



LAKELANDS NEWS

July 2024

A message from The Headteacher

I cannot quite believe that we are at the end of the academic year! The year has gone so quickly but collectively we have achieved so much. As I have written before, we are determined to continually develop and progress as a school and we are driven to incrementally increase our expectations, standards, experiences and outcomes. We have aimed to do this through a culture of high challenge with high support as we further embed our values and school culture. On behalf of the staff team, I would like to thank you for supporting us to make so much progress with this. Your children have been incredible and have risen to every challenge presented to them.

Throughout the year, our children have been provided with a huge range of opportunities and have enjoyed everything from charity events to performances, fixtures, clubs and expeditions to visiting authors, professionals and speakers, visits and residential trips to community involvement and so much more. On each occasion they have represented Lakelands Academy, themselves and their families with distinction and have certainly worn their school badge with pride, something which makes me exceptionally proud.

Such has been their brilliance, it has been so important to recognise and reward this. The headline data for the eleven weeks since we introduced the new Behaviour for Learning and Relationships Policy are:

- ◆ 139,822 reward points issued in total!
- ◆ 36,464 reward points awarded to the year group with the highest number to date!
- ◆ 9965 reward points awarded to the tutor group with the highest number to date!
- ◆ 426 reward points awarded to the individual with the highest number to date!
- ◆ 13,250 reward points issued in one record breaking week!
- ◆ 1413 weekly commendations awarded!
- ◆ 220 Thank You Friday nominations!
- ◆ 49 Thank you Friday winners!
- ◆ 405 students (71.6%) have qualified for their early lunch pass (200 reward points)!
- ◆ 180 students (31.8%) have qualified for their hot chocolate reward (300 reward points)!
- ◆ 3 have earned sufficient reward points to receive a rewards lunch (400 reward points)!
- ◆ Every student who has been with us since the inception of the new policy has received at least 71 reward points!

We have also launched our 'Golden Ticket' initiative to recognise and reward children for exemplifying our values. The first Golden Ticket Fortnight was focused on rewarding responsible behaviour, the most recent on rewarding acts of kindness. I know that our children are eagerly anticipating the next draw.

As previously communicated, it has been such a shame that our current MIS (Management Information System) has not been able to facilitate the sharing of the rewards being received in the way that we would have liked. However, following extensive research and procurement I am delighted to inform you that our chosen solution from September 2024 is Bromcom, a system widely used in education and one that we are confident will see many improvements for our school and especially you as parents and carers. We are currently working with Bromcom on a twelve-week data cleansing and migration process as well as training our staff. The system comes with a parent app which will give you immediate access to a range of information and we will share the details of this as soon as possible in the new academic year. The move to a new MIS is a huge undertaking and one that takes a significant amount of time.





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Our switch takes place in the last week of August ready for the new term and whilst I have everything crossed in the hope everything will run smoothly I do ask for your understanding if we do encounter any early 'teething issues' which may be beyond our control; thank you.

Another area of development this year has been stakeholder voice which will continue to grow and develop further into next academic year. We have really valued your input this year via surveys, consultations, coffee mornings and other events and we look forward to continuing this to ensure we are accurately informing our development priorities. Similarly, our students have been at the heart of many decisions and have been actively involved in shaping what they want their school to be. Our Student Senate is one vehicle for this and they have already had an excellent impact in their work.

Attendance is an area of national focus following the pandemic and I am delighted to be able to report that Lakelands Academy is performing well compared to other secondary schools in Shropshire and across the country. Thank you for your support with helping us to achieve the impressive following position:

Third out of the twenty Shropshire secondary schools for overall attendance (placing us in the top 30-40% of schools nationally).

Second out of Shropshire secondary schools for the overall attendance of students with an EHCP (placing us in the top 10-20% of schools nationally).

Third lowest of Shropshire secondary schools for persistent absence (students missing 10% or more of all possible school sessions).

Fourth lowest of Shropshire secondary schools for severe absence (students missing 50% or more of all possible school sessions).

As we look forward to September, we regrettably do so without the following staff who are leaving us for new challenges and opportunities; Miss Bartley, Miss Lewis, Mrs Martin, Ms Millrose, Mrs Rees, Mrs Thomas and Mr Griffiths I would like to publicly thank them for their hard work, commitment and dedication during their time with us at Lakelands Academy.

My final thank you and good luck go to our outgoing Year 11s who I know are awaiting their Prom (which will have taken place by the time you receive this) and then their GCSE results with much anticipation. They conducted themselves brilliantly throughout the exam period and deserve to achieve everything they wish for. As their time with us has come to an end, they make way for our latest additions to the Lakelands family and we look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 cohort in September.

