

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

### Message from the Principal



Dear Parents,

As we approach the final week of the spring term, I wanted to share some important updates and reflections with you.

Firstly, I would like to remind you that Thursday, 28th March, is the last day of term, with an earlier finish time of 12:45 for all students. Please make arrangements accordingly.

This time of year holds special significance for many of our families and students. As a diverse community, we recognise and celebrate various cultural and religious observances. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Ms El Sakka for her dedication in overseeing the prayer room for our students observing Ramadan. Additionally, we have Easter celebrations approaching for our Christian students and families.

Throughout this week, our school has been buzzing with numerous trips and events.

It was a pleasure to engage with many of you during our pathways and parent evenings. Year 9 parents joined us on Wednesday for discussions about pathways as their children transition from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4. Ms Tait and Mr Rowe conveyed enthusiasm and confidence about the future prospects for Year 9 students.

On Thursday, we hosted Year 8 parents evening, providing an invaluable opportunity for collaborative dialogue among all stakeholders. Your commitment to these meetings truly enhances the educational journey of our students.

Our students have been actively involved in enriching experiences outside the classroom as well. Year 10 students had the privilege of visiting Ernest & Young for an employability workshop and exploring the world of capital markets and leadership. They also had an engineering trip, where they utilised a 3D printer, enhancing their practical skills.

Our partnership with Kings University continues to flourish, with workshops for Year 7 and Year 10 students this week. Additionally, a group of Year 8 students benefited from a workshop on oracy facilitated by the Speakers Trust.

Furthermore, students participating in The Duke of Edinburgh Award engaged in workshops focusing on essential survival skills, preparing them adequately for the expeditions planned for the summer term.

Above all, witnessing our schoolchildren's happiness and engagement, whether in lessons or extracurricular activities, is the most rewarding aspect of our work. Their positive experiences fuel our commitment to providing a well-rounded education.

As we conclude this term, I extend my gratitude for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. May the upcoming break provide moments of rest and rejuvenation for all.

The Summer term commences on Tuesday 16th April for all students.

Warm regards,

Jon Lynes

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### Gender Equality Week

Our focus this week has been on gender equality. During our time we have been exploring gender stereotypes, gender bias and gender equality in everyday life and the workplace. We have considered the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals which state that, "gender equality is a fundamental human right. Gender equality supports world peace, stability and development for all."

By looking at three inspirational women, we have seen how supporters of gender equality have campaigned for equality. Malala Yousafzai – Nobel Peace Prize winner – An advocate for girls rights to education in Pakistan. Olive Morris – An activist on gender, racial and housing equality who set up the Brixton Black Women's Group. Omaira – A women's protection and empowerment advocate from Colombia

### The Elms Academy Pledge



Ambition \* Determination

- We will **challenge** gender stereotypes, discrimination & bias
- I will maintain a **gender equal** mindset
- I will **celebrate** women's achievements
- I will **call out** gendered action, assumption or sexist language

### Change makers



### Year 6 Tours with student ambassadors

We were delighted to open our doors each morning this week and welcome in our new students who will be joining us in September. Our student ambassadors did an excellent job in taking families on a tour of the academy and were on hand to answer any questions.



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## Year 8 British Transport Museum trip

On Friday Year 8 students attended the British Transport Museum to take part in an exciting programme led by the Speakers Trust. During their time there, students learnt about what engineering was, as well as the skills they would need to become engineers one day. The students were given a guided tour of the depot which contained over 300,000 artifacts - the students particularly enjoyed looking at the old fashioned buses and tubes. As well as this, students then got a chance to come up with some open ended questions, which they then used to interview two STEM ambassadors - the students asked some really thought provoking questions, and the leaders were very impressed. The students left the trip with a better understanding of engineering, and many saying they were hoping for a career in engineering in the future.



