

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 23rd June 2023

Message from the Principal



This week we had a very important visit by our United Learning Regional Director and one of our school governors. They spent the day with us at The Elms Academy and here is some of what they had to say:

"The relationships between staff and students are the best ever seen, staff are warm and caring and certainly passionate about their subjects. Teachers remain calm and create no tension when behaviour needs to be addressed. The quality of teaching and learning is consistent and strong and the students spoken to on a student panel said they get a great education here and they don't want to go anywhere else."

There are still areas for improvement, like attendance, but overall the feedback was overwhelmingly positive and I couldn't be prouder of our school. I expressed this pride in an assembly for students who will be joining us from Archbishop Tenison in September, following that school's closure. They were here for an Induction Day and we are doing everything we can to help ease their transition and make them feel welcome.

My final Parent Forum of the academic year is **Tuesday 27th June online from 6.00 - 7.00pm**. The link has been shared with you via email and is also on the homepage of the web site under Important Dates. I look forward to seeing many of you then.



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Windrush Week

Thursday 22nd June was Windrush Day and this year was the 75th anniversary of the Windrush generation's arrival to the United Kingdom. To commemorate and celebrate this important event, we held a week of activities where students and staff took part in activities to share their stories, play dominos, create art, write poems and perform songs.



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Welcome Archbishop Tenison Students

This week we welcomed students from Archbishop Tenison in Oval. The school, which has been in existence since 1685 and has footballer Carl Cort and former Labour MP Tony Banks as former students, has been forced to close due to falling student numbers. We know this has been a shock for many ABT families so we will do everything possible to ensure the transition into The Elms Academy is as smooth and stress-free as possible.



Old Vic Set Design Workshop

Every Year 9 student took part in a set design workshop lead by two amazing facilitators from the Old Vic Theatre. This workshop was inspired by the Theatre's new musical, Groundhog Day. Our students were challenged with making some key locations from this popular show but were only allowed to use recyclable material. Our students will be lucky enough to watch a performance for FREE on the 4th of July at the Old Vic.



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Prefect Interviews

When we said 'good bye' to our Year 11 students we bid farewell to an excellent group of young prefects. Now the challenge for our Sixth Form leadership team was to interview and select new prefects from Year 10 who will be our Year 11 prefects from September. Prefect interviews were held on Thursday with an impressive group of students who spoke about their readiness to take on this important role complete with the responsibilities it entails.



MUSICfest Rehearsals

The final rehearsals and preparations are now hotting up for the **United Learning MusicFest**. This is the annual trust-wide music event, the first face-to-face one in four years! The Elms Academy Year 8 – Year 9 musicians are performing a self-composed piece with musicians from The Hurlingham Academy and Paddington Academy. Some of our singers have also been selected to sing solo verses with the large ensemble pieces, representing the whole of United Learning Southern Schools.



