

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 27th March 2023

Message from the Principal



We have had another fantastically busy week. I hope many of you were able to join us to watch our school production of Bugsy Malone; and what a show it was! I am so proud of the cast and crew who have worked so hard and to all the members of staff who have worked tirelessly to support the students in this once in a lifetime opportunity. We also had a drop down morning to allow our students to focus on careers and to give them an opportunity to look ahead to their own futures. We have also hosted over 150 children from local primary schools to watch Bugsy Malone and have had a house football competition running all week. I want to thank all students for their engagement and enthusiasm for all of the opportunities given to them.

I also want to spend a moment reflecting on one of our school values: determination. What is determination? It is when we don't give up even when we find things difficult. No matter what the setbacks, we never give up and we keep going until we achieve our goals. In whole school assembly, Mr Mathershaw spoke about a famous historical figure, the American Harvey Milk, who was the first openly gay politician. He shared Harvey's inspiring story and talked about how even though he faced discrimination and was defeated several times when he was running for office, he never gave up and once he did get elected, he went on to introduce legislation that helped openly gay people get housing. His life was cut short so his political career only lasted a few months but he had a huge, positive impact on others during that brief period. He had a purpose, a driver for his determination and never let himself be put off by failure. The message to our young people is, show that determination and keep going. Never give up on your ambitions to do well in school. Work hard, be determined and a happy and fulfilled life will be the outcome. And you know that we will be here to support you, every step of the way.



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House Football Competition

The Sports Hall was in use every day this week during the lunch break as teams assembled by year group and house for a special house football competition. House Captains Mr Lye, Mr Assan, Ms Thomas and Mr O'Brien brought the energy and enthusiasm to drive their teams on to winning important house points. There were shouts of joy and cheers when House Szabo Year 7s and 9s got the win while House Archer Year 8 students won their tournament.



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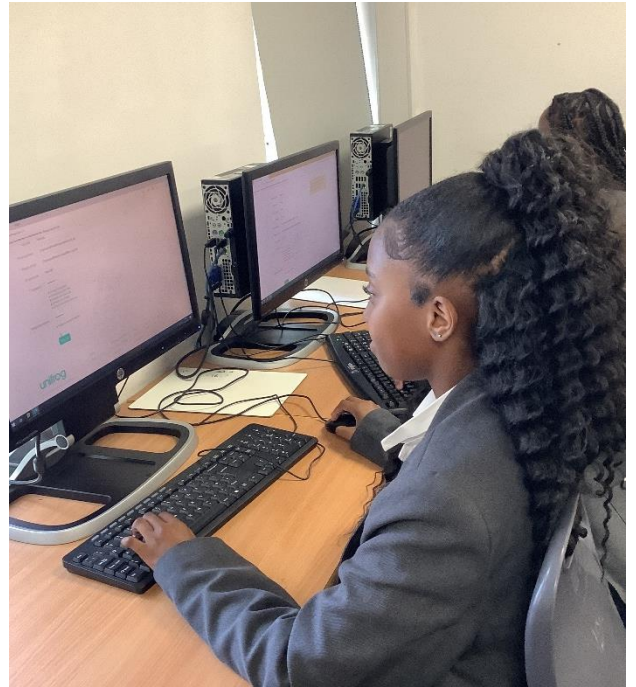
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Careers Drop Down Morning

Holding a Careers Drop Down Morning was an excellent way to raise our students' aspirations and foster one of our core values - ambition. An array of guest speakers from the NHS, GCHQ, the Department for Education, South Bank UTC and others introduced our students to a wide range of careers. The Year 7s and Year 8s also had a chance to research their career interests on the online platform Unifrog. We hope that the event helped our students feel inspired, motivated and more knowledgeable.



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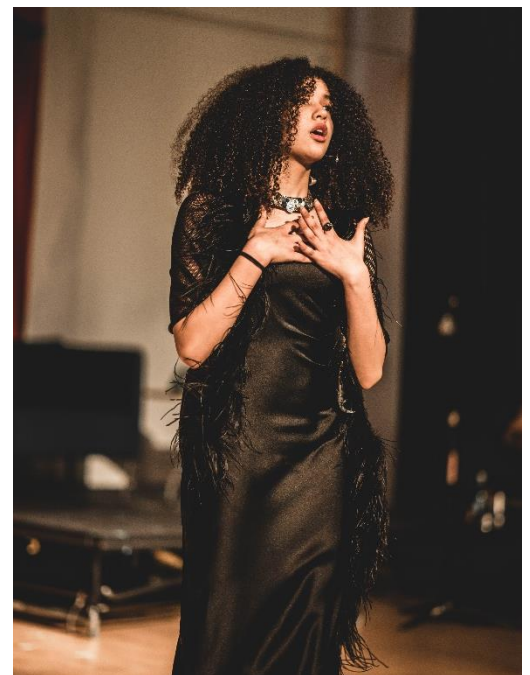
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Bugsy Malone Performances

Head of Drama, Mr O'Brien and Head of Music, Mrs Haworth have been working overtime with the cast and crew of Bugsy Malone in preparation for opening night. All the hours paid off as the show was a triumph. There were two matinee performances during the week for Year 5 primary school pupils who were thrilled with what they saw. After the matinees, the final touches were put in place for Thursday and Friday evening where our talented student actors and musicians performed to a full house. Well done to everyone who took part in this hugely entertaining show.



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Head Start: Year 7 King's Scholars Workshop

The Year 7 King's Scholars attended another excellent workshop where they explored the benefits of going to university. Students enjoyed learning about the exciting opportunities that come with attending university, such as studying abroad and joining lots of students' societies, where groups of students with common interests meet up.



Where Can Maths Take You: Careers Talk

Sixth Formers who are taking Maths and Economics A levels attended a career talk by Ben Lorica, a highly respected data scientist who spoke about his prolific career in finance and the technology industry. Ben, who has a PhD in Mathematics from the University of California, connected with our students via an online call all the way from San Francisco. Thank you to Mr Murphy, one of our Maths teachers, who arranged the talk.



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Getting to Know You

Name: Mr Gabriel Craciun

Job: Facilities and Reprographics Assistant

House: Jones

Currently reading: I am reading the Sea Wolves: A History of the Vikings by Lars Brownworth.

A favourite film / series: Vikings on Netflix is such a great series. It is all about these legendary heroes and how they affected history. If you like action and adventure, it is really entertaining.

Interesting fact about me: I am really into photography and motorcycles. I have a Sony A74 professional camera which I take with me at weekends when I'm walking around London. I like taking pictures of people in motion, buildings, anything of interest. I also ride a Yamaha to work daily and my dream is to own a Ducatti.

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: I really like that every single day here brings different challenges so I am never bored. I might be asked to set up or break down the Main Hall, or design and print up a flier and that keeps it interesting. I also enjoy interacting with the students and all the staff. Everyone here is really friendly.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Thorpe Park Trip	Tuesday 28 th March	8.00 – 4.30pm
Gold Postcard Trip	Wednesday 29 th March	2.45 – 3.30pm
Year 12 & 13 Parents' Evening	Thursday 30 th March	5.00 – 7.00pm
Last Day of Term	Thursday 30 th March	3.30pm
Easter break	Monday 3 rd April to Friday 14 th April	---
Staff Inset Day	Monday 17 th April	No school for students
Start of Term 5	Tuesday 18 th April	All students back

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