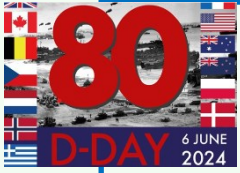
Mark Hignett

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Headteacher

We look forward to welcoming you all back;
Year 7 and Year 11's on
Wednesday 4th Sept
Year 8, 9 and 10 on
Thursday 5th September 2024



School Activities this term



Post cards created by our art students as part of the commemoration ceremony at St Marys Church to mark 80 years since D-day



Five of our students read last night at Ellesmere's D-Day 80th Commemoration Service at St. Mary's Church in the village. **Willow, Tilly, Eleanor, Georgia and Lily** all read their own work as part of the service. The work had been done as part of their studies into conflict poetry for GCSE. It was an honour and a privilege to be a part of the service commemorating and remembering the men who sacrificed

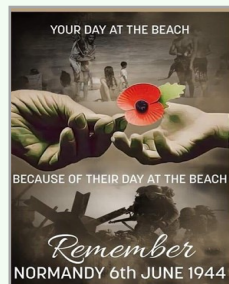
Harri & Lily T:

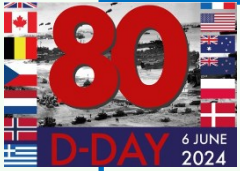
One sunny morning in Normandy
the sky was blue and bright
once a place so sunny
now overshadowed by the night.
What once was so light,
now so dark
One gunshot, one flame
that caused a spark of terror.
What once was a place of
pleasure
where people would sunbathe
now the resting place for
20,000 graves.
Normandy. Once so colourful and
vibrant
Now home to one of the worst
tragedies
in the history of the human race.
The beach where 20,000 soldiers
lie
We remember them as the brave
men

Eleanor R,

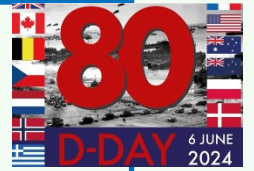
Flashes of blue sky above the gentle lull of the waves did not prepare me for the events of that day on Omaha Beach. The cacophony of sound echoed and roared loudly. That first step on to that beach sent shivers down my spine. The sand, as rough as sandpaper, shaving away what was left of the skin on my hands. Within seconds, guns were shooting and one after the other, men fell. A pit was forming in my stomach, I felt like I was going to throw up. The rain was crimson as it fell.

The sun sinking, spreading beams of light piercing the clouds of thick smoke. The light should have brought comfort, but instead it made us uncomfortable. The whoosh of bullets continued, missing us by millimetres. A metal barricade was my only protection. The air tinged with iron, none of us had been prepared for the events of this day. Suddenly, an explosion ricocheted and the world went silent. I did not want to die. The silence penetrated my soul that day.





School Activities this term



Georgia P

Nausea sweeps over me knowing that my life was on the line, the thought of losing everything just to end up in this disorder and chaos. Does God exist? Why would he make us endure this?

The bow-ramp begins to lower, my heart pounding, the sound of gunshots smacking the ground, the voices of my brothers screaming for aid. My stomach is in my throat, the seawater discoloured, pale red, spraying and thrashing against the boat.

Holding back my tears was so hard, crying is a sign of fragility. I know I am strong, and my country is counting on me and my brothers. Our losses are too great to bear, we cling to each other, fighting for each other.

Running relentlessly, needing eyes all around, constant thoughts of despair. The whole world stops, my body violently drops to the ground, my body numb, my arms unmoving. Suddenly, a feeling of peace, no more screaming, no shouting, just lost in my own thoughts.

Tilly N

It was a long, bumpy boat journey, we were tossed and turned over as the waves came over the top of the boat. The water stirring up the pools of vomit swilling it around our feet. We landed at Gold Beach, the ramp was lowered but even before we got off the boat we were shot down by machine gunners at the top of the dunes. Rolling over the top of the boat into the salty water below, the overwhelming sound of guns and planes was almost deafening.

Steadying myself, I got my balance and started to move towards the beach, hiding behind an anti-tank cross to hide and protect myself. The sea turning red as my friends sank, the sand below my feet peppered in bullet holes. It felt thick and heavy, more like mud than sand. The bitter salt lingered on my tongue as I tried to get up the beach. Every so often, my footing would go, and I found myself alone, surrounded by strangers who like me, were just trying to stay alive.

Orders were being barked at us, drowned out by the deafening noise of artillery. These sounds swept along all the beaches of Normandy, Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword, all swamped and drowning in the horror of the battle that was unfolding.



