



LAKELANDS NEWS

June 2026

A message from The Headteacher

As we head into the final half term of the academic year, I have a few updates and reminders I want to share with you.

Firstly, I am delighted to confirm that the transfer of Lakelands Academy from being a standalone academy (The Lakelands Educational Trust) to The 3-18 Education Multi Academy Trust has been completed. Following confirmation from both organisations and their appointed solicitors and then from The Department for Education (DfE), the transfer took place on Monday 1st June following an extremely thorough legal process. From the very beginning of our considerations through to the extensive due diligence carried out, it has been clear that our ethos, vision and values are deeply aligned - a shared belief in aspiration, inclusion and the relentless pursuit of excellence for every young person, all delivered with empathy and compassion. This new partnership strengthens our ability to provide an exceptional educational journey for your children and we look forward to the exciting opportunities it will bring for them, for our staff and for our wider school community. We also look forward to being able to support other Trust schools, their staff and their communities.

We arrive back at school in the middle of the GCSE exams for Year 11 and they are working incredibly hard, with the support of our staff, to ensure they achieve their potential. On behalf of all the staff, I wish them all continued success through the remainder of the exam series.

Our Year 10s are also returning to school having undertaken their work experience in the last week of last half term, following on from their mock exams prior to this. We have received so many positive comments from employers informing us that our students have been fantastic advocates for Lakelands Academy and a pleasure to have them working with them. Many have been told that they would be welcome back at any time due to their support, help, initiative and positive relationships; also that they have approached tasks with enthusiasm and respect. I look forward to speaking to our students this week to hear all about their experiences and how much they have enjoyed and benefited from it.

You may have already heard from your children, but our school has recently been selected to benefit from the Tesco 'Free Fruit and Veg for Schools' programme for the 26/27 academic year. The programme is in its second year and has enjoyed coverage in the national media. Essentially, through partnership with the British Nutrition Foundation and Groundwork UK, the aspiration is to increase the intake of fruit and vegetables for children during the school day. We are delighted to be one of 500 schools invited to benefit, adding to the 513 already part of the national programme. The produce is delivered straight to school and made available to your children in a number of ways.

You will remember from previous correspondence that we migrated our IT infrastructure to a new provider during the Easter holidays. As part of this, please can I remind you that all school emails have changed. Although the new addresses have now been in place for some time, we are still having instances of people emailing old addresses and although you should receive an automated response informing you, I am adding the direct link to our website again for your reference and ease. [Academy-Contacts-April-2026-2.pdf](#) will also help you direct your queries and question to the member of staff best placed to respond.

Hopefully the lovely weather that we have experienced during half term holiday continues into the new half term and beyond. There is lots to look forward to in the coming weeks so please look out for further information contained in 'Lakelands Look Ahead' which is updated and shared (ParentMail, school social media and website) weekly each Friday afternoon.



Mark Hignett
Headteacher

MATHS



Lakeland's Academy are delighted to announce we have some talented mathematicians who have excelled in the Junior Mathematical Challenge 2026.



A very special mention to this wonderful year 9 pupil Alfie on getting a Bronze in the second round of the competition 🏆🏆

Student Performing & Excelling in Out of School Activities...



Evie Ellis in 11N earned her first cap for Wales this Easter. She represented Wales in the Under-18s Six Nations Festival at Wellington College. This was Evie's first experience of international rugby, and we wish her every success as she continues her journey along the pathway.



Huge congratulations to all of our gymnasts who competed at the Border Counties Schools gymnastics competition.

Individual medallists are still to be announced but we have already had success in the team events with Amber, Mia, Alys, Issy and Ferne coming 5th in the senior elite floor and vault and Lea, Phoebe, Sammy, Hattie and Millie coming 1st in the senior intermediate floor and vault!

Well done also to Lottie, Ellie, Freya and Lucy who performed some outstanding vaults and floor routines!💙🏆



Well done to Phillipa, Florence and Lauren who all competed at the Shropshire County Secondary Schools Swimming Gala, held at Thomas Telford School. Special mention to Lauren, who earned an impressive pb and medal in the 100m fly, an event in which she has only ever competed in twice! Great effort girls! 🏆



Congratulations once again to Lauren Shore, who recently competed in another swimming gala at Hinckley Swimming Club. She delivered an outstanding performance, earning three medals - bronze in both the 200m and 100m backstroke, and a fantastic gold in the 50m backstroke!



Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh's Award



Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh's Award pupils are showing excellent leadership and teamwork skills.

As well as the following:

- * Problem solving,
- * Communication skills,
- * Forming new friendship,
- * Building strength & Confidence.



What a credit to the school, keep up the hard work



Forest School

In forest school this week students were blindfolded and had to rely on their other senses to test their reaction times.



Food



Oliver Connell made a creative and super Sushi dish in an independent cooking task.

Library News



We were thrilled to welcome award-winning author Nathanael Lessore to school this week, for a visit with some of our Year 9 students.

In a special session in the library, Nathanael shared insights into his writing journey, the craft of building a story, and the importance of reading and creativity. Students had the opportunity to ask questions, hear first-hand about life as an author, and gain inspiration for their own reading and writing.

To make the day even more memorable, Nathanael gifted every student in attendance with a signed copy of his World Book Day book 'Against All Odds' along with a special bookmark.

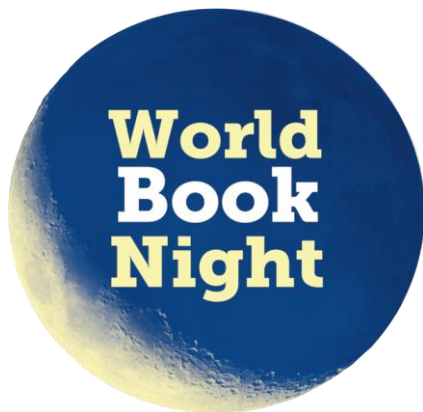
We were also thrilled to add a class set of his latest novel 'Like a Brother' to our collection - all personally signed by Nathanael himself!



World Book Night



World Book Night, and to celebrate, we invited some of our keenest readers to a Cosy Read-In in the library. Our readers changed into their pyjamas or comfy clothes, then enjoyed hot chocolate and delicious home-baked cookies and cake before cosying up to read. We finished the evening off with a Big Book Quiz and were seriously impressed by the book knowledge of this group! A truly lovely evening spent celebrating our love of reading.



Democracy Day

MP



On Friday 1st May Lakelands hosted a Democracy Day. This involved holding student elections for the Shropshire Youth Parliament and Q&A session with Helen Morgan MP. A panel of students discussed prospective legislation with Mrs Morgan around social media bans. Parents were also invited to partake in consultation. This spotlight on democracy foreshadows democratic processes around the country.





It was so lovely to see so many wearing **GREEN** pupils and staff.



Fundraisng Events



A Great big thanks to everyone for their participation in the football shirt raffle. Watch this space to find out who wins!!



Save the Children



Staff had a go at creating table decorations from a shop bought bouquet. They were guided by Shawbury Flower Club experts, Jenny and Judith and raised £82.50 for **Save the Children**



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

INCORRECT

Tie not tucked in

Shirt untucked

Leggings / skinny trousers

Shirt untucked

Logo/Coloured trainers



Top button undone

Shirt untucked

Jogging bottoms



