



LAKELANDS NEWS

March 2024

A message from The Headteacher

The current academic year is quickly progressing and we now have just one term left before the summer holidays. The spring term has been another fast-paced period which has seen an incredible amount of hard work from our staff and students alike. We have implemented each of the aspects and initiatives that I discussed in my last newsletter and have also planned and consulted on a number of others. The aim of each of these is to ensure we continually develop and progress. We are driven to incrementally increase our expectations and standards, ensuring high challenge with high support, and that we further embed our values and school culture.

In particular, I would like to thank your children for embracing the changes we have made to social times (before school, break time and lunch time). These changes and your children's adherence to them have enabled us to increase supervision and the support we can provide. In terms of support, we have also introduced, where staffing allows, two new 'support desks' which are in place during lessons. These are based in the two locations that are the busiest in our school and means there is an increased staff visibility and presence around school. This is in addition to the senior leadership culture walks which take place every lesson of every day.

As you are aware, we are currently in the process of the final consultation stage with yourselves as parents and carers in relation to our new 'Behaviour for Learning and Relationships Policy.' We have had some excellent and invaluable feedback from staff and students and are now really keen to

receive your feedback and observation before submitting to our governing body for ratification. I believe the implementation of this policy will be the single most significant and impactful area of work we will undertake this year. The policy seeks to provide increased expectation, even higher standards, greater clarity and consistency, whilst also having a major focus on recognising and rewarding students.

One of the most exciting events of the current half term has been the launch and initial work of our Student Senate. I was privileged to meet with our first ever group of senators to present them with their badges, and even more privileged to have met with them to receive their initial thoughts and ideas. Both individually and collectively, they are extremely impressive and I cannot wait to work with them to improve their school.



A reminder please, all students return to school on
Monday 8th April 2024



LAKELANDS NEWS

March 2024

Our policy consultations and Student Senate are important elements of our commitment to stakeholder voice and listening to the views of students, parents/carers and staff. Another key vehicle for this is our surveys and we have completed one for each key group this half term. We are currently in the process of analysing the results from each and will use this analysis to inform both immediate and long-term priorities. We will also be sharing this with each group via a 'you said, we did' approach and will be repeating the surveys regularly in the future such is their importance.

There have been so many exciting opportunities, success stories and experiences for students at Lakelands Academy this term. Many of these are included in this newsletter so I won't list them again here, but I could not be more proud of our school or your children. Every day as I drive in to school and back home at the end of a very long day, I reflect on how fortunate I feel to be leading such a fantastic organisation and group of people, and to be serving the community of Ellesmere and beyond.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Skone, Mr Clarke and Mrs Jones (HLTA) for their incredible hard work and dedication to Lakelands Academy. We are very sad to be saying goodbye to all three but wish them well for their next challenge. I would also like to extend a public welcome to Mrs Roberts (Teacher of Mathematics) and Mrs Price (Attendance and Welfare Manager), both of whom will be bringing their experience and expertise to Lakelands Academy when we return from the Easter holidays.

Finally, to the parents and carers of our Year 11s, on behalf of the staff at Lakelands Academy I want to wish your children every success in their upcoming GCSE examinations and to thank you for your support of them and ourselves. I have been really impressed with the attitude and application of the majority of this

cohort and look forward with anticipation to celebrating their successes and achievements with them.

I wish you all a very enjoyable Easter as we look forward to the summer term, the opportunities and the experiences to come.

Mark Hignett
Headteacher



Don't forget, the clocks go forward on **Sunday 31st March!**



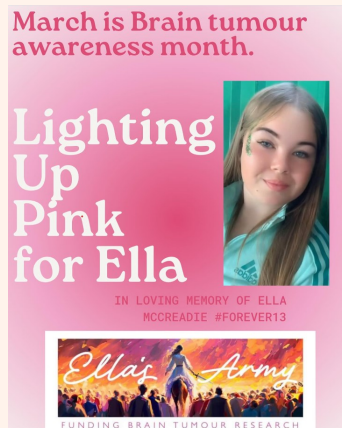
School Activities this term



Hats-off to everyone who participated in 'Wear a Hat Day' today

Lots of 'Fantastic Hat Awards' have gone out to pupils from across the Year Groups, with an impressive effort from our members of staff, too.