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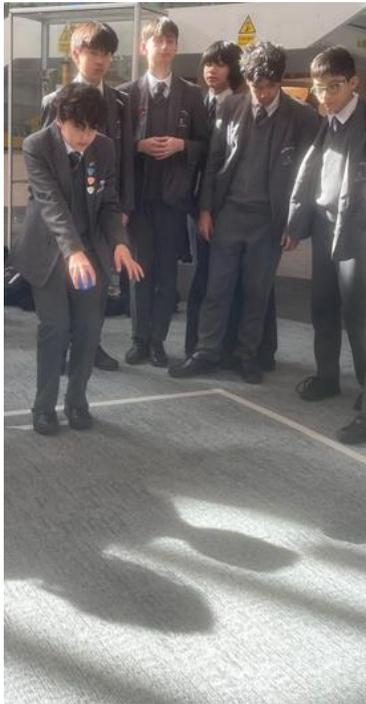
## International Francophonie Day



The Elms Academy celebrated **International Francophonie Day** on Wednesday with some games of pétanque at lunchtime. As is tradition, things got very serious and very competitive and it was lovely to see all those involved taking France's cultural heritage with such focus and passion.

On this day we celebrate the millions of French speakers around the globe and their contributions to the francophone world.

At the Elms, the French department aims to continually strive to promote languages as a unifier and we have we place our love for the language of the French-speaking world and Francophone cultures at the heart of what we do.



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## Year 9 Pathways Information evening

On Wednesday evening we had the pleasure of meeting parents and carers of our Year 9 Students at the Pathways Information Evening. As our students reach the halfway point of Year 9, we are looking towards the courses and qualifications they will take in Key Stage 4. During the evening, we looked at the pathways offered at The Elms Academy and how they enable students to achieve success in KS4. The evening provided an opportunity to find out about subjects that are taught for GCSE and what KS4 will look like for students from September.



## Duke of Edinburgh training

On Wednesday students participating in the Duke of Edinburgh scheme were trained by expedition leaders to prepare them for their Bronze practice and qualifying expeditions in the Summer. They learned how to plan routes, set up tents and planned their meals among other skills necessary for the expeditions.



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## Year 10 Ernst & Young Employability Workshops

On Monday, two groups of Year 10 students were invited to the offices of Ernst & Young, a leading consultancy firm. The students took part in a workshop focused on employability skills, with a particular focus on the finance industry. They met industry professionals and created their own businesses. We definitely have some budding young entrepreneurs!



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### Visit from recording artist, Shaybo

Recording artist, producer & rapper, Shaybo, came to visit a group of our Year 9 students this week to deliver a presentation on her career and route into the Music Industry. She was extremely engaging and the students enjoyed hearing about her journey, asking questions about her life and how she 'made it' in the music business. She also spent some time with our producer's club and gave them valuable feedback on their tracks. A huge thank you to Grounded Sounds who made this visit possible.



### Year 7 King's Scholars Workshop

Our Year 7 King's Scholars cohort took part in a workshop this week focused on their future pathway to University. This was led by a team of 3<sup>rd</sup> Year University students from King's College University. The students explored different types of university, university degree courses and came away with some top tips for how to revise effectively.



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### Community Vaccination catch-up



**Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccine catch-up clinic**

**NHS**

# Measles is in the news again

**Measles can have serious and sometimes fatal consequences.**

Getting lifelong protection against measles is simple – you just need to have 2 doses of the MMR vaccine.

The good news is – it's never too late. Contact your GP to book an appointment or join our catch-up clinic if you think you or a loved one isn't up to date.

**Lambeth Civic Centre**  
MMR Vaccine Catch-up Clinic

**Wednesday 13 March 2024 2pm to 6pm**  
**Saturday 23 March 2024 10am to 4pm**

Lambeth Civic Centre, 6 Brixton Hill,  
Brixton, London, SW2 1EG

Scan the QR code for more information on the MMR vaccine, or to book your catch-up clinic appointment.



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### Support over the Easter holiday



Kooth is a free online mental health and wellbeing service available to all young people in Lambeth aged 10-25. This service will be available for students to access throughout the Easter period. Kooth is a safe and anonymous space for young people to talk about their wellbeing without the fear of judgement. Clinical practitioners are on hand to offer one-to-one support through text-based counselling, operating after school hours, on weekends, and during school holidays.

### Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Easter Holiday	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Two weeks
INSET Day	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	All Day
Year 11 Exam Essentials Evening	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	4.30pm – 6.30pm
Year 10 Parents Evening	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Bank Holiday – school closed	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	All day
May half term holiday	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> (Bank holiday) to Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	All week
Parent Forum	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	5pm