

Friday the 13th of November 2026

E-News

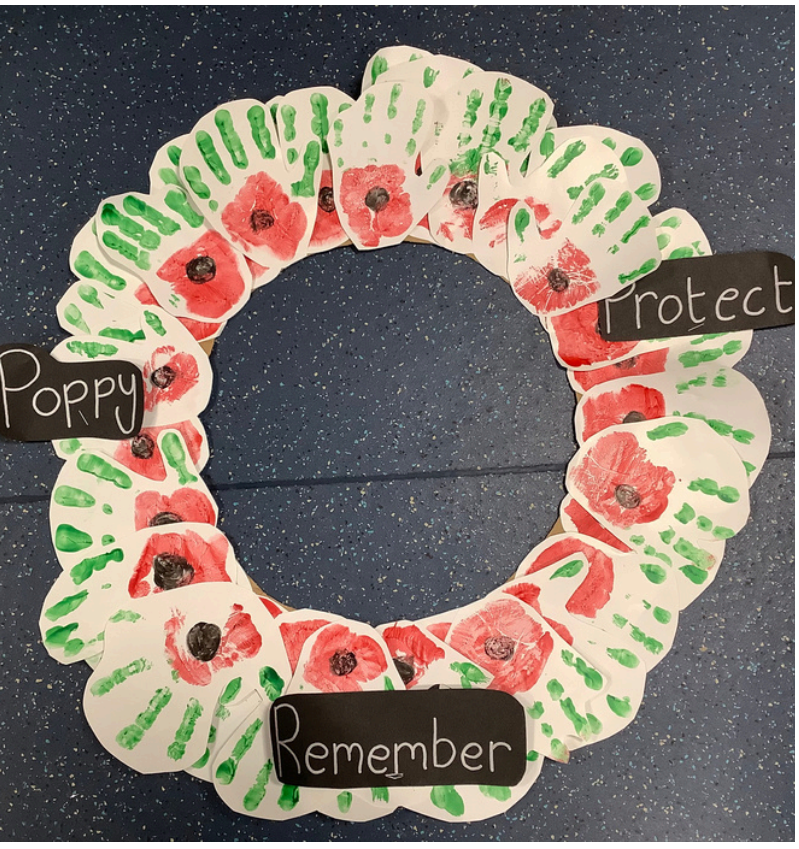
Lakenham Primary School

Enjoy, Aspire, Achieve

Remembrance Assembly

This week, children and staff were joined by parents and family members for our Remembrance Assembly. During the assembly, children respectfully shared poems and reflections, helping us all to remember those who have served and sacrificed for our country. A special highlight was hearing Miss Leveridge play the Last Post, which provided a poignant moment for quiet reflection.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this important occasion and helped make it such a thoughtful and memorable event.









Diwali Celebrations

This week, our school came together to celebrate and learn about Diwali, the Festival of Lights. Children explored what Diwali means and how it is celebrated by people of the Hindu faith, gaining a deeper understanding of the traditions, values and joy associated with this special festival. We'd love to have some families join us next year to share your real life experiences.

To make the celebration even more memorable, Chef Nell and the catering team prepared a delicious Diwali-inspired curry as an additional lunchtime option. It was a huge hit with children and staff alike!

One of the highlights of the day was when a child of Indian heritage told Chef Nell that the curry tasted just like the food they enjoy at home. What a wonderful compliment! It was a lovely moment that reflected the care, thought and authenticity that went into creating such a special experience for our children.

For all the families who have celebrated Diwali, we hope you have had a wonderful time!





Nursery

This week in Nursery, we have been talking about Diwali, the festival of light! Zoe taught us about the story of Rama and Sita and helped us to make our own Diyah lamps. On Tuesday we had a very exciting visit from the Biffa Recycling team who brought their lorry! We talked about recycling and the children had a go at adding some recycling to the wheelie bin. We watched as the wheelie bin was lifted and tipped into the back of the lorry. The children were then invited to have a turn at sitting in the cab and have a go at beeping the horn!

