

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 21st July 2023

Message from the Principal



This has been a very memorable academic year for so many reasons. We officially became The Elms Academy back in September and every week since then I have seen examples of staff and students living our three values of integrity, ambition and determination. Whether it has been helping others through fund-raising for charities, putting in the extra work to move up the rank order, or the Year 11 and 13 students who came into school early every morning, determined to get the best exam results.

It has been a pleasure for me getting to know our students even better as they continue to grow and mature. My daily interactions with them are among the highlights of my day. It has also been wonderful speaking to many of you at parent evenings, school events and during my parent forums. Our community continues to come together at joyful events like our International Evening and Summer Festival and we grow stronger as a result. We look forward to getting to know our new Year 7 students and families as well as the external students who will be joining our Sixth Form in September.

In end of year assemblies, students have been reminded that while it's important to rest, relax and recharge this summer, the learning shouldn't stop. Homework has been assigned to every year group and can be found on Show My Homework. Learning tools like Hegarty, Seneca will help prepare students for their return to school in September.

I want to thank all our dedicated teaching, admin, facilities, IT, kitchen and housekeeping staff who have worked so hard to make this such a successful year. I wish everyone a wonderful summer holiday and look forward to seeing all students back and ready to carry on learning, in September.



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Golden Postcards

Mrs Welch led this rewards trip which was for students who were awarded with her special golden postcard. The day out was to the Hollywood Bowling lanes. Students enjoyed the opportunity to try their hand or hone their skills at this popular past time. There were cries of 'Strike!' and sounds of clattering bowling pins and laughter throughout the day.



Holocaust Talk for Year 9 Historians

On Tuesday students had the privilege of welcoming Annick Lever to our school. She shared her family's experience during WW2 and her own story as a holocaust survivor, rescued after her Jewish family were sent to concentration camps and murdered. Her testimony will remain a powerful reminder of the horrors so many experienced. We hope that by hearing Annick's testimony, it will encourage our students to learn from the lessons of the Holocaust and learn where prejudice and racism can ultimately lead and take forward the lessons taught by those who survived.



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Year 10 Geography Field Trip

Year 10 investigated how quality of life varies in the local area. This fieldwork contributes to their GCSE Geography exam. They conducted an environmental quality survey and questionnaire. The students were commended for their polite manners whilst engaging with the public.



King's Scholars Trip

Our partnership with King's College London continues to be hugely beneficial. Year 10 scholars took part in the Kickstart Year 11 Summer School, a one-day programme designed to prepare students for life in Year 11. The day started with English and Maths tutoring by current King's students and then there was a session on how to revise effectively, complete with practical tips on how to memorise information. It was a very useful day for all who took part.



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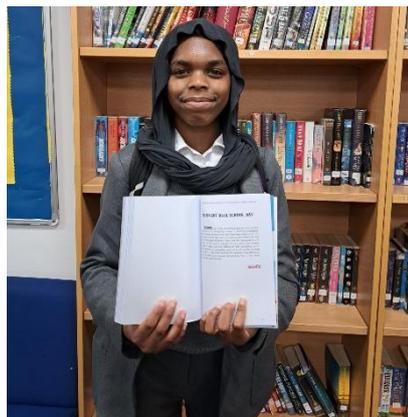
Raising Awareness of Climate Change

Year 7 students worked with local artists, graphic designers, illustrators and climate experts in order to develop their digital skills and activism through a series of workshops and discussions in order to produce their zine on climate change. The printed zines of every school involved were launched last week along with the celebratory unveiling of the online library.



Literacy Pirates

All summer term, our fierce Literacy Pirates were hard at work composing their own Poetry and Short Stories. Getting them ready to jump the publishing plank was a challenge but look what washed up on shore this week. It's a book of Poems and Shorts Stories Made by Young and Intelligent Kids! We are incredibly proud of our Year 8 students for their display of character, perseverance and confidence when tackling the challenges presented to them each week.



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Summer Festival

On a warm summer's evening the Music and Drama department pulled out all the stops to end the academic year on a high note. We had a range of performances from Year 7 to Year 12 and heard a few original student compositions. It was a wonderful way to celebrate all the amazing talent we have in the school and huge shout out to Ms Haworth and her team for organising the festival in the midst of a very busy month for her department.



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House Champions!

It has been a year full of house activities organised to bring students in different year groups and staff together in friendly competition. From lunchtime Spelling Bees to Sports Day there has been something for everyone to take part in. The scores were tallied for all four houses and House Szabo was announced as the winner. House Leader Ms Thomas proudly lifted the trophy with a few of the students who helped win this coveted prize. Congratulations!



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Summer Holiday	Mon 24 th July – Tues 5 th September	---
Staff Inset Days	Monday, Tuesday 4 th and 5 th September	
Start of school for Years 7, 11, 12 and 13	Wednesday 6 th September	8.20am
Start of school for Years 8, 9 & 10	Thursday 7 th September	8.20am
*All other year groups come in at break (11.15am)		