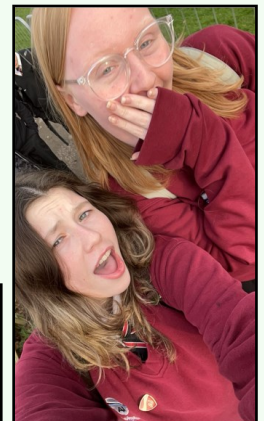
Willow B

Our boat fought against the oncoming wind, the wild waves crashing up the side as if they wanted to come in and get themselves to safety. The smell of salt filled our noses. Sharp commands were shouted as land approached. The ramp lowered and soldiers began to wade through the water. Without warning, gunfire erupted shaking my very soul. Shoulders bashed into other shoulders, knees against knees, hands against hands as men dashed out looking for safety. Turning left, men were jumping overboard, driven by fear and their drive to survive. Shells erupted all around us, bullets flew and guns blared all around us. Fighting for my country - this is my job. I took a deep breath and plunged into the murky sea below. The pressure hit me like a slap to the face, I pushed to reach the surface, as my body went numb.

Farewell to the Class of 2024



Class Of 2024





School Activities this term



DT and Food



This half term, Year 9 have been busy completing their independent dish where they researched a country of their choice, they then planned and created a dish based on that country's traditional cuisine. The students had 40 minutes to complete their dishes. They all did amazing.

Regionalism is a key feature of many cultures. Find out about the different types of pasta. Which shapes come from where in Italy and which is the most popular?

LASAGNA
Lasagne comes from the word 'layer' and is made of thin sheets of pasta. It is usually topped with a meat sauce and a cheese sauce.

RIGATONI
Rigatoni are a type of pasta that are tube-shaped with a wide rim. They are usually served with a meat sauce.

SPAGHETTI
Spaghetti is a type of pasta that is long and thin. It is usually served with a meat sauce.

Independent cooking task:
Pick a country that you are going to base your dish on. Draw or insert the country flag here.

What can you tell me about that country cuisine?
Pasta

Nutritional Analysis:
Nutritional analysis is the process of calculating the nutritional content of food. The nutritional information calculated includes everything from calories to vitamins and minerals.

Using online food calculators create your own Nutritional Analysis:
<https://nutritioncalculator.org.uk/Calculator/Recipe>

Summary here:
Calories: 270kcal
Fat: 12g
Carbohydrate: 45g
Protein: 10g

Independent cooking task:
Pick a country that you are going to base your dish on. Draw or insert the country flag here.

What can you tell me about that country cuisine?
Mexican

Some popular Mexican foods are:
- Tacos
- Burritos
- Quesadillas
- Enchiladas

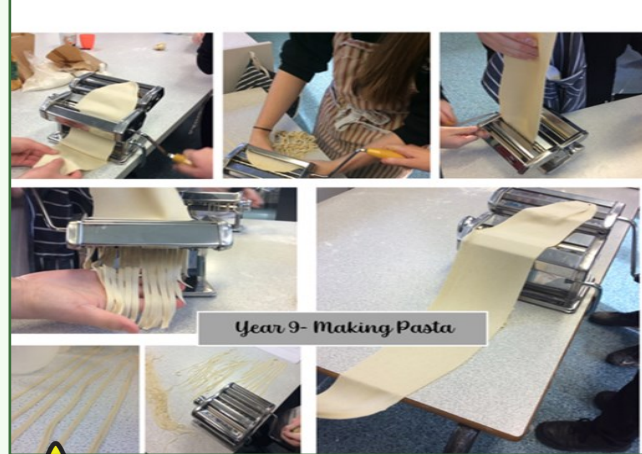
Italian Cuisine
Pick a country that you are going to base your dish on. Draw or insert the country flag here.

Design & Technology

Biology Worksheet: Mr. Smallbone
Science vs Food
- Protein
- Fat
- Carbohydrate
- Sugar
- Vitamin
- Calcium

Italian Cuisine
Pick a country that you are going to base your dish on. Draw or insert the country flag here.