We are so pleased that so many took part and we hope to have raised lots of money for Ella's Army and Brain Tumour Research, causes which are very close to our hearts at Lakelands Academy.



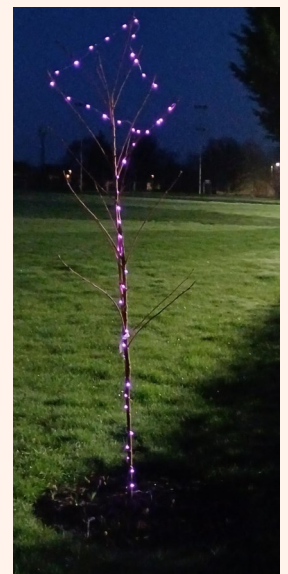
Lakelands is supporting Ella's army and light the town pink in aid of Brain Tumour Research Awareness Month and remembering our dear Ella McCreddie. Ella's cherry tree is proud to be wearing its pink fairy lights!

Watch this space for more pink moments at Lakelands!



Over £300.00 raised!!

Thank you



School Activities this term

Red Nose Day Comic Relief

Well, what can we say...!!! Great fun, great day..!!

Some truly creative costumes were on offer from 'Barbie World' to the mischievous Smurf's! We even saw Mr Hignett proudly wearing his red nose..! As always the Lakelands spirit was in full swing!

Thank you to all that participated and helped us raise funds for this amazing charity



We raised....
£ 360.00..!!!!
Thank you..



RED NOSE DAY





School Activities this term



This half term has seen the first meetings of the Lakeland Senate.

At the first meeting the Head officially celebrated the Senators success by giving them their Senate badges and declaring the meeting in session. The students quickly got to work with their main focus of the meeting which was scrutinising the proposed Behaviour and Relationships policy. They made some very insightful and interesting suggestions. These suggestions were then fed back to the Headteacher. The students were nervous at first meeting with the Head but quickly got into the swing of it. Another fabulous suggestion made by the Senate was to have a school wide focus on the dangers of vapes. They are currently in the process of creating a school wide campaign to highlight their dangers. More on this for the coming term.....



Have a fantastic Easter from the Senate



PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS



Well done!!



shutterstock - 77282111

Well done to these amazing Year 7s who came 3rd overall at the netball tournament held at Oswestry School

Some more of our lovely Year 7 and 8s played netball at St. Martins.

Year 7 are still very much building their confidence and knowledge of the game, losing 3-1 at the end of play.

Our Year 8s however, continue to dominate on the court, winning 25-5 at the end of play.



Our year 8 boys rugby team travelled to St John Talbot's school and secured an 11-7 win!

Then a match against St Martins school securing another win, 11 tries to 4!

Even the weather did not stop the girls dominating the football from start to finish with goals coming from Kacey (1) and Evie (2) to win 3-0 against Oswestry School.

The girls played brilliantly as a team, working for each other throughout, which was fantastic to see!



PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS



The PE department left Lakelands at 6.30am on a Saturday morning with a group of Year 10/11 students to travel to Twickenham.

Our students were absolutely amazing and had a brilliant day as guard of honour on the pitch as the England and Ireland teams came on for the National anthems. Prior to this they played on the pitch and made their opposition (who were another school) look pretty average.

Whilst they were playing, the England and Ireland players were warming up right next to them and they also had a changing room next to 'Rag n Bone' man who performed at half time!



Students Performing and Excelling in 'Out of School' Activities



Year 10 pupil's Ella Fuller and Lucy McBride competed in the Young Chef District Final on Tuesday 12th March at Stafford College

Their task was to prepare in two hours, a two-course healthy meal comprising a main course and dessert for two people and costing up to £18.

They both did amazing and have worked really hard in preparation for this. This was the feedback we got about our students: "Sadly, neither girl was placed but they can feel justifiably proud of their efforts. Both meal presentations were lovely and the food looked wonderful. They conducted themselves with confidence and good humour and were a credit to you and to the school. The chef jackets added a note of professionalism to the evening."