We have been learning the rhyme 'Little Miss Muffet' using props at repetition- can your child tell you some of the rhyme at home or remember some of the objects that we looked at?

We have also talked briefly about Remembrance day, the poppy and people who help us.

Our next family stay and play is our Christmas Cafe on Tuesday 24th November. More details to follow.

Have a great weekend









Can Do

A big congratulations to last week's Can Do Winners. These children have demonstrated a fantastic attitude to learning, showing determination, resilience and a willingness to challenge themselves. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and the positive example they set for others. Keep up the excellent work!





Early Excellence

This week, we were delighted to welcome a large group of teachers from schools across the region to Lakenham as part of our role as an Early Excellence Host School.

Visitors took part in professional development focused on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and enjoyed a tour of our wonderful learning environment. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase the high-quality practice taking place in our Early Years provision and to share ideas with colleagues from other settings.

We are incredibly proud to be recognised as a school that supports the training and development of other educators. It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the dedication and expertise of our Early Years team.

Year Four

We've had another fantastic week in Year 4!

In English, we have been working towards writing setting descriptions inspired by The Land of Roar. The children have done brilliantly at using fronted adverbials and prepositions to create descriptive sentences!

In Maths, we are deep into our times tables unit! The more practice at home, the better, whether that's on TTRS or practising aloud. Keep going, Year 4!

In History, we have officially started our Celts and Romans topic! We began by reflecting on our castle trip, plotting key events on a timeline and identifying features of Celtic settlements.





