

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

8th December 2023

Message from the Principal



This week, we had a visit from our Regional Director, and I was delighted to receive some really positive feedback. “There is a strong culture of achievement that pupils recognise and appreciate from Year 7 through to Year 13.” “There is a very strong culture for learning: lessons are consistently calm, focused and tightly planned.” “Pupils described excellent behaviour, lots of enrichment opportunities and supportive and knowledgeable teachers. They feel safe and happy here.”

It was great to see so many Year 9 parents at our first Parents’ Evening of the year last week. There were so many productive conversations being had and I want to thank you for your engagement. We know that students achieve their best when parents, the school and the student work closely together, moving towards a shared goal of success for the child. One parent commented to me that they really felt that the teacher knew their child as an individual and understood what motivated them and got the best out of them in lessons. They also commented how well the teacher could articulate areas of strength for their child within the subject, but also areas for improvement, and furthermore how the parent could

support with this.

The countdown to Year 7-10 exams in January has started with a big launch this week. Each year group had an assembly to talk about the importance of the exams and to share top revision tips with students. This was followed up with tutor time sessions to explicitly teach students how to make flash cards and how to best memorise key information. The students have engaged well with these sessions, and I have high hopes for their success in January. Please do talk to your child about the exams and ask them to show you their revision checklists for each subject. It would also be great if you can ask them to teach you something that they have revised as this is one of the best ways to check whether they have understood the work. Next week Year 11, 12 and 13 will receive their results from the November mock exams. We have lots to celebrate and I would like to congratulate these year groups for their continued hard work.

We have two weeks to go until we break up for Christmas and we will be making sure that every minute counts in lessons, right up until the last day. Please support your child to ensure that they are coming into school every day as we know that this is the thing that has the biggest impact on their learning and progress. We also have lots to look forward to including the Queens skate and bowl rewards trip on Wednesday 13th December, Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day for staff and students on Thursday 14th December, Golden postcard trip on Monday 18th December, the Winter Snowcase music and drama show on Tuesday 19th December and our Academic Awards evening on Wednesday 20th December.

Lastly, a reminder to please consider signing up for the DCYPHR research project that we are supporting. It is very quick and easy for you to go online to sign your children up using this link: <https://bioresource.nihr.ac.uk/dcyphr/>. I believe that our support for this campaign could help positively change people’s lives for generations to come as more is understood about health conditions and diseases.

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Year 9 Parents Evening

Last week we were delighted to invite Year 9 Parents and students in to meet with subject teachers. Lots of positive conversations took place during the evening and staff welcomed the opportunity to meet so many parents.



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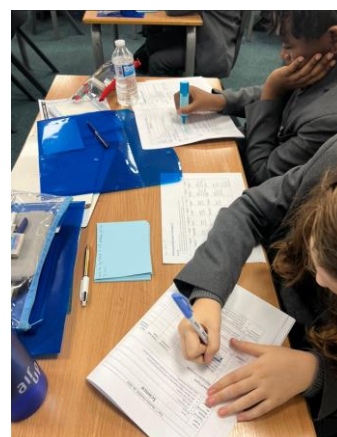
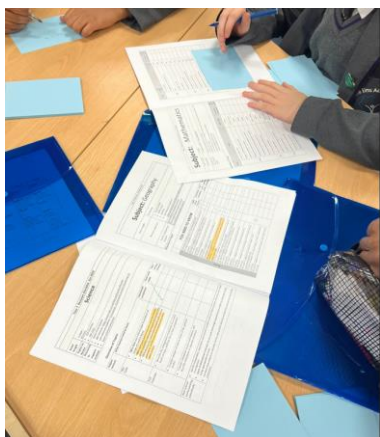
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KS3 revision launch

As we approach the beginning of the new year, we would like to remind you of the upcoming assessments that our KS3 and Y10 students will be undertaking in January 2024. These assessments are crucial for evaluating their progress and identifying areas for growth. To support your child's preparation at home, we recommend the following evidence-based strategies:

1. **Establish a Consistent Study Routine:** Encourage your child to use their revision/ homework timetable to create a consistent and organised study routine. Research shows that a regular study schedule enhances memory retention and improves overall academic performance.
2. **Provide a Distraction-Free Study Environment:** Research indicates that a quiet and distraction-free environment significantly contributes to effective learning. Ensure that your child has a dedicated space for studying, free from electronic distractions and other disruptions preferable somewhere where you can observe them working.
3. **Encourage Active Retrieval Practice:** Engage your child in active recall exercises, such as flashcards or quizzing. Students will have received their revision folders which include a copy of their revision checklist. Studies have demonstrated that actively recalling information from memory enhances long-term retention and understanding.
4. **Promote Healthy Lifestyle Habits:** Adequate sleep, regular exercise, and a balanced diet are essential for cognitive function. Numerous studies support the positive impact of these lifestyle factors on academic performance, so encourage your child to maintain a healthy lifestyle especially during the exam period.
5. **Provide Emotional Support:** Research suggests that emotional well-being is closely linked to academic success. Be supportive, offer encouragement, and help your child manage stress. Open communication about their concerns and feelings can contribute to a positive mindset and increased confidence.