Here is our very own Mabel & Mia looking immensely proud and happy in their Shropshire County Cricket kit. They both play for the Whittington Witches' Ladies Team (so they play at an adult level) and were put forward for trials at the end of the summer last year. Following the successful completion of a four week skills assessment before Christmas, they were selected for the County Development squad, which involves a 10-week training programme. Who knows what may come next?! Whilst they play their cricket for the Witches, they are also very proud to be representing the Academy, as the common question is always "What school do you go to?"



Library news



What a wonderful day we had with author Matt Oldfield on Friday! The author of the Ultimate Football Heroes books delighted packed audiences of Year 8 & 9 students as he spoke about his love of reading, writing and football.

Matt chatted with students, signed books and engaged in Q & A sessions with Year 7 classes. He also held a special session with our 20 competition winners, whose wonderful entries into the Ultimate Football Heroes competition won them the chance to chat to him about all things football. Congratulations to all the competition winners and especially to Mabel from Year 7 whose entry was chosen by Matt as the overall winner.



Library news



Following the fantastic visit from author Matt Oldfield the other week, we asked some of our year 8 & 9 students to write articles about the day.

We received some wonderful work, and are very proud to be publishing this selection of our favourite student-written news stories.

Lakelands Today

Fantastic Author Visit

On Friday 23rd February, children's football and sports author Matt Oldfield came to give the students of Lakelands Academy a brilliant assembly on how he made it in writing and his life experiences.

The kids learned how different techniques were used to turn boring, factual information into fun first and third person accounts of international football superstars.

After hearing an awesome presentation from one of their favourite authors, Matt Oldfield stayed in the school library at lunchtime to chat, sign and sell books. The children all learned valuable lessons for their English skills and had a one-to-one chat with their favourite author.

A day that many of our students won't forget.

By Finlay McArthur 9W



Matt Oldfield Meets Lakelands

Famous Football Author Comes to Our School

On 23rd February, author of many football related books, Matt Oldfield, visited our school for the day.

He gave a speech to pupils about his writing career and following his passions, along with his dedication to football. He also sold and signed some of his books.

Many questions were asked of Matt, and following his visit, a few select students have written him letters! His visit inspired many.

By Nyree Jones 9W

Author Comes to Lakelands

On Friday 23rd February, the author of the Ultimate Football Heroes Series came in and talked to students in year 8 and 9.

Matt Oldfield has sold over a million copies of his books and came to speak to students about his passion for writing and how he got into it. Whilst he was here, he gave an assembly, signed some books, spoke to some students who had won a competition based on his books and gave a workshop.

He spoke lots about his passion for football and he has a wealth of knowledge on players and teams.

By Mimi Kempster 9W



Matt Oldfield Visits Lakelands

On Friday 23rd February, the author of the 'Ultimate Football Heroes' series came to Lakelands and spoke to pupils in year 8 and 9 about his books and career. He spoke about many things, from how his love of football started to what team he supports.

While his books strongly focus on football, he explained that he wrote his books because of his love for reading and writing, and that he enjoys the writing side more than the sport.

During the afternoon, Matt went up to the library and signed books for fans. He inspired multiple people to start reading more and overall gave lots of students a great experience.

By Alice Mullock 8N



Football Fans Enjoy Author's Visit

Matt Oldfield is a popular non-fiction writer of football books. He specialises in player biographies. My favourite, for example, is Mo Salah, the Liverpool F. C. right wing.

He visited and presented to Year 8 and 9 the story of how he got started, how he researches and how he writes. He is a fan of Southampton and was inspired to write about football because he loved it so much.

He has written about famous players old and new, and he's also recently written about cricket. Rory Sullivan in 8N said: "I was inspired by what he said and it made me want to write."

His visit was a big success.

By Warren Jones 8W

Matt Oldfield Comes to Lakelands

On Friday 23rd February, Matt Oldfield travelled to Ellesmere to visit the pupils of Lakelands Academy and deliver a presentation on his love for reading and writing, and his passion for football.

Many of the pupils found it very inspiring, including many Year 8 students who play for clubs and read the books. All students in year 8 and 9 were given an hour slot to enjoy the presentation.