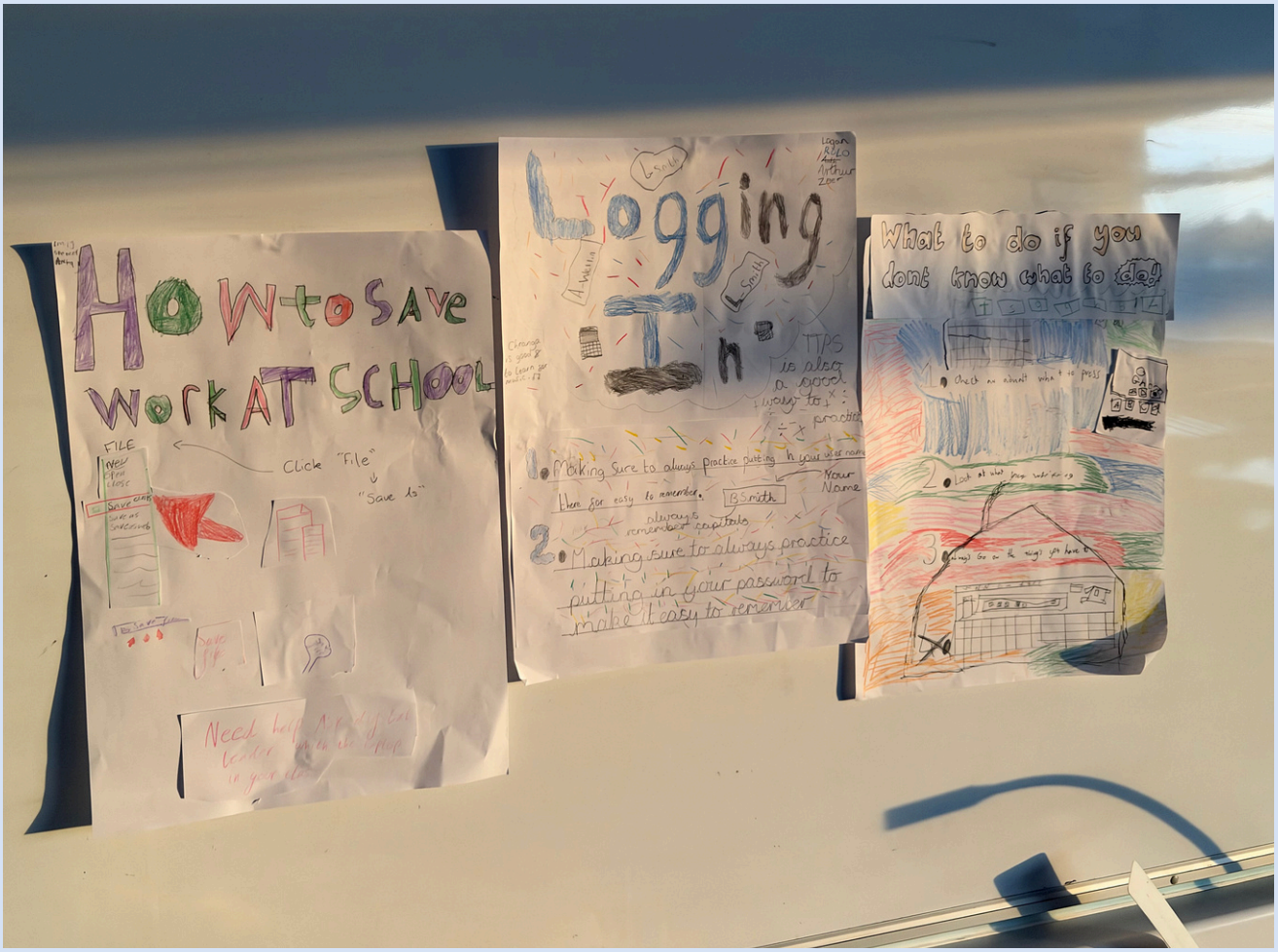


Junior Leadership Team

Digital Leaders

Today, our Digital Leaders discussed the feedback gathered from their classes about what children find tricky when using computers. We identified the most common challenges and began creating helpful posters filled with tips, tricks and shortcuts to help children use computers more quickly and confidently.

We have also sent out another questionnaire to our classes to find out how we can best support everyone in becoming more independent and efficient when using computers.



Young Librarians

Our Young Librarians met this week to share feedback on the information they had gathered from their classmates and make some exciting decisions based on what they discovered. They have also designed a competition, which will be launching in Spring 1 – so watch this space! Next time, we'll be learning how to sign books in and out of the library, ready to help our classes when they visit each week. Well done, Young Librarians!

Reminder about Upcoming Events

Royal Institute Science Show



The Royal Institute for Science are coming into school on 24th November. As part of their visit, they are kindly offering a FREE family science show, after school on Tuesday 24th November. The show starts at 5pm and lasts approximately 45 minutes. We currently have around 30 spaces left. Parents and relatives are welcome to come along also. Please email office@lakenhamprimary.org.uk if you would like to reserve a space. Please note that spaces will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

Christmas Letters

We have some very special news... Father Christmas has agreed to receive letters from the children at our school this year! If your child would like to send him a letter, they can pick up a special Christmas Post letter template from the school office.

Simply return the completed letter to school, and our very reliable North Pole delivery service will make sure it reaches Father Christmas in time. Even more excitingly, every child who sends a letter will receive a reply!

Don't delay though, Father Christmas is a very busy man at this time of year so all letters will need to be back to the office by Friday the 11th of December.



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ In the UK

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, that allows users to send messages, share multimedia, make calls, and participate in group chats. In September 2026, WhatsApp announced new optional parental controls for teenagers, including privacy settings, group notifications, and restrictions on AI content, which parents and educators should be aware of.



GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats help young people stay connected, but they can also leave them feeling excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and frequent notifications can create a sense of needing to be constantly available. WhatsApp's new parental controls notify parents when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size.

