

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 3rd March 2023

Message from the Principal



This week saw the continuation of AP2 exams for Year 10, 11 and 13 students. Year 11 and Year 13 teachers continue to put in the extra hours to ensure their students are on track for GCSE and A level exams which start in May. I'm delighted to say the majority of students are doing really well and I am pleased with their efforts. We have seen attendance improve significantly from last term so thank you for supporting your child to get to school every day on time.

This week we focused on our love of reading in anticipation of World Book Day which we celebrated Friday. Every staff member put a poster on their classroom or office door sharing the title of the book they are currently reading. While so many of us spend time on de, there is nothing quite like getting lost in a good story and many of our students were also happy to share the titles of books they are reading.

Wednesday was National Offer Day and we warmly welcome our Year 6, soon to be Year 7 children and families in to The Elms Academy community. The school continues to go from strength to strength and as always, I am grateful to our families for telling your friends about the great things happening here and encouraging them to visit us.



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Costume Design Workshop

Two performance experts from The Old Vic Theatre came to run a costume design workshop with our Year 9 & 10 students. Several concepts covered were oppression, the suffragette movement and female empowerment. The costume designers worked on 'Sylvia' and some of our lucky students were given free tickets to the show next week.



House Spelling Bee

The Russell Library was buzzing as students competed in another Spelling Bee round this week. The room went quiet when students pondered the challenging words they were given to spell out on their white boards. The last round was fiercely contested by Heads of Houses, each trying to collect some precious house points!



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We Love Reading

Staff and students celebrated their love of reading and books by sharing with our school community the title of the books they are currently enjoying reading. Posters were visible on every classroom door and keen readers happily posted with the books they were carrying in their bags.



School Ground Sounds

Our students are passionate about their music and there is an abundance of talent to work with. Grounded Sounds Producers have been running weekly after school sessions with a group of Year 10 musicians. Each week they work on a piece which will soon be ready for the recording studio. Stay tuned!



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Year 7 Trip to the Globe

Teacher of English, Ms Sharp, has visited The Globe theatre twice in two weeks as she arranged for Year 7 students to experience Shakespeare in this famous venue. The goal was to bring English to life and what better way to do it than for students to act out scenes from A Midsummer Night's Dream at The Globe.



'16 before 16' Book Club for Year 7

The English Department started a Book Club for Year 7 students this week. The aim of the club is for students to read 16 books before they're 16. This month we are reading 'Ghost Boys' by Jewell Parker Rhodes. Students will meet to discuss the story once they finish the book.



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World Book Day

For World Book Day teachers came to school dressed as some of their favourite book characters. Students were tasked with a treasure hunt during break and lunch where they were given key book quotes as clues, and had to track down the characters corresponding to the quotes. Earlier in the day, Ms Maia, the school's Librarian, took a group of Year 7 students to Waterstone's so they could use their book tokens to purchase new books. "A book is a dream you can hold in your hand" – Neil Gaiman, author.



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Getting to Know You

Name: Mr Vernon Ajai-Ajagbe

Job: Sixth Form Administrator

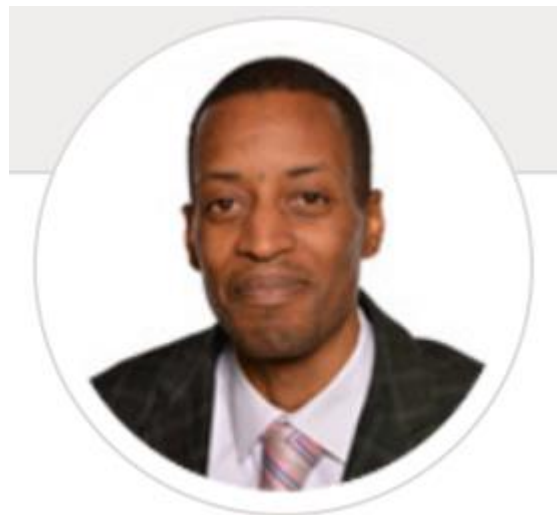
House: Szabo

Currently reading: The Magician's Nephew by C S Lewis.

A favourite film / series: Wheel of Time (potentially).

Interesting fact about me: I love Studio Ghibli (who doesn't?).

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: I really like working here because we are a team of teams.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
AP2 for Year 10, 11 and 13	Monday 6 th to 10 th March	During the school day
Enrichment for Year 7 & 8	Mondays after school	3.30 – 4.30pm
Enrichment for Year 9 & 10	Thursdays after school	3.30 – 4.30pm
Bugsy Malone rehearsal	Tuesdays & Wednesdays	3.30 – 4.30pm / 3.30 – 5.00pm
Sixth Form Information Evening	Thursday 9 th March	6.00 – 7.00pm
Year 11 to Year 12 Transition Days	Thursday 9 th and Friday 10 th March	During the school day
Bugsy Malone	Thursday 23 rd and Friday 24 th March	5.00 – 7.00pm



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