

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 20th January 2023

Message from the Principal



Every morning and lunchtime this week, I came across groups of Year 7-9 and Sixth Form students huddled around tables, quizzing each other and revising with their notes from class in preparation for this week's KS3 and Year 12 exams. It is always gratifying to see our young people taking responsibility for their own learning and putting in the time and effort to ensure they get the best outcomes. The best teachers are in front of every class but without that ambition and determination from students, success cannot happen. Exams will finish on Thursday 26th January so please continue to encourage your children to make time for revision at home.

Wednesday we had a visitor from Ofsted who was conducting research on behalf of the organisation. He was given a tour of the school and was very impressed with how welcoming and polite our students are. Our young people know how to behave well but unfortunately, a small minority do not always act with integrity when they leave school. In my whole-school assembly I spoke of neighbours on Abbeville Road who contacted me and said they witnessed students running in the middle of the road, yelling out at others and behaving in ways that were not only dangerous but not in keeping with our values. I have reminded students that anything they do that brings the school into disrepute will not be tolerated. As The Elms Academy, we are flourishing and the majority of students wear their new blazers with pride. We are working hard to make this one of the best schools in Lambeth so negative perceptions of our students in the community will undermine these efforts. I will be speaking more about community outreach in **my Parent Forum on Tuesday 21st February from 6.00 – 7.00pm (online)**. Please do put this date in your diary as your feedback is important and always welcome.



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Lunchtime Revision Sessions

Ms Perry's geography students were keen to get in another revision session before their exam and willingly gave up their lunch break to study. It was great to see the detailed notes in students' books and hear them asking questions and quizzing each other. No doubt they felt confident when they finally sat the exam later in the day.



Sixth Form Enrichment

Sixth Form students work hard but also know how to play hard. Mr Rowe organised a volleyball game during Sixth Form enrichment and things got very competitive. A level PE and BTEC Sport students also do a terrific job supporting the lower years with their sport enrichment clubs every week. This includes badminton, football and table tennis.



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Year 8 Football Fixture

Our Year 8 football team won 7-0 this week in their game against Evelyn Grace. The boys were absolutely fantastic, everyone worked extremely hard throughout the game and kept their focus. We have been preparing for this game the last two weeks of football enrichment and their hard work in training paid off yesterday. Well done team!



PE Classes During Term 3

Team PE are running a whole range of activities this term to provide students with numerous opportunities and experiences. Mr Rowe's PE class had a great boxing session in which they worked on their jab, hooks and got the chance to spar. Ms Paine's class played an intense game of netball in the Sports Hall. Other students were working on fitness in the gym and their table tennis skills in the Main Hall. Finally, a group of students will continue improving their rugby skills in weekly training sessions with Harlequins Rugby Team Coaches.



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Speak Out Challenge – Final

The Jack Petchey Speak Out challenge is something Year 10 students look forward to every year. A group of students was selected from the first round of speeches, to compete in the final which took place this morning. The panel of judges will decide a winner who will go on to represent The Elms Academy in the grand final at the end of February.



Acting Out in Drama Class

Year 8 students were tasked with acting out different scenes from Romeo and Juliet. Students were convincing as they showcased the scene where Romeo fights with Mercutio and where Juliet dies and is mourned by her family.



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Science Club

The Science Department and Sixth Form students are running a Science club for Year 7 and 8 students Mondays after school as part of our enrichment programme. This week students mixed acids and alkalis together to make rainbows from the substances using universal indicator.



House Table Football

There were more exciting house competitions during the lunch break this week. Today it was house table football. It took a lot of skill as the cold weather caused quite a few numb fingers, which made scoring much more challenging.



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Getting to Know You

Name: Ms Ellie Mowbray

Job: Cluster Lead for History

Currently reading: 'The Wrath to Come, Gone with the Wind and the lies America tells' by Sarah Churchwell. In this fascinating book the writer examines one of the most popular stories of all time and what it tells us about American history and culture today.

A favourite film / series: Most recently I loved watching the Traitors over the Christmas holidays.

Interesting fact about me: When I was at secondary school I was an 'extra' in a TV programme called 'Teachers', perhaps predicting my future job!

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: I really like how friendly and welcoming everyone is. I felt so at home here very quickly.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Enrichment for Year 7 & 8	Mondays after school	3.30 – 4.30pm
Enrichment for Year 9 & 10	Thursdays after school	3.30 – 4.30pm
Assessments for Years 7 – 9 and Year 12 continue	Monday 23 rd January to Thursday 26 th January	During the school day
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Wednesday 25 th January	4.30 – 7.00pm
Staff Inset Day	Friday 27 th January	All day
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 9 th February	5.00 – 7.00pm
Half Term	Monday 13 th - 17 th February	---
Start of Term 4	Monday 20 th February	8.20am
Mrs Welch's Parent Forum (Online)	Tuesday 21 st February	6.00 – 7.00pm

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