



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.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Hignett'.

Mark Hignett

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Headteach-



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.

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 ricochetted 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 loosing 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.

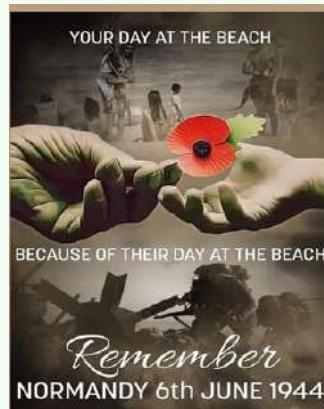
Running relentlessly, needing eyes all around, constant thoughts of despair. The whole world stops, my body violently drops to the ground, my body numb, my arms unmoving. Suddenly, a feeling of peace, no more screaming, no shouting, just lost in my own thoughts.

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





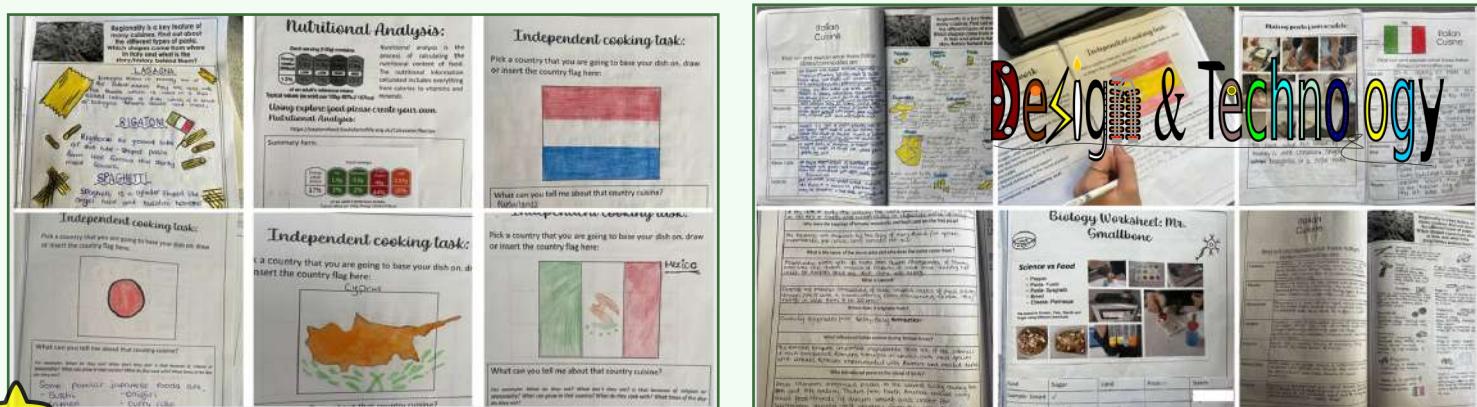
School Activities this term



DT and Food



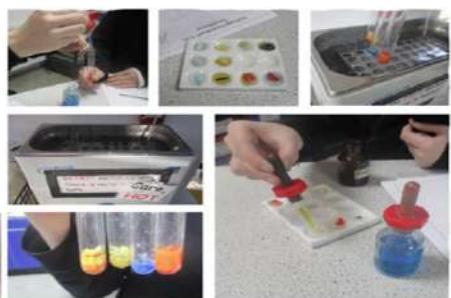
This half term, Year 9 have been busy completing their independent dish where they researched a country of their choice, they then planned and created a dish based on that country's traditional cuisine. The students had 40 minutes to complete their dishes. They all did amazing.



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 and 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 incase 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.



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

Well done!!



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 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.



Students Performing and Excelling in 'Out of School' Activities



Eric S racing at Three Sisters Race Circuit for MBKC June Cup

Congratulations Eric on a super performance, great top placing through the Heats and a 2nd placing in the final. Great driving, Well done!



