

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

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6<sup>th</sup> June 2025

### Message from the Principal



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome back after our May half-term break! It's been fantastic to see students returning to school looking refreshed, revitalised, and ready to tackle the final half-term of the academic year.

This last stretch is slightly longer than usual—seven weeks in total—and it's absolutely packed with exciting opportunities and memorable events. From summer concerts and sports day to Cultural Capital Week, drop-down days, and a range of rewards and golden postcard trips, there is so much to look forward to and celebrate together as a school community.

At the heart of this half-term, however, remains our number one priority: exams, particularly for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. We want to publicly thank them for the effort, determination, and resilience they've shown throughout this crucial period. We also extend our sincere gratitude to their teachers and

support staff, who have gone above and beyond with early starts, late finishes, and extra revision sessions. We also would like to thank the many parents who have sent messages of support to teachers since the start of the exams season – this really means a lot to our staff. It's a shining example of what makes our school so special—a true community effort, with everyone playing a part, whether you're in Year 7 or part of our fantastic facilities or catering teams. Thank you for creating the environment that helps all our students succeed.

From Monday, our focus also turns to the AP2 exams for Years 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12. These important end-of-year assessments not only help shape set groups for next year but also provide a valuable reflection on the progress made over the course of this academic year. Students should be treating homework as an opportunity for revision, completing weekly tasks consistently, and also paying attention to their health and well-being—getting good sleep, eating nutritious food, and staying active are just as important during this period.

This week also marked the exciting finale of our First Give Year 8 event, which brought our school community together in the spirit of giving back. From workshops on Monday to the grand finale on Thursday—complete with special guest judges—it was inspiring to see students developing their character and compassion, focusing on those less fortunate in our local community.

And of course, we've still made room for plenty of fun! In our house competitions, students battled it out to claim the titles of best penalty taker and Jenga champion—just a few of the joyful moments that make our school life rich and vibrant.

Finally, a huge thank you to all of you—our parents and carers—for the support you give your children every single day. We value your partnership and encouragement more than words can say.

We wish you a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday, ready for another fantastic week.

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### LGBTQIA+ Celebration Week

This week, Elms Academy proudly celebrated LGBTQIA+ Celebration Week as part of our ongoing commitment to diversity, inclusion, and respect.

During our whole school assembly, we reflected on the history of the LGBTQIA+ community and its ongoing journey toward equality. We also revisited the Elms Academy Pledge—a powerful reminder that every student and staff member deserves to feel safe, seen, and respected.

At Elms, we value integrity, respect, and kindness. These principles guide how we treat one another, both in and outside the classroom. We believe that our differences make us stronger, and we are proud to be a community where everyone is encouraged to be their authentic selves.

Together, we continue to build a school environment where diversity is celebrated, voices are heard, and no one is left behind.

### PRIDE @ TEA - Diversity Week



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### The Elms Academy Pledge



- We will **challenge** homophobic and transphobic stereotypes, discrimination & bias
- We will **educate** ourselves about issues that impact the LGBTQ+ community and help to ensure the Elms Academy is an **inclusive** environment
- We will **support** equal rights and protections for LGBTQ+ individuals
- We will **call out** homophobic and transphobic action, assumption or language



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### Year 9 Kings Scholars

Our Year 9 King's Scholars have come to the end of their journey on this wonderful 3-year programme delivered by King's College London. The students have had a fantastic time full of trips, workshops, career days and inspirational speakers. Today, they celebrated their success at a graduation ceremony full of joy and hopes for the future. We wish the King's Scholar Graduates every success in the years to come.



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### First Give Charity Presentations



Year 8 students attended a workshop on Thursday as part of the final to the First Give Charity programme. During the course of the afternoon each tutor group delivered their final presentations on their chosen charity.

They highlighted why they chose their charity, the work the charity does and the ways in which they went about raising money. Students also answered questions from the judging panel.

Students from 8A who supported Bay Tree Centre were announced as the winners and were awarded a cheque for £1,000.

Well done to everyone who took part and for all their hard work in supporting their charity and highlighting the number of good causes within our local community.



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### Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Summer Festival	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2025	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Last day of term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	
<b>Key dates for September 2025</b>		
Inset days	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025	All Day
Start of term for Year 7, 11, 12 & 13	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025	8.25am
Start of term for Year 9 & 10	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	8.25am
Start of term for Year 8	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	8.25am