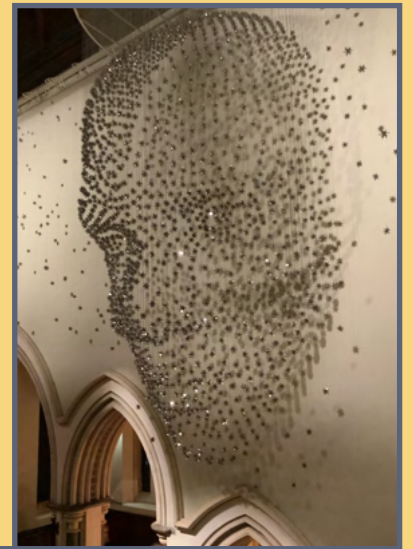




## Year 8 Stratford upon Avon trip

An all round fantastic day in Stratford upon Avon, the birthplace of William

Shakespeare. Visiting the town, attending a workshop at the Royal Shakespeare Company, followed by a fish and chip dinner and on to see the theatre production of 'The Red Shoes.'





# Library News

We had great fun celebrating Harry Potter Day! A number of witches and wizards were spotted around school, there were Harry-Potter themed lessons in English, a fun form-time quiz and a film in the Hall at lunchtime.

Best of all was the fantastic Harry Potter party in the library after school, where some of our top readers put their Harry Potter knowledge to the test, enjoyed a glass of Butterbeer, took a trip to Honeydukes sweetshop and enjoyed a range of games, crafts and activities. Fantastic wizarding fun!



A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair this week! It's been wonderful seeing our students' excitement as they've browsed and bought new books. Thanks to your support we sold £1,060 worth of books, which means that we qualify for an amazing £530 of free books from Scholastic! We're thrilled with this result and can't wait to add more exciting new books to our library.



# Maths

As part of their maths homework, 8.1 were asked to produce something relating to scale.

They were asked to be imaginative and creative, but to also show the relevant mathematical skills.

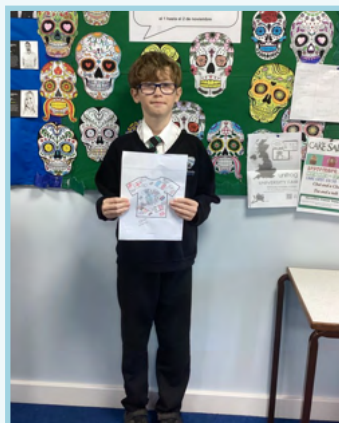


# MFL

Miss McGill was excited to share that 7W took part in a design competition for European Day of Languages.

Miss McGill said she was overwhelmed with the incredible entries, it was a very difficult decision to make but the three winners are Ethan W, Issy M and Annabel LW!

Well done to you all!





# MFL



European Languages week is a celebration of diversity of the European continent. For theme of week students have practised saying hello in over 20 languages, tutor groups are imaging their fantasy European football team and year 7 are completing a competition in their language lesson to design a t shirt that best reflects European diversity.



Year 7 French have made a great start to the year. They have been getting to grips with the French numbers and learnt about different techniques to learn vocabulary such as flash cards. They also took part in the European Day of Languages Competition to design a T-shirt celebrating the day.



Happy Diwali to all the Lakelands Community. Diwali is  
Thu, 31 Oct 2024 – Fri, 1 Nov 2024

Diwali, also known as Deepavali, is the Hindu festival of lights. It symbolises the spiritual "victory of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance." School reception is decorated with electric tealights and rangoli made by year 9 students. Year 9 are currently studying Hinduism in Religious Studies.

# Charity

Thank you to everyone who donned yellow for 'World Mental Health' day!

All donations will go to Young Minds, a mental health charity for children, young people and their parents,

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/donate/>



'Hello Yellow' Non-Uniform Day



Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Donations will go to Young Minds



M&S | YOUNG



We went pink for Ella  

Thanking all of you that took part and helped us by raising awareness and donating to Ella's Army - Brain Tumour Research.

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/ellarmy>



WEAR IT PINK...NON-UNIFORM DAY  
FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER



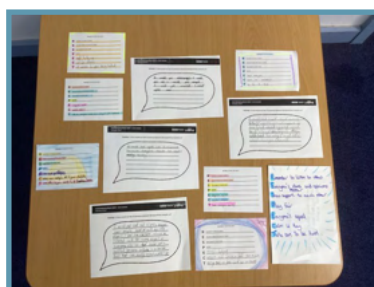


# Charity

Thank you to everyone who provided some delicious treats for our bake sale, and a massive thank you to all that helped out and purchased them! Lots of happy faces. <https://www.macmillan.org.uk/donate>



## Odd Sock day..





# Charity

A festive sea of colour  
filled the halls on  
Christmas Jumper day!

