

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 21st April 2023

## Message from the Principal



It was great to see all our students back in school this week and they came in with renewed energy and excitement for whatever opportunities and challenges lie ahead for them this term. We welcomed several new students to The Elms Academy family via in-year transfers and Vice Principal, Mr Lynes, interviewed several other families who wish their children to join the academy. We continue to expand our numbers and I am delighted to say we have a waiting list for Year 7 starting in September. The word is spreading about all the wonderful things that are happening here.

While it was a short week it was full of activities as we held a second drop down day for Years 7-10 and 12 which focussed on mental health, well-being and team building activities with students separated into their houses. There was also a trip to Oxford University, a trip Friday for Year 12 student on the Envision programme and our Year 7 Parents' Evening. Year 11 and Year 13 continue

working hard with only 13 school days left until their first public exam. Special shout out to the students who didn't miss a single day of revision with their teachers over the Easter break.

For those in our community observing Ramadan, I wish you a very happy Eid Mubarak.



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### Drop Down Day

We held our second drop down day Wednesday and it was another great success. Drop down days are when students are off timetable so they can take part in lectures, workshops and activities which strengthen their practical application skills and provide a deeper learning experience. This term's drop down day focussed on activities around mental health and wellbeing along with house activities so students could collaborate with other students in their houses. Team-building activities included Taskmaster, Dragon's Den, debates, lip synching and drama presentations. Teachers put a lot of effort and time into planning a thoroughly enjoyable and engaging day for our young people.





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## Drop Down Day photos





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### Trip to Oxford University

Thursday morning the sun shone brightly as group of Year 10 and 12 students boarded a coach to Oxford University. The visit gave the students an insight into what it's like to study at a world-class university. They met current undergraduates who took them for a tour of the famous campus and answered all their questions. After a delicious lunch in the hallowed dining hall of Jesus College, students finished the day with a taster lecture on Language and Society where students were guided to "think like Oxford students".



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### Getting to Know You

**Name:** Mrs Vee Ragnathan

**Job:** Teacher of Science

**House:** Jones

**Currently reading:** A House Without Windows by Nadia Hashimi. It's a story about an unlikely friendship.

**A favourite film / series:** The Office.

**Interesting fact about me:** I once went sky-diving in flip flops.

**What I like about working at The Elms Academy:** No children at the academy are the same and every day is different.



### Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 11 Essentials Evening	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	5.00 – 6.00pm
May Bank Holiday	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	No school
Bank Holiday	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	No school
GCSE and A level Public Exams begin	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	During the school day
Half Term	Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> May to Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	---
Start of Term 6	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	All students back