The Elms Academy
NEWSLETTER

Integrity ■ Ambition ■ Determination

Friday 2nd October 2026

Message from the Principal



What a fantastic week we've had at The Elms Academy, with our school community in full flow!

We started the week with an inspiring assembly from Miss Bennett on the power of a growth mindset. Students reflected on how progress comes from believing in themselves, embracing challenges, and recognising that while they may not be able to do something yet, they can achieve great things through perseverance and a positive attitude. It was a motivating start to the week and an important reminder of how mindset can influence achievement.

Monday also saw the exciting launch of our Key Stage 3 enrichment clubs. It was wonderful to see so many students trying new activities, broadening their horizons, building new friendships, and developing new skills beyond the classroom. Our enrichment programme continued throughout the week. On Wednesday, we celebrated the European Day of Languages with our House Poster Competition, showcasing students' creativity and appreciation of different cultures and languages. We also held auditions for Shrek the Musical, and the talent on display has certainly given us plenty to look forward to ahead of the performances in February.

A particular highlight was our Year 11 one-to-one meetings with senior and middle leaders. These conversations focused on revision, homework, routines, and setting clear goals for the year ahead. It was fantastic to see such an engaged and motivated year group, determined to become our record-breakers this year.

Of course, one of the biggest events of the year was our Open Evening on Thursday. It was a pleasure to open our doors to prospective families and showcase a school community of which staff and students are incredibly proud. A huge thank you to all our staff, student subject ambassadors and tour guides who worked so hard to demonstrate the excellent educational experience on offer at The Elms Academy.

We are continuing to welcome prospective families through our Open Morning Tours, taking place next week and the following week between 9:00am and 11:00am. Please do spread the word—these tours provide a great opportunity to see the school in action and experience daily life at The Elms Academy.

Finally, a special congratulations to Year 7 and Year 11, whose attendance has been exceptional at the start of the academic year. We would also like to remind all parents and carers of the importance of regular attendance and punctuality. Being in school every day and arriving on time ensures that students maximise every learning opportunity available to them.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

Key Stage 3 Enrichment

We are delighted to launch our new programme of enrichment clubs on Monday, giving our students the opportunity to explore new interests, develop their skills and enjoy learning beyond the classroom.

These sessions provide a wonderful opportunity for students to be creative, active, learn practical skills and try something new in a fun and supportive environment. We are really looking forward to seeing our students get involved, discover new passions and make the most of these exciting opportunities. We wish everyone taking part a fantastic start to our enrichment programme!








26th Chinese Bridge Award Ceremony

We were delighted to see Maryann represent our school at the 26th Chinese Bridge Award Ceremony, celebrating her outstanding achievement in the Chinese speaking competition. We are incredibly proud of Maryann!! Congratulations, Maryann!









The Elms Academy
NEWSLETTER

Integrity ■ Ambition ■ Determination

Open Evening

We were delighted to welcome so many families to our Open Evening this week. This was our opportunity to show all our visitors the exciting opportunities the academy has to offer. Our student ambassadors did an excellent job showing groups of visitors around the academy and allowing them the opportunity to visit all the different subject areas.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

We look forward to our Open Mornings which take place all next week and to working with our excellent tour guides.













The Elms Academy
NEWSLETTER

Integrity ■ Ambition ■ Determination

Parents Evenings – Save the Date



One of the most valuable opportunities for school and families to work together each year is **Parents' Evening**, and we would like to encourage every parent and carer to prioritise attending.

Parents' Evening gives you the opportunity to meet individually with each of your child's teachers and gain valuable insights into their progress, strengths and areas for development. Teachers will also share practical advice on how best to support learning at home and discuss any priorities for the year ahead.

These conversations help ensure that home and school work together effectively to support your child's success. They are an invaluable opportunity to celebrate achievements, understand next steps and ensure your child is making the most of every opportunity available to them.

To help families plan ahead, we are sharing all Parents' Evening dates now and strongly encourage every parent and carer to prioritise attendance.

Parents' Evening Dates

- **Year 7: Thursday 26th November 2026**
- **Year 8: Thursday 18th March 2027**
- **Year 9: Thursday 11th February 2027**
- **Year 10: Thursday 29th April 2027**
- **Year 11: Thursday 7th January 2027**
- **Year 12: Thursday 4th February 2027**
- **Year 13: Thursday 10th December 2026**

Further details will be sent nearer the time.

The Elms Academy
NEWSLETTER

Integrity ■ Ambition ■ Determination

Getting to Know You



Name: Lydia Randles

Job title: Trainee Science Teacher

House: Archer

Currently Reading: London Falling by Patrick Radden Keefe

A favourite film: About Time

Interesting fact about me: I'm currently training for my 6th marathon

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: I love the strong sense of community. I've really enjoyed getting to know the students and staff, and I value being part of a school where everyone is encouraged to work hard, support one another and be ambitious.

Key Dates for Your Diary

Year 10 Welcome to GCSE Evening	Thursday 8th October 2026	5.00pm – 6.00pm
Parent Forum – Online	Tuesday 13th October 2026	6.15pm – 7.00pm
International Evening	Thursday 22nd October 2026	5.00pm – 6.30pm
October Half term	Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2026	All Week
INSET DAY	Monday 2nd November 2026	All Day

Stay Connected

Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn | X

@theelmsacademy