HARMFUL CONTENT ON CHANNELS

WhatsApp Channels allow users to receive updates from public figures, organisations, and content creators; however, some Channels may expose young people to misinformation, harmful ideologies, or age-inappropriate material. New optional parental controls allow adults to restrict which Channels teenagers access, including limiting them to approved Channels.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers may use WhatsApp to trick young people into sharing personal information, sending money, or sharing security codes. They may impersonate friends or family members, using convincing stories about emergencies or urgent requests for help. New parental controls can help manage who contacts teenagers; however, they cannot prevent all scams or fraudulent messages.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp allows users to share their live location, profile information, and Status updates. Without appropriate privacy settings, this information could expose young people to unwanted attention or reveal their whereabouts. New parental controls enable adults to manage certain privacy settings, including who can view account details and add teenagers to groups.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp features such as disappearing messages and Chat Lock can make conversations harder for adults to identify. Although these tools are designed to protect privacy, they may also make it harder for adults to recognise inappropriate exchanges or harmful behaviour. WhatsApp's new parental controls do not give adults access to teenagers' private messages or calls.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp includes advertising in parts of its Updates section and offers Meta AI, an integrated AI assistant. Young people may encounter sponsored content, misleading AI responses, or information which is unsuitable for their age. New parental controls offer a stricter 'Limited Content' setting for Meta AI; however, this cannot guarantee that every response will be accurate or appropriate.



Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLORE NEW PARENTAL CONTROLS

WhatsApp's new optional parental controls are being rolled out gradually, giving families more ways to manage teenagers' privacy and interactions. Teenagers will need parental approval using a parent-set PIN to relax any protected settings. Keep the conversation open and set up the controls together, remembering that parents can adjust or switch them off at any time.

MANAGE CHANNELS AND AI

Explore the new settings for Channels, Status updates, and Meta AI. Parents can restrict Channels to approved selections or prevent teenagers from viewing them. They can also choose Meta AI's stricter 'Limited Content' option, which restricts certain topics. Remind young people that AI can produce inaccurate information and encourage them to question responses rather than accepting them at face value.

MONITOR GROUP ACTIVITY SAFELY

New parental controls notify adults when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size. These alerts can help identify potentially concerning interactions without revealing private messages. Encourage young people to discuss unfamiliar groups, uncomfortable conversations, or pressure from other members and that they can leave, mute, or report if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

PRIORITISE TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

Parental controls should support conversations about online safety, not replace them. Explain that WhatsApp's new features do not give adults access to private messages or calls, helping teenagers understand that their privacy remains protected. Reassure young people that they can speak openly about upsetting content, unwanted contact, or pressure from other group members.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 11.11.2026

Sunflowers

In Sunflowers this week we made some delicious vegetable soup. We all had a go at cutting the vegetables, which were a little bit tricky!

For Diwali we made some Diwali lanterns; we decorated the paper plates with jewels and made our own flame for the candle. Our lanterns were displayed on Sunflowers door.

For Remembrance day we made some red poppy cakes, all the children had a go at mixing the ingredients together and it turned red. Once they had been cooked and cooled down the children iced them and placed a chocolate button for the centre of the poppy.

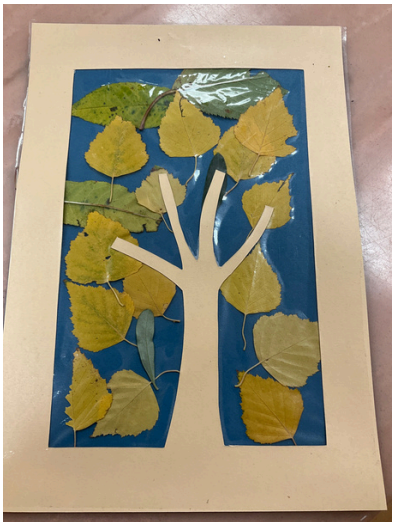
We are continuing to look at Autumn and all the changing colours of the leaves. The children in Sunflowers have been making some Autumn pictures and decorating their trees.