Thank you to all of  
you that joined in and  
donated to Save the  
Children



Christmas Jumper  
Day 2024





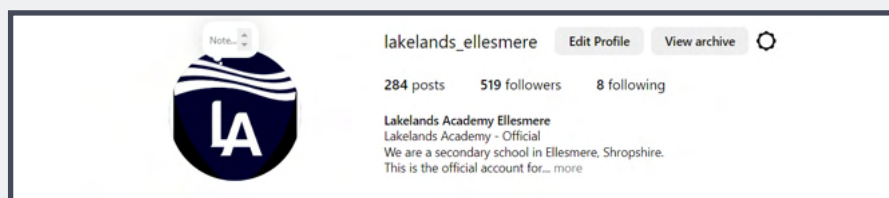
# Social Media



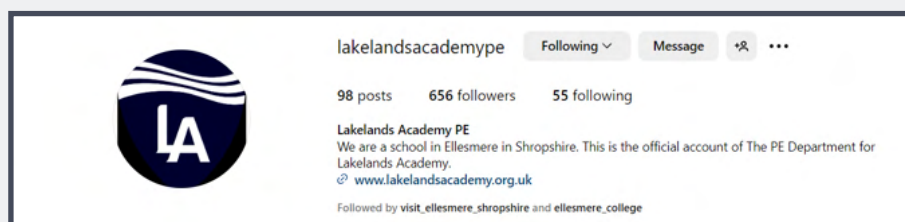
Instagram



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61559753621024>



<https://www.instagram.com/>



<https://www.instagram.com/lakelandsacademype/>



<https://x.com/>

Do you follow us on Social Media?  
We post daily, so please give us a like and a follow on one or all of our platforms



<https://www.lakelandsacademy.org.uk/>

Have you visited our new website?

# COPING AT CHRISTMAS

The Added Pressures of Christmas can be Tough, but it's Important to know there's always Someone you can Talk to...



Call 111 & select option 2 to speak to the NHS Mental Health Crisis Response Service 24/7

[Nhs.uk/mental-health](https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health)



Under 35s can Call 0800 068 4141, Text: 88247 or Email: [pat@papyrus-uk.org](mailto:pat@papyrus-uk.org) 24/7

[Papyrus-uk.org](https://www.papyrus-uk.org)



Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) for a reply within 24 hours

[Samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)



Call MIND's Mental Health Helpline 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday on 0300 102 1234

[Mind.org.uk](https://www.mind.org.uk)



Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19

[Giveusashout.org](https://www.giveusashout.org)



Mental Health Forum & Chat for Men from 5pm - midnight every day Call or Watsapp 0800 585858

[Thecalmzone.net](https://www.thecalmzone.net)

[ChristmasCountdown.uk](https://www.ChristmasCountdown.uk)

## SEND Parent Cafe

Tuesday 17th December  
9.30am - 10.30am

Come meet the SEND Team!  
A chance to chat with Miss Warren, Mrs Allum, Miss Lovatt, Miss Richards & Mrs Dubicki as well as other parents of children with SEND.

Invites will be sent out via Parentmail



# Coffee & Chat

## How can we help you?

Come along to:

Our Space Community Hub, Trimpley  
Street, Ellesmere, Shropshire,  
SY12 0AE



Every 3rd Thursday  
of the Month.  
Starting 21st Nov 24.  
9:30am - 11:30am.



Free information, advice  
and support around;

- Family Life
- Domestic Abuse support
- Housing and Finance support
- Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) support
- Parenting support
- Little Stars - Baby Bank/school uniforms
- Training and Employment support and much more

Supporting families with children aged 0-19 years (up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities)

We aim to make it easier for you to ask for help and get support when you need it.



# Coffee & Chat

## How can we help you?

Come along to:

Oswestry Library, Arthur Street,  
Oswestry SY11 1JN



Every Thursday,  
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM



Free information, advice  
and support around;

- Family Life
- Domestic Abuse support
- Housing and Finance support
- Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) support
- Parenting support
- Little Stars - Baby Bank/school uniforms
- Training and Employment support and much more

Supporting families with children aged 0-19 years (up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities)

We aim to make it easier for you to ask for help and get support when you need it.



That's about it from all of us....  
except to wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a peaceful New Year...



# UNIFORM REMINDER

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.*

## CORRECT



Top button/  
tie fastened

Shirt tucked in

Black knee length  
pleated skirt /  
smart tailored  
trousers



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

Tie tucked in

Black sensible (flat)  
shoes or plain black  
trainers

No boots or Converse  
trainers

## INCORRECT

Tie not  
tucked in

Shirt untucked

Leggings / skinny  
trousers

Logo / Coloured  
trainers



Top button  
undone

Shirt untucked

Jogging bottoms





## 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>

### Reminder

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



## AUTUMN SECOND HALF TERM 2024– 2025

5th November - 20th December

- PD Days - 4th November
- 25th, 26th December & 1st January - Bank Holidays
- Christmas Holidays - 23rd December - 3rd January

## SPRING FIRST HALF TERM 2024—2025

7th January - 14th February

- PD Days - 6th January
- No Bank Holidays
- February Half Term - 17th February-21st February

### 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

**Thank you!**

Wow..! Look how lucky our school is ..!!

Thank you **Tesco** in Ellesmere for this amazing donation of uniform. This will really help us stock up our spare uniform cupboard.



## THE SCHOOL DAY

- School Opens - 8.55am
- Morning Registration- 9.00 - 9.15am
- Period 1 - 9.15 - 10.15am
- Period 2 - 10.15 - 11.15am
- Morning Break - 11.15 - 11.30am
- Period 3 - 11.30 - 12.30pm
- Lunch - 12.30 - 1.10pm
- Afternoon Registration - 1.10 - 1.30pm
- Period 4 - 1.30 - 2.30pm
- Period 5 - 2.30 - 3.30pm End of the Compulsory

School Day

Total Hours provided in a typical week - 34 hours & 35 minutes



**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!

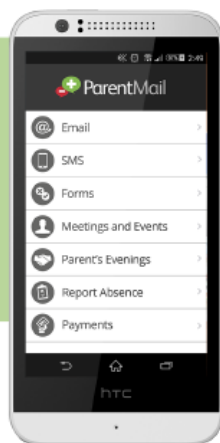


Have you downloaded the new <sup>FREE</sup> parent App?

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

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