

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

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Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Message from the Principal



I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break and managed to enjoy some quality time together as a family. Hopefully, your children also found a moment or two to rest and recharge – they've certainly come back ready to go, and there's lots coming up in this crucial part of the school year.

For our Year 11 and Year 13 students, the exam season has well and truly begun. GCSE Art exams, and both GCSE and A Level language speaking exams are already underway. We're incredibly proud of the effort they've put in, including over the Easter holidays. A big thank you to our staff as well, many of whom gave up their break to run revision sessions – that kind of dedication really makes a difference. The rest of our students also have important assessments coming up, with end-of-year exams taking place after the May half term. This half term is vital for every year group, and we're asking for your continued support in encouraging 100% attendance – every lesson matters. There's a clear link between attendance and achievement, and being in school each day can make all the difference.

Next week is one our students always look forward to – Charities Week. It's been brilliant to see them getting stuck into planning, organising events, and selling tickets to raise money for some great causes. The energy and initiative they've shown has been fantastic.

It was lovely to welcome so many of you to our Year 11 Exam Essentials Evening yesterday. It's always reassuring for families to know exactly how to support their children through such an important time, and we hope you found it helpful. We're also looking forward to seeing our Year 10 parents next Thursday, 1st May, for Parents' Evening. This is a key opportunity to get feedback on how your child is doing and how best to support them at home. And on Monday evening, we welcome our Year 9 parents for the Pathways Meetings, where we'll be helping students make some key decisions about their Key Stage 4 subjects.

Finally, a quick reminder – if you're interested in joining our Parent Staff Association, Friends of The Elms, there's still time to get involved. It's a great way to support the school and meet other parents. You can register your interest here:

🔗 <https://forms.office.com/e/9rhMmdM6cA>

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to seeing many of you over the coming weeks.

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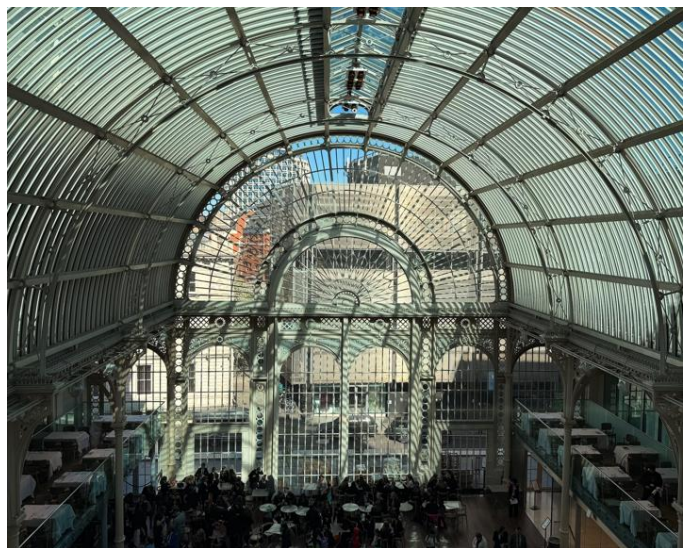
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### Royal Opera House visit

At the end of last term, students visited the Royal Opera House for an immersive concert, *Everybody Sing The Magic Flute*. This event launched United Learning's collaboration with the Royal Opera House on a project based on Mozart's opera.

Students worked with Royal Opera House artists to create a unique performance, learning six songs from *The Magic Flute*. The launch event featured 1,700 students from 53 schools, performing alongside the Royal Ballet & Opera Orchestra and professional opera singers.

During the Summer Term, students will learn the rest of the repertoire to perform at concerts in June and July at the Royal Festival Hall in London, Bridgewater Hall in Manchester, and Corn Exchange in Cambridge.



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### Year 10 and Year 12 Mock Interviews

The annual Mock Interview Day was hosted on Wednesday of the last week of term, and it was a great success. All year 10 and year 12 students had an opportunity to practice their interview skills in a simulated job interview.

The interviews were conducted by 22 professionals from a range of sectors, including finance, real estate, civil service, legal and health care. The feedback from students as well as the interviewers was uplifting.

One year 12 student said: "I enjoyed getting feedback from the interviewer because it boosted my confidence and made me aware of what I did right when presenting myself in a real interview."



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### Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 10 Parents Evening	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Late start for students	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	Year 11 normal start time 8.00am Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 13 Students are expected in school by 8:45a.m
May Bank Holiday	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	All Day
Half Term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	All Week
Summer Showcase	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2025	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Last day of term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	