Ofsted Good Provider
MUSIC MARK SUPPORTING CONNECTING INFLUENCING
LOtC Mark (Bronze)
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD
thrive
NOS National Online Safety
Communication HUB
Eco-Schools 2024 - 2025
Bookmark Literacy Partner Programme
SCHOOL GAMES GOLD 2023/24
Gold Award 2024 - 2026

Lakenham Primary School

Enjoy, Aspire, Achieve

The Canteen

WEEK 3 MENU

EVERYDAY

Your meal isserved with:

- Unlimited Trips to the Salad Bar
- Bread on request
- Fresh Fruit
- Drink: Water orMilk (on request)

MONDAY

Vegetable stew with dumplings
or
Jacket potato served with a choice of cheese, beans or tuna

Dessert: Compote with homemade granola and Greek yoghurt

TUESDAY

BBQ chicken drumstick or Quorn served with slaw and pomegranate couscous
or
Soup with homemade bread

Dessert: Apple cake

WEDNESDAY

Mac and cheese with leafy greens
or
Jacket potato served with a choice of tuna, cheese or beans

Dessert: Fruit salad

THURSDAY

Chicken or vegetable ramen
or
Autumn pasta salad

Dessert: Brownies

FRIDAY

Fish or tempura vegetables and wedges served with a choice of peas or beans

Dessert: Smoothie



Friends of Lakenham

HELP NEEDED!

Can you help at our Christmas Fair?

If you're able to help, please email

✉ FOL@lakenhamprimary.org.uk

or give your name to the school office.

Thank you!

TOMBOLA PRIZES NEEDED



Please take donations for tombola prizes to the school office anytime between now and the Christmas Fair.

HAMPER DONATIONS

Non School Uniform Day
Friday 27th November



In exchange for a non-school uniform day on Friday 27th November, we ask families to donate items for Christmas Hampers. The hampers will be available to win by raffle at the Christmas Fair.

JOLLY JARS

Non-School Uniform Day
Friday 4th December



Start saving your jam jars now! Fill them up with pre-wrapped sweets and decorate them how you wish. We can't wait to see them all in exchange for a non-school uniform day on Friday 4th December.

Don't forget to visit the Jolly Jar stall at the Christmas Fair to win a jar to take back home!

Thank you for your support

Reception

Our week started with Diwali celebrations, we learnt how it is a festival of light and about the story of Rama and Sita. We joined the whole school in decorating our classroom doors for Diwali, bringing more light and colour to our entrance. 🎇

We had a very exciting visit from Biffa this week, who brought along a recycling truck for us to learn more about recycling ♻️ and for us to explore! We all took some recyclable materials to the truck and were able to add them to the recycling bin, before seeing it get emptied into the truck. 🚛

This week we have also been discussing Remembrance Day, and why people wear Poppies at this time of year. We watched the 'Poppies' animation on CBeebies which provoked discussion around how animals may have felt during the war. We joined the whole school Remembrance Service on Wednesday. Mrs Williams was so proud of how well Reception sat and the respect they demonstrated during the minutes' silence.

Within Drawing Club this week, our focus story was 'Lost and Found'. We began by drawing the main character of the boy, and some of us illustrated the penguin too 🐧. We then used our imaginations to think about how else the penguin could travel across the sea, if there was a hole in the boat, sharing our ideas through drawings and discussion.

Our new phonemes this week are - l, ll and ss. We have two digraphs this week with ll and ss, and we know that the two letters together within a digraph make one sound. We have now reached the end of our 'Phase 2' sounds, in your child's reading record or book bag if their record wasn't there, you will find a new sound mat. We are working towards all children being able to say the sound for all of those letters, so please use the sound mat to practise at home. Please continue to aim to read three times a week too.

In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of groups, looking at more, less and equal. We have continued to look at change this week, we explored melting and freezing using ice. We identified other things that can melt and what can help things to melt faster.