Your involvement and support play a crucial role in your child's academic success. By implementing these evidence-based strategies at home, you can contribute to their preparation for the upcoming assessments and help create an environment conducive to effective learning.



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Year 7 King's Scholars

This week our new cohort of Year 7 Kings Scholars attended the programme launch event. The King's Scholars programme is a 3-year programme run and funded by Kings College University, London, with the aim of supporting our young academics to develop their learning and their future academic aspirations. Later on this year they will get to visit King's College and take part in a number of workshops.



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Sports Clubs

We have an exciting programme of Sports clubs that run each week.

GIRLS FOOTBALL

TRAINING

MONDAY- ALL YEARS

3:30-4:30PM

MEET IN THE CHANGING ROOMS
FULL PE KIT REQUIRED
BRING WATER!
TRAINING WILL BE ON THE MUGA

LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO REPRESENT ELMS ACADEMY IN MATCHES COMING UP!!

BOYS FOOTBALL

TRAINING

THURSDAYS Y9 & 10

3:30-4:40PM

MEET IN THE CHANGING ROOMS
FULL PE KIT REQUIRED
BRING WATER!

TRAINING WILL BE ON THE MUGA, YOUR COACH WILL LET YOU KNOW IF YOU NEED STUFS FOR THE COMMON

LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO REPRESENT ELMS ACADEMY IN MATCHES COMING UP!!

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

MEET AT CHANGING ROOMS
3:30 - 4:40PM
FULL ELMS PE KIT REQUIRED

**THURSDAYS:
ALL YEARS**

LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES TO REPRESENT ELMS ACADEMY IN MATCHES COMING UP!!


DAY	Morning	Lunchtime	Afterschool
Monday		GCSE PE and BTEC SPORT – Y10 & 11 Badminton Sports Hall	KS3 Extra Curricular YR7 and 8 Boys Football Girls Football all years
Tuesday		GYM – all years	
Wednesday			Girls Rugby
Thursday		GYM – all years	Basketball - all years Y9 and 10 Boys Football
Friday	Boxing with Mr Seidu		

Y7-8 Girls Tag Rugby

Wednesdays

3.30-4.30pm

Full Elms P.E Kit required



MR SEIDU'S MORNING

BOXING CLUB



EVERY FRIDAY MORNING STARTING AT 7:20AM IN THE DANCE STUDIO (012)

MAXIMUM 20 STUDENTS AT EACH SESSION
FIRST COME FIRST SERVE.
PLEASE ARRIVE PROMPTLY DRESSED IN YOUR PE KIT.
DO NOT FORGET TO BRING YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM IN YOUR BAG

LUNCHTIME GYM CLUB

1:10 - 1:35

LAST ENTRY 1:20


OPEN TO ALL YEAR GROUPS
TUESDAY - MR ASSAM
THURSDAY - MR SEIDU

MUST BE IN FULL PE KIT, GET CHANGED AND BRING ALL YOUR BELONGINGS TO THE GYM.

YR 10/11 GCSE PE & BTEC SPORT STUDENTS

BADMINTON

1:10 - 1:35



NO PE KIT REQUIRED - BRING YOUR TRAINERS

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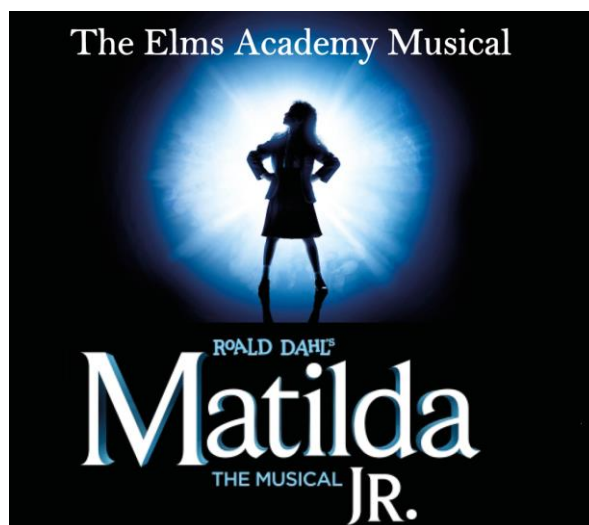
Performing Arts Production

Tickets are on sale for our Winter Snowcase taking place on 19th December. This event will be an opportunity for you to come and see the wide variety of talent we have at The Elms Academy.



Coming Soon

Rehearsals continued this week for our production of Matilda which will be performed in early 2024.



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Part of United Learning

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Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Sixth Form Parent Evening	Thursday 14 th December	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Last day of Term	Friday 22 nd December	Half day – students finish at 12.30pm
INSET day	Monday 8 th January 2024	All Day
Start of term	Tuesday 9 th January 2024	