Royston T races motorbikes with a selection of motocross and enduro. He's been racing since 9 years of age and is now competitive racing a 125cc, Nationally. He's enjoyed racing locally and championship races with many wins. He hopes to be racing the world rounds in the future.

Oliver M in year 10 has loved basketball for the past 4-5 years, keeping staff members of Lakeland's on their toes with his continuous bouncing of his basketball. However, he has now put his skills to good use and has joined the team "Wrexham Warriors" Training every Monday Oliver has gained confidence and improved his skills alongside his teammates.



Harry P represented North Shropshire Pony Club show jumping at Solihull Equestrian Centre. Jumping each class without any faults the team was placed 3rd out of 20 teams and have qualified for the Regional Championships in August. Well done and good luck Harry!!



Library news



The clouds didn't stop us from enjoying a lovely reading picnic as part of our week-long Readathon celebration!

Some of our Year 7 & 8 students have set themselves very ambitious reading targets so we're trying to give them as many opportunities to read as possible. It was lovely to enjoy some quiet time outdoors, reading and eating together.

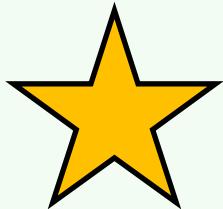


...and that's a wrap! What an amazing Readathon we had last week! Over the course of the week Mrs Gordon issued 188 books to Year 7 & 8 students and it's been amazing to see so many hitting their reading targets. We're really proud of all they've achieved! If you've collected sponsorship money as part of the Readathon challenge, now's the time to bring it in.

Any donations will be very gratefully received and all money will be used to buy exciting new books for our students. Thank you for all your support!



Thank you to everyone who took part in our Book Swap event today! We swapped over 70 books and it was great to see students going away with stacks of lovely new books to read.



Year 7 English Trip to Stratford-upon-Avon



The Hay-on Wye trip is going well, the students got to listen to author Anthony Horowitz and author and poet Ashley Hickson-Lovence. Miss Phillips said both were wonderfully engaging.



Well done to Anton 10N, Poppy 10W, Sophie 10W, Jack 10W and Owen W 10B. The students took part in the Viva Voce Spoken Language competition against Year 10 students from Ellesmere College and the Corbet school. They performed either a poetry recital or dramatic reading. All students performed excellently and did a fantastic job at memorising their piece. A special mention to Anton who won second prize for his dramatic reading from Treasure Island .

Also well done to Jack who was chosen to be a student judging on the judging panel for the poetry recital. It was commented by the organisers of the competition that he was a confident and thorough judge and offered to give feedback to the students in the category he judged.



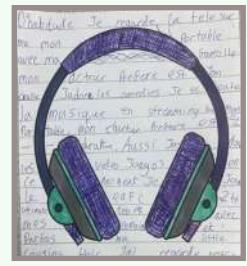
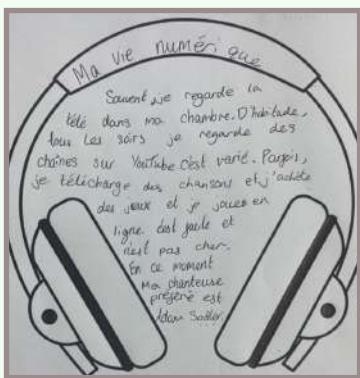
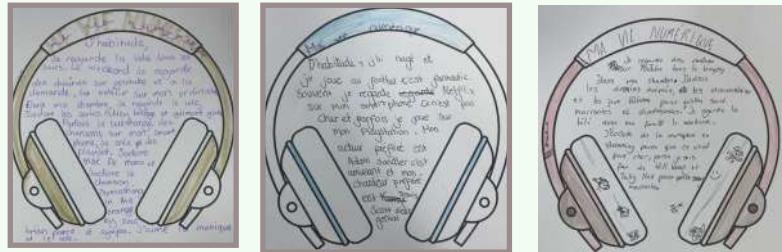