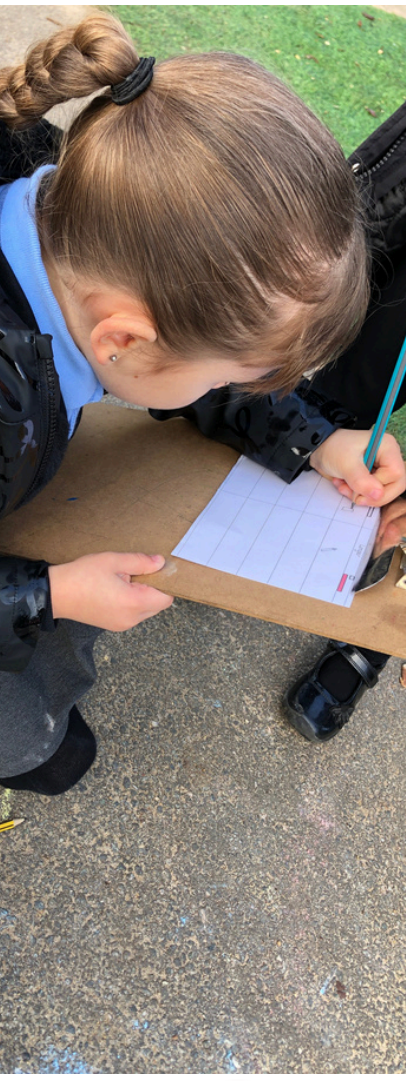






Year One

Year 1 have had so much fun helping the family of dragons that came to visit us over half-term! We have been busy hunting for their lost eggs and the children have been very helpful by drawing a map to show the dragons where their eggs were. We discovered the dragons also really enjoy reading so the children have made the family some lovely book recommendation posters! We have also been busy building some cosy nests for the dragons and some of us decided dragons would love a castle as their home! In English, we have been learning to use imperative verbs to write instructions on how to catch a dragon. In Maths, we have been comparing the length and weights of objects. We became detectives in history and looked at a picture of a person from the past and used our inference skills to predict who it might have been. We then discovered it was William the Conqueror! In DT we have begun our topic on hand puppets. This week we were exploring hand puppets that already existed. We looked closely at how they were made, what the properties of the material was and what features we noticed. We had alot of fun learning about the story of Diwali. We re-told the story by creating our own actions and made lanterns, fireworks and rangoli patterns to decorate our doors for the festival of light. For remembrance day, we made a poem as a class about why it is important to remember those who went to war and the children created some lovely poppy artwork. Well done year 1 for a fanstastic week!









Year Two

This week in year 2, we have been poets! In English we read the poem Recipe to make a Wolf by Pie Corbett and looked carefully at images used to create a picture of a wolf in our minds. We have generated our own poems using expanded noun phrases and similes.

For Remembrance Day we also created class poems using images of war planes and destroyed buildings. We were very proud of the children who read these poems during the whole school assembly.

On Monday we celebrated Diwali. Children shared home experiences and then we watched a story of Rama and Sita. We sequenced and retold the story before looking at different Diwali celebrations. We decorated flowers, made Rangoli patterns and henna hands and small lanterns to guide Rama and Sita home. We decorated our classroom doors to welcome the Goddess of wealth Lakshmi.

Year Three

This week in Year 3, we have been working hard across the curriculum. In English, we have been learning how to use direct speech with the correct punctuation, which has really improved our retellings of Ali Baba. In Maths, we have been exploring three-digit numbers up to 1,000 and developing our understanding of place value. In History, we learned more about the Ancient Egyptians and created timelines showing the Old, Middle and New Kingdoms. We also enjoyed exploring Egyptian artefacts and are looking forward to our trip to the castle on Monday!





Year Five

Year 5 have enjoyed a busy and engaging week, building on the fantastic experiences of last week's trips and residential visit. In Geography, we have continued our river studies, developing our understanding of rivers and the landscapes they shape while making connections to our recent experiences. In English, we have explored creation stories from different cultures and religions, considering their similarities, differences and the beliefs they reflect. Gymnastics continues to be a success, with pupils developing their skills and growing in confidence as they practise and refine their movements. In Science, we have begun our exciting learning about space and the solar system, exploring how ideas have changed over time, from geocentric models, which placed Earth at the centre, to the heliocentric model, which places the Sun at the centre of our solar system.

Year Six

Year 6 have had another busy and productive week. In Maths, we have been developing our understanding of rounding numbers to the nearest multiple. In English, we have continued our work on The Highwayman. After immersing ourselves in the poem last week, the children have enjoyed stepping into the shoes of the characters and writing in role.