What can you tell me about that country cuisine?
Italian



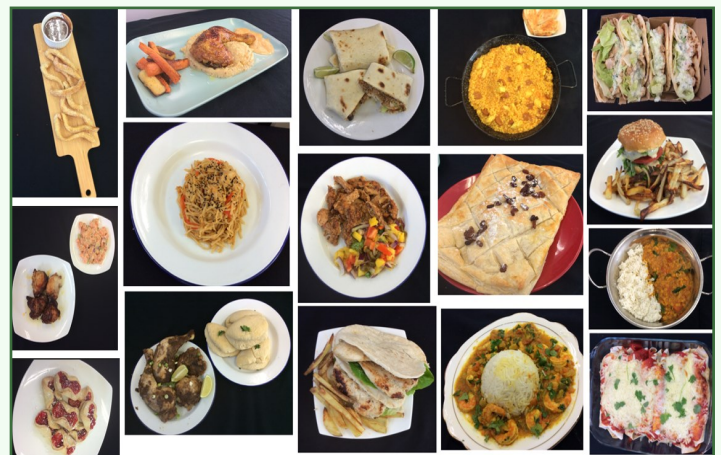
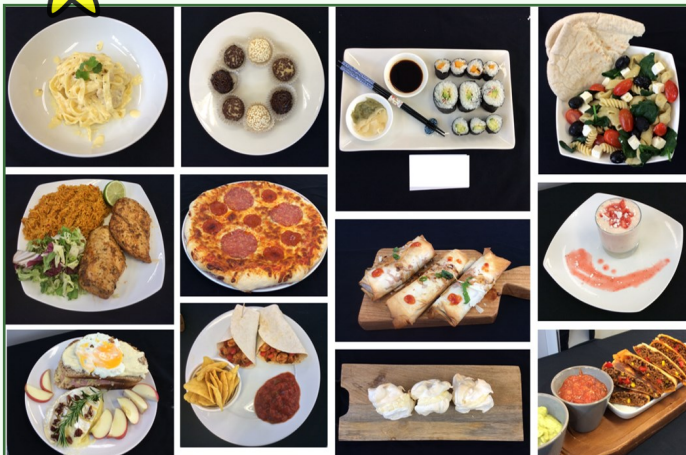
Year 9- Making Pasta



Science vs Food

- Pepper
- Pasta- Fusilli
- Pasta- Spaghetti
- Bread
- Cheese- Parmesan

We tested for Protein, Fats, Starch and Sugar using different chemicals





Save the Children

School Activities this term



Hello Helen and anyone associated with the amazing art work at the entrance to the Academy on 26th April 2024.
I enclose a certificate by way of a massive thank you for everything you have done to highlight the Rights of the Child as written by Eglantine Jebb who was born in Ellesmere. We are so proud and determined to work upholding these rights around the world in the UK.
I know our volunteers in Ellesmere were very excited to see how much you did to make a special day.
I took some photographs and have passed them on to our Public Liaison Officer in case we can show them to the Princess Royal.



A small group of our students were able to visit Cremorne Gardens in the hopes of seeing The Princess Royal, Princess Anne. They waited perfectly and patiently, they were an absolute credit to the Academy.



Celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the Rights of the Child written by Eglantine Jebb, who co-founded Save the Children. Artwork & written pieces from Year 7 and 8 and Crochet from the Crochet Club. What a beautiful thing to see at the entrance to our school.



PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS

A successful afternoon at Shrewsbury College for our amazing mixed touch rugby team! We beat Telford Park, HLC and Belvidere to make it through to the next round of the competition at the Sixways Stadium in Worcester.



Huge congratulations to some of our students who have been impeccable playing lots of rugby in the heat at Worcester Sixways. They finished second in their group, missing out narrowly by one try to the overall winners.

Well done to our year 8 rounders team who took part in the north Shropshire rounders festival.

Well done!!



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Well done to our fab U12s rounders squad who played some lovely rounders at the North Shropshire tournament! Thanks to Oswestry School for hosting!

Our fantastic Year 9 Sports Leaders



Huge congratulations to our very own Mr Gray, who completed the London half marathon over the weekend with an impressive time!

PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS - PE - NEWS

Our students were impeccable on a recent visit to Queensway. It was such a good and rewarding day for many. So many students finished in the top 3 for their event which was great to see.

We finished 3rd overall which was an amazing achievement. To top it off, our senior boys (year 9 and 10) finished 1st overall and our junior boys (year 7 and 8) finished 3rd overall. The girls were great too. The last time we won the senior boys age group was 10 years ago, so this is an unbelievable effort by the boys.





Students Performing and Excelling in 'Out of School' Activities



D of E Silver Expedition



These photos were taken during the D of E final silver expedition which was in the Peak District. Highlights were walking over The Roaches and communal cooking in the evening. The worst bits were the bogs and the rain!

Lots of lessons were learned but they survived sun, torrential rain, thunder, lightning and cold during their 3 days and 2 nights of walking and camping.

Very well done to them all.



Our Duke of Edinburgh successes this year which not only extend to successful completion by students for the bronze award but we have also had a small number of students go one step further and complete the silver award. For many years Lakelands did not participate in the DofE award scheme principally because of cost and not having staff availability to manage the programme which is both challenging and demanding. We were fortunate to convince Sue Tuerena to come back to run DofE for us and she was involved when the DofE was stopped rather abruptly at Lakelands many years ago due to funding issues.

However, we managed to get DofE up and running again and are coming into the final year of a 3 year agreement with them. For a relatively small secondary school to achieve the success with DofE over the past couple of years is something to be proud of and it is mainly through the perseverance of Sue Tuerena we have managed to reach this point.