Modern Foreign Languages



Y8

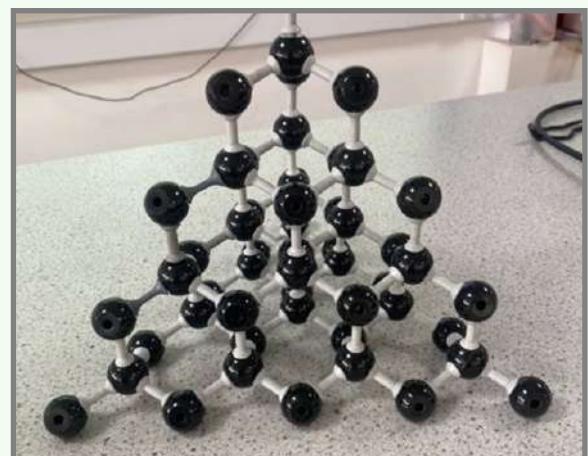
In French, year 8 have been writing about how they use technology in their lives.



Science



Some year 9s successfully built “**diamond**”, a giant covalent structure. Miss Mansfield said, “In the 20 years I have been teaching, no one has ever succeeded!



Creative Arts



Jonah and Tom of 9W have been having guitar lessons for over a year at Lakelands and are now confident guitarists on their journey towards the rock n roll hall of fame! Next time you see these two, it could even be on the cover of Rolling Stone magazine!



Thank you to everyone who came to our Summer festival. It was a resounding success and we can't wait for next year! We have lots to share but for now, here are some photobooth snaps (P.S, big thanks to Miss Dodd and Mr Evans for building the "Lakestagram" frame!)



Here are our wonderful year 10 students outside The Making of Harry Potter Experience at The Warner Bros Studio after having enjoyed an incredible, magical journey to London as part of the Creative Arts trip!

And in other news.....

A group of year 7's helped run the refreshment stall at the primary school sports day. They had a great time and were able to practice the money skills they have been learning this term.



Invite all your friends and family to donate the blue shopping tokens to support

Clay and 3D work at Lakelands Art Departments.

Look out for the local collection points in Ellesmere Tesco's.

The dates run from 1st July to the end of September 2024



AND



RUNNING FROM: 1ST JULY to the end of SEPTEMBER 2024

Please invite all your friends and family to donate blue shopping tokens to support....

Clay and 3D work at Lakelands Academy Art Department



A big 'Thank you' to Tesco for hosting us today. We raised **£140.94**, which is a brilliant amount of money, especially considering none of us carry cash anymore! All to be donated to The Oswestry Foodbank.

The pupils were outstanding and a credit to Lakelands Academy. Shout out to Mrs Butler for being our first aider and knowing every single customer in Tesco!



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



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>

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...!!!

Open day
Wednesday 18th Sept
Year 6 taster day
Friday 4th October

Autumn term 2024—2025 2nd Sept—20th December

- 2nd Sept and 3rd Sept—**PD days**
- 28th Oct—1st November—**half term**
- 4th November—**PD day**
- 23rd December—3rd January—**Christmas holidays**
- 6th January—**PD day**



Summer Holiday Fun and Food in Shropshire

Book Now!

Over the Summer holidays, HAF eligible children and young people aged 4 (reception class) to 16, are invited to attend free clubs.

All eligible will be given a unique code and booking information direct from school.

"Safe, enjoyable, fun and great to have somewhere for children to be." Parent.

Many holiday clubs have paid spaces available for those not eligible for HAF.

Web: www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf
Email: HAF.programme@shropshire.gov.uk



Is your child eligible for free school meals?

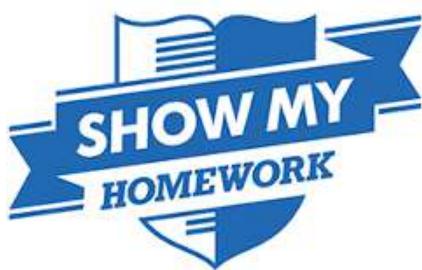
If your circumstances have recently changed, you may find that your child is now entitled to free school meals.

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 !



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