We have also launched our first History topic of the year. This half term, we will be learning about post-war Britain, discovering how people's lives changed following the Second World War and exploring some of the key events that shaped modern Britain.

In Science, we investigated how we see objects and learnt about the different parts of the eye. The children produced some fantastic scientific diagrams and demonstrated excellent attention to detail. Meanwhile, in Art, we have begun exploring brutalist architecture, looking closely at its bold shapes, strong structures and unique style.

Resources request: if you have any old magazines or newspapers at home that you no longer need, we would be very grateful if you could send them into school. The children wil be using them to create collages as part of their artwork. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Join us at Lakenham Primary School for

Wreath Making

Hosted by Mrs Williams

Friday 11th December

Session 1: 1.30-3pm

Session 2: 4-5.30pm



Limited spaces!

Register by
Friday 27th November

Payments to:
Friends of Lakenham
Sort Code: 30-99-50
Account Number: 66816562

Refreshments provided by Friends Of Lakenham

email **fol@lakenhamprimary.org.uk** to book

ENGLAND ROCKS

17TH - 19TH NOVEMBER

8AM TO 6PM

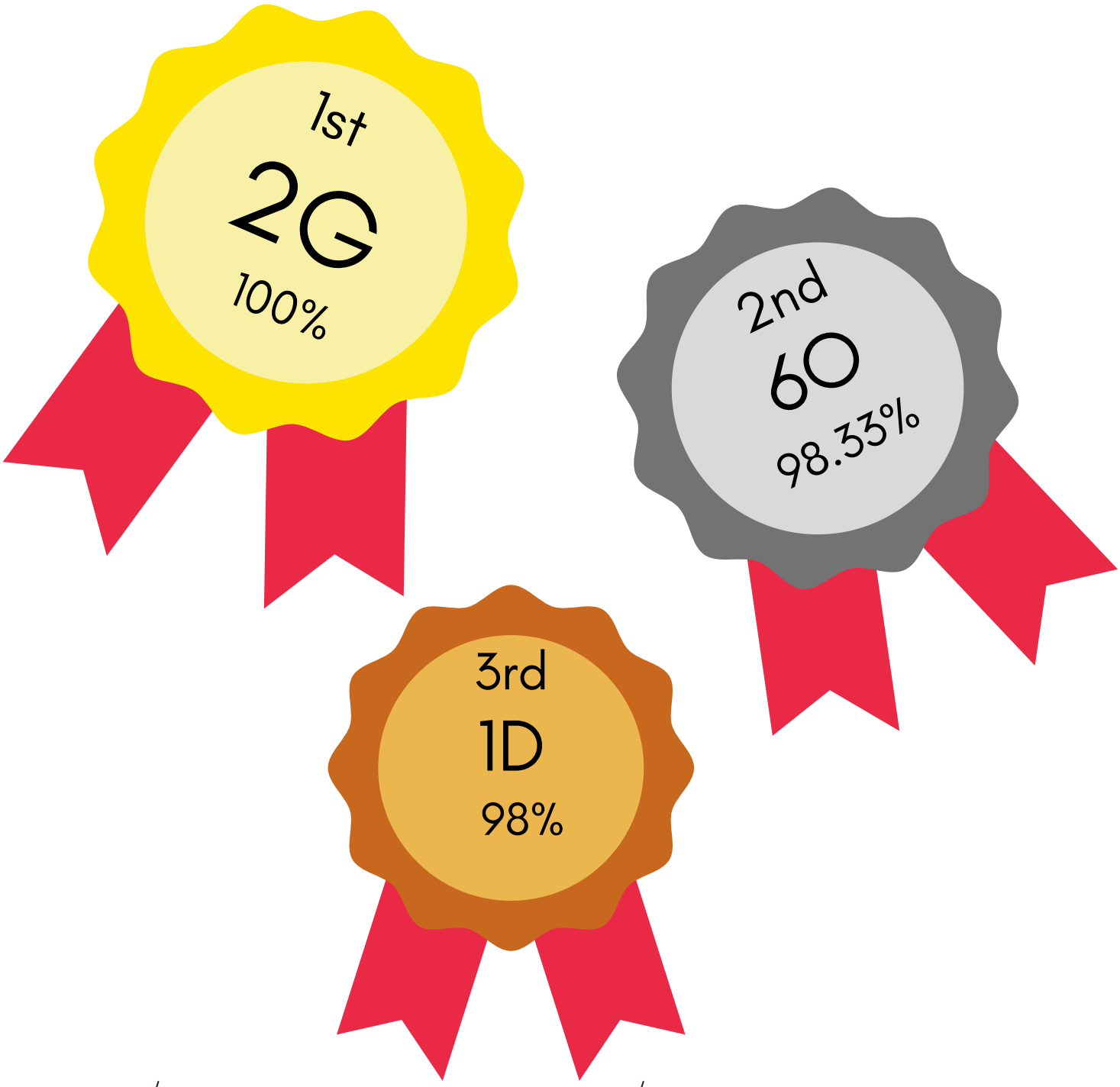
PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE!