By Maisie Allen 9W



Matt Oldfield Visits Secondary School

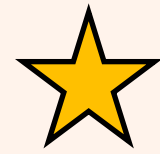
Matt Oldfield is an author that mostly writes football books. When he visited Lakelands Academy to speak to years 8 and 9, he talked about football and his idols.

Matt got into writing because his brother was always into reading and that made Matt get into reading and writing books.

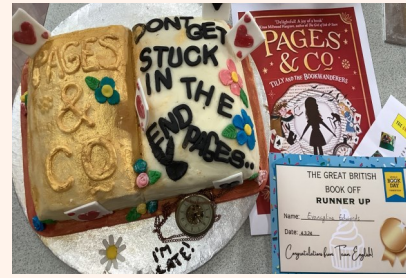
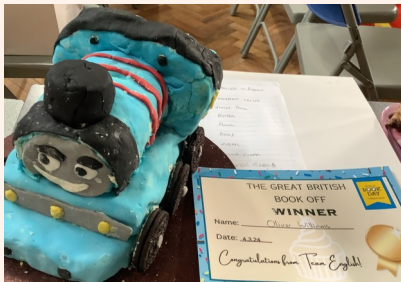
He said he loved his job because he got to research and watch videos he loved. He also got to watch really cool goals and learn really cool facts.

By Jac Owen 8C

WELL DONE!



World book ~~day~~ Week!!



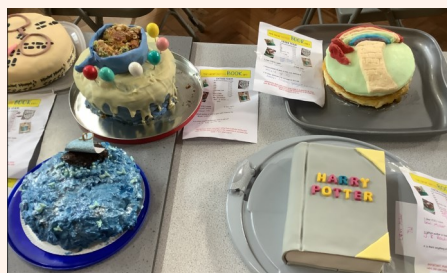
The Great British Book Off Competition

We had an incredible response to our 'Great British Book Off' Baking competition! Thank you to all the bakers who entered. We were blown away by the incredible high standard and the creativity on display.

Special congratulations to Oliver Williams (8N) who won first prize with his amazing 3D Thomas the Tank engine, and runners up Jesse Williams (8W) with a imaginative Charlie and the Chocolate Factory cake and Evangeline Edwards (10N) for a beautiful storybook cake based on the series Pages & Co.

We raised over £100.00 for the Library...!!!

Well done...!!!

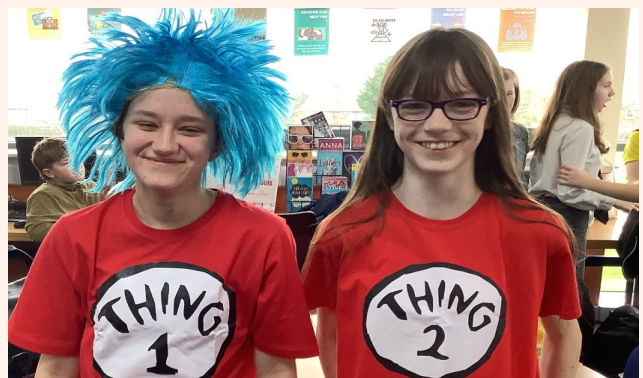




World book ~~day~~ Week!!

What a truly amazing time we've had!

Thank you to all that dressed up and took part in the bake sale and quiz! I'm sure you would agree, the outfits and effort by both staff and students was superb!

