

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## Message from the Principal



We had more fantastic news this week about our Sixth Form. Year 13 student Alicia Attar-Donkor received an offer from Cambridge University to study veterinary medicine. At present we have three Oxbridge offers for Year 13 students and we couldn't be prouder of how hard they are working to ensure they achieve the results they need to accept their places at the top universities in the country. Our KS3 and Year 12 exams finished Thursday and these students had a well-deserved break on Friday during our Staff Inset Day. Year 11 and Year 13 students came in today for targeted intervention and we know this will make a big difference in the next round of mock results.

This week I spoke in assembly a bit more about our three values. These are integrity, doing the right thing always, even when no one is looking because we are honourable and trustworthy. We are ambitious which means we aim high. Finally, we are determined...we never give up and we learn from our mistakes. I recently met a local resident who has lived in the area for over 30 years. She said our students look really smart in the community and that behaviour has improved so much over the past few years. So I want to recognise the majority of our students who are living our three values and doing the right things and say "thank you". I also want to thank our wonderful Sixth Form students who are helping out with after school enrichment. You are outstanding role models and making a big contribution to our school community.



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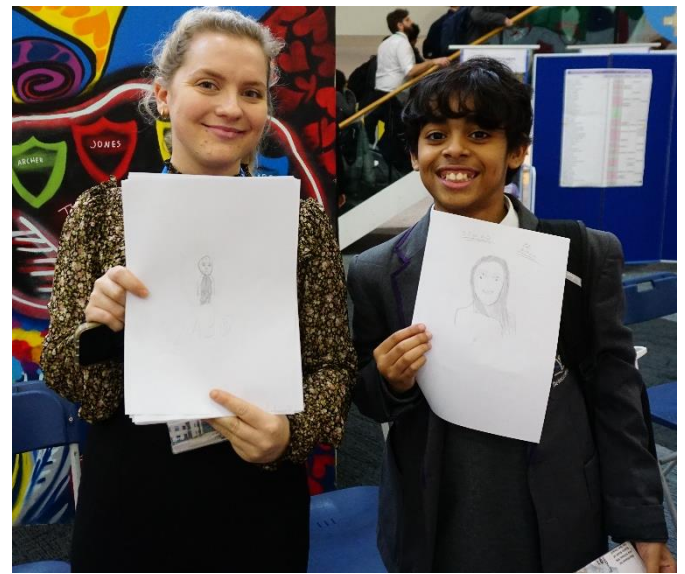
### Year 12 Envision Trip

Year 12 students participating in the Envision programme met up with their mentors to work on pitches about their social action projects. Hosted at the art centre Rich Mix in Shoreditch, students got to practise their presentation skills on stage in front of peers from other schools. Envision sessions for the Sixth Form will continue in school every Friday.



### House Portrait Drawing

This week's lunchtime house activity was quick portrait drawing. Students sketched house captains and members of the Sixth Form leadership team. The drawings were done under time pressure so the results won't appear in the National Portrait Gallery anytime soon but they generated laughs and a lot of smiles so it was all in good fun.



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### Shakespeare Schools Festival

Head of Drama, Mr O'Brien, took thirteen drama students to the Rose Theatre in Kingston Wednesday for a full day of rehearsing before they performed Othello at 7pm in front of an appreciative audience. There were some nerves and forgotten lines prior to the show but when the stage lights went on, students were absolutely brilliant. Well done to all who made it a memorable evening and represented the school so well at this annual festival for schools.



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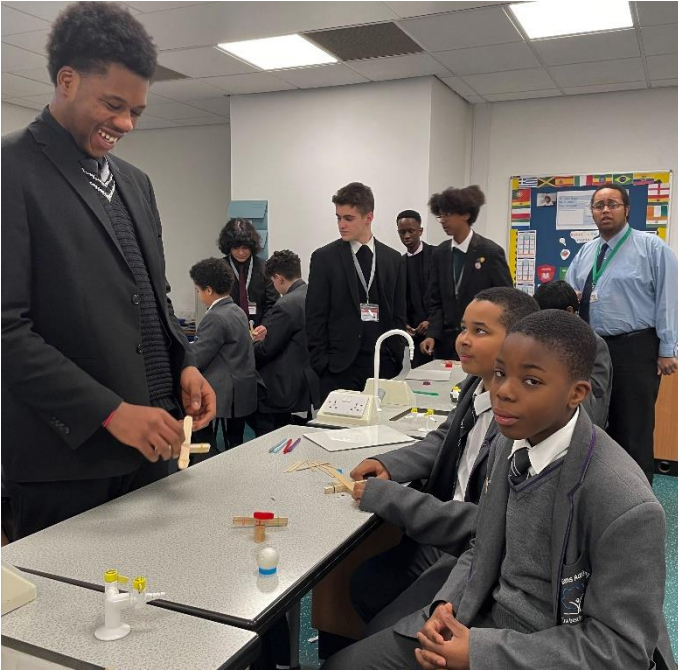
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### STEM Club

There were shouts of enthusiasm normally heard from the Sports Hall, coming from the Science corridor this week as students in STEM club perfected their catapults. Made from lolly sticks, Year 7 and 8 students worked with Sixth Form scientists and mathematicians to construct the catapults which they then successfully tested.



### Year 7 Football v The Hurlingham Academy

Our Year 7 football team played in a very one-sided match against sister-school, The Hurlingham Academy. The end result was 13-0 in favour of The Elms Academy.

To be fair to Mr Wilson's school, this was the first match The Hurlingham Academy Year 7 team played and the team has not trained together as much as we have. We know they will only get better and we look forward to running it back later in the year.



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### Getting to Know You

**Name:** Mr Joseph Brennan

**Job:** Teacher of PE

**House:** Szabo

**Currently reading:** Jordan Henderson: The Autobiography. It's a great read about the captain of Liverpool Football Club.

**A favourite film / series:** One of my favourite series is Game of Thrones.

**Interesting fact about me:** I used to have a pet bearded dragon called Carlos.

**What I like about working at The Elms Academy:** I really like that all the students are very polite and go the extra mile to achieve the best results.



### 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
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	5.00 – 7.00pm
Half Term	Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup> February	---
Start of Term 4	Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	8.20am
Mrs Welch's Parent Forum (Online)	Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	6.00 – 7.00pm