30MIN TIME LIMIT PER PERSON!

WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER STUDENT!

TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS

Attendance





Whole School Attendance: 95.8%

Important Information

Please check the timetable below to see when your child/children need to come to school in their PE kits. Please check the weather forecast to ensure they are in weather appropriate clothing.

Click here for the school Facebook

Click here for the online calendar

PE Timetable

Class	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Reception		**PE**			**PE**
Year One		**PE**		**PE**	
Year Two	**PE (2F)**	**PE (2G)**	**Gymnastics**		
Year Three		**PE (3I)**			**PE (3I) Swimming (3H)**
Year Four		**PE**	**PE**		
Year Five			**PE Gymnastics**		
Year Six				**PE**	**PE**

Upcoming events

Date	Event	Year Group
20th of November	Odd Sock Day – Anti Bullying	All
24th of November	Community Science Show	All
24th of November	Parent Cafe	Nursery
27th of November	Non-Uniform Day	All
2nd of December	Parent Cafe	Year 3
9h of December	Parent Cafe – Art @ 2.30pm	Year 6

Upcoming trips

Date	Event	Year Group
16th of November	Castle Trip	Year 3
4th of December	Castle Trip	Year 1

Lakenham Primary School

Enjoy, Aspire, Achieve

HELP US TO STOCK OUR SCHOOL LARDER

🌟 CAN YOU HELP? 🌟

THE PSA TEAM IS COLLECTING DONATIONS TO HELP SUPPORT FAMILIES WITHIN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

MOST NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:



- *Pasta*
- *Cereal*
- *Tea*
- *Coffee*
- *Sugar*
- *Pasta Sauces*
- *Noodles*
- *Rice*
- *Gravy Granules*
- *Tinned Beans*
- *Tinned Spaghetti*
- *Spaghetti with Sausages*
- *Hot dog sausages*
- *Long-Life Food Items*



Every Donation Makes a Difference – Whether you can donate one item or several, your support helps us ensure that our School Larder remains stocked for families who may need a helping hand.

Please leave donations at the School office.

The Friends of Lakenham

AUTUMN TERM Events

SATURDAY 26 SEPTEMBER



SPONSORED WALK
at Whitlingham Country Park

COMPLETED!

RAISED £1283

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER



QUIZ NIGHT
in the school hall
6:30pm



COMPLETED!

RAISED £275

FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER



NON-UNIFORM DAY
We kindly ask for raffle prize donations for the Christmas Fair.



FRIDAY 4 DECEMBER



NON-UNIFORM DAY
We kindly ask for Jolly Jar donations for the Christmas Fair.



FRIDAY 11 DECEMBER



WREATH MAKING
with Mrs Williams



THURSDAY 17 DECEMBER



CHRISTMAS FAIR



Please save the dates!

MORE INFORMATION WILL FOLLOW