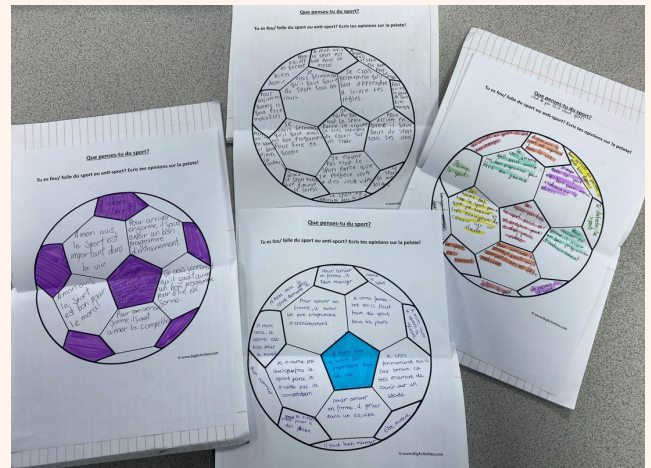
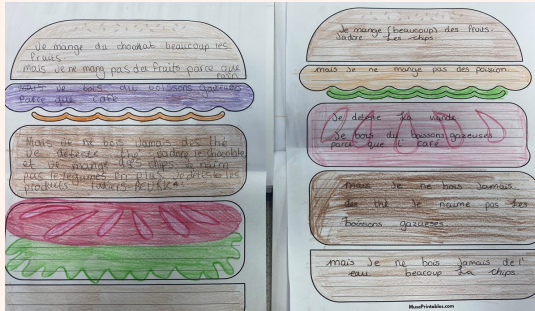
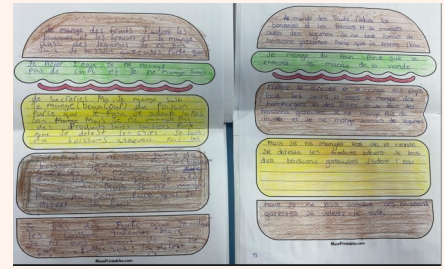




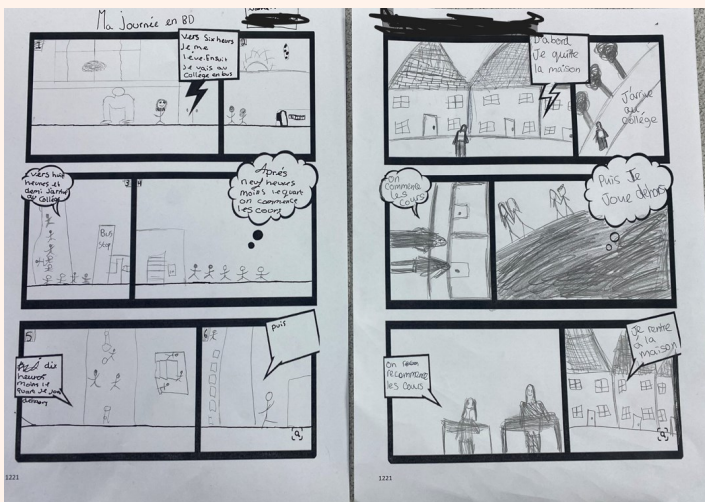
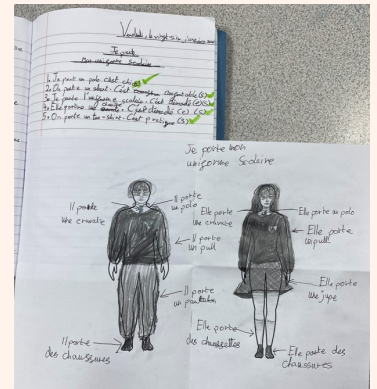
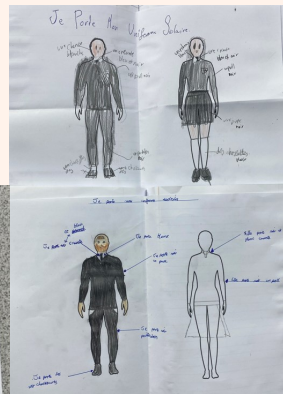
Modern Foreign Languages



Y9 Healthy Eating—9CB have been writing about healthy eating in French and talking about different French dishes. They have also learned how to buy fruit and vegetables at a market.



Y9 Healthy Lifestyles - 9NW were tasked with describing healthy lifestyles, including doing different sports, going to bed early and eating and drinking healthily.



Y7 School— Year 7 have been learning all about French school and describing our Lakelands Academy too. They described their own school uniform and learned that French children usually wear their own clothes to school. They also drew storyboards of a typical school day and created a web page of what a 'super cool school' would be like (no homework and lots of football)!

Spring Holiday Fun and Food in Shropshire
Book Now!

Spaces are available on the Spring HAF programme.

Over the spring holidays, eligible children and young people aged 4 (reception class age) to 16, are invited to attend free holiday clubs happening at over 40 venues from across the county.

To find out more please go to:
www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf

Shropshire Council
 Department for Education

Spring Holiday Fun in Shropshire

Have fun with your friends, learn new skills, gain confidence and get involved!

During 25 March to 5 April 2024, eligible children and young people are invited to take part in a range of fun activities, happening at over 40 holiday clubs from across the county.

There are free places available at HAF holiday clubs for:

- Children and young people aged 4 (in reception class or equivalent) to 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

And

- Children and young people living in areas of high deprivation and/or from low-income households who are not in receipt of benefits related free school meals. See page 5 for more information about referrals.

Use this Guide to find out what activities will suit your child/ren. Free nutritious meals will be provided at each session.

Contact us:
 ✉ HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk
 ✕ @ShropFamilyInfo, #HAFSHROPSHIRE, #HAF2024
 📘 www.facebook.com/shropshireFamilyInfo

See www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf for a searchable timetable of all Spring holiday clubs.



SEND Parent Cafe

21st March
2:00 - 3:00pm

A short chat about what makes an effective Teaching Assistant and the chance to have a chat with other parents of SEND children.

Invites via Parentmail

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

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

SAVE THE DATE...!!!

**Year 8 Parents Evening is
Thursday 16th May.**

Reminder

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



Spring Second Half Term 2023-24 19th February - 22nd March

- No PD Days
- 29th March & 1st April - Bank Holidays
- Easter Holidays - 25th March - 5th April

Summer First Half Term 2023-24 8th April - 24th May

- No PD Day
- 6th May & 27th May - Bank Holidays
- May Half Term - 27th - 31st May

Summer Second Half Term 2023-24 June - 18th July

- No PD Days
- 26th August - Bank Holidays
- Summer Holidays - 19th July - 3rd September

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



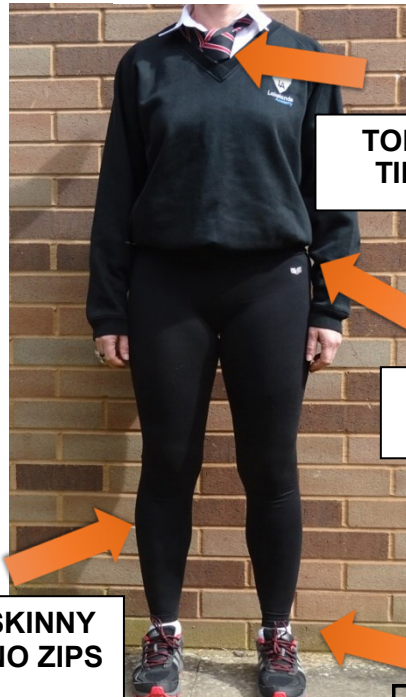
TOP BUTTON / TIE FASTENED

BLACK KNEE LENGTH SKIRT

BLACK SENSIBLE (FLAT) SHOES - NOT BOOTS OR PLAIN BLACK TRAINERS

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

BAD



LOGO/ COLOURED TRAINERS

TOP BUTTON / TIE UNDONE

SHIRT UNTUCKED

SKIRT TOO SHORT/ TOO TIGHT OR LYCRA

TRAINERS

Is your child eligible for free school meals?

If your circumstances have recently changed, you may find that your child is now entitled to free school meals.



When in school, children who receive free school meals are entitled to a daily spend of £2.70 on a meal deal in the school canteen.

Did you know that children who receive free school meals are also entitled to a number of other benefits including discounted music tuition and support with the cost of revision guides?

If you are not currently in receipt of free school meals and would like to check your eligibility, please apply online at:

[Apply for free school meals | Shropshire Council](#)



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!

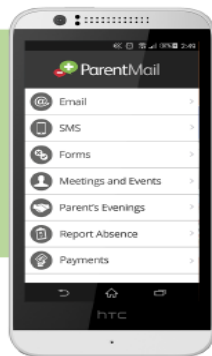


Have you downloaded the new **FREE** parent App?

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

Keep up to date with all thing Lakelands !



Facebook: Lakelands Academy Ellesmere <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552707301507>



Instagram: [_Lakelands_Ellesmere](https://www.instagram.com/_Lakelands_Ellesmere)
https://www.instagram.com/_lakelandsacademype



X (Twitter): [@LakelandsAcad](https://twitter.com/LakelandsAcad)
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