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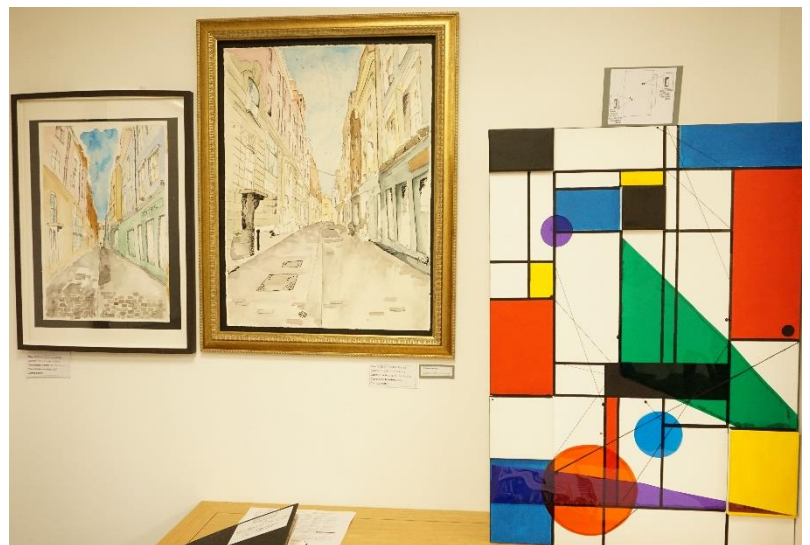
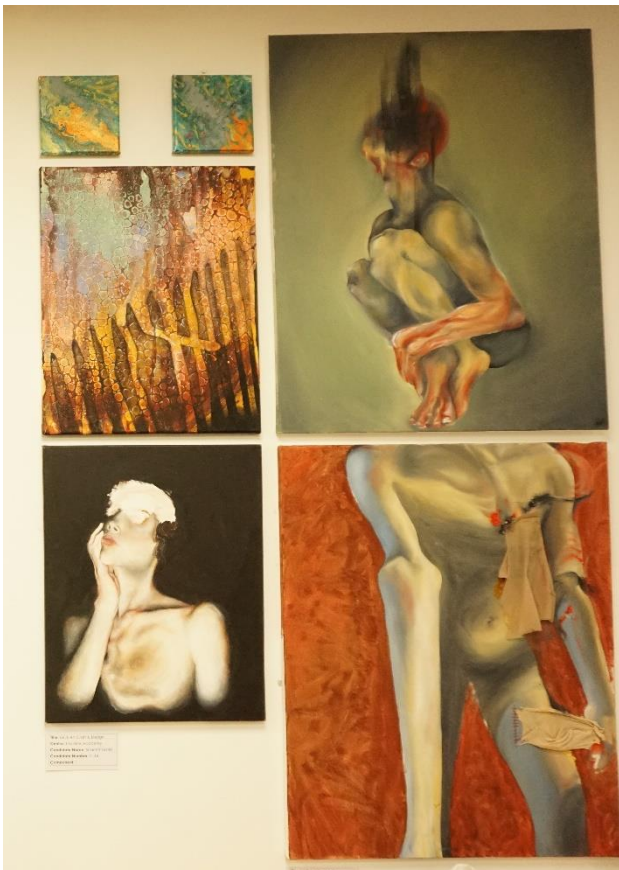
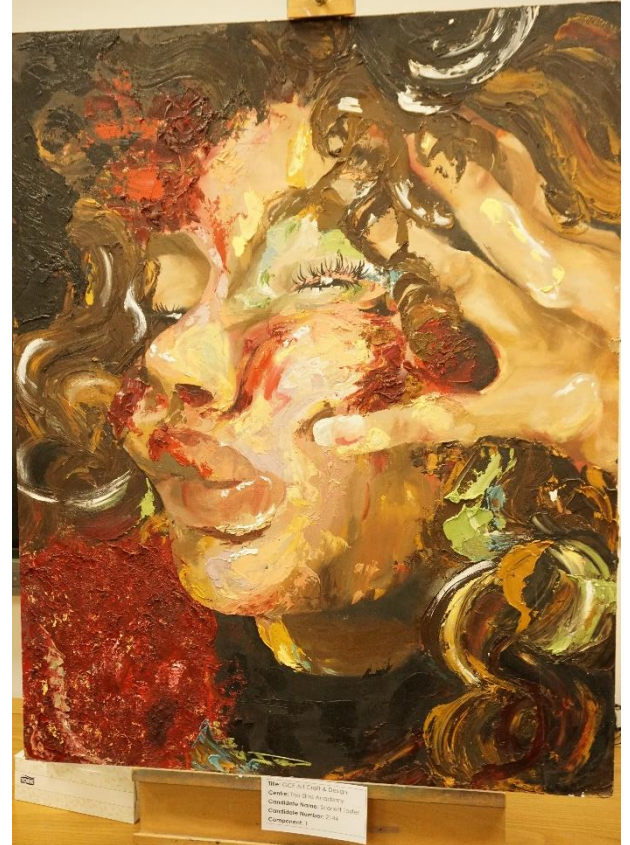
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A level Art

Our A level artists have been burning the midnight oil to finish their work in time for the exam moderator's visit today. Year 13 students Scarlett and Bruna have created stunning self-portraits as well as works inspired by Mondrian, Kandinsky and Vic Lee. Look out for more details about their brilliant works of art on our social media.



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Getting to Know You

Name: Mr David Kawembere

Job: Facilities Team

House: Archer

Currently reading: A Prayer from the Heart by Tammy Fernando

A favourite film: The Book of Eli with Denzel Washington. It's great.

Interesting fact about me: I have been working at this school since Queen Elizabeth officially opened the school in 2004, 19 years ago! I am the longest-serving member of staff on site. It has been a wonderful experience seeing all the young people come through the gates every day and go out into the world to do great things when they leave here.

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: The students here are amazing and make each day interesting and enjoyable. And the staff are some of the best teachers in London, they give so much of their time and care to every young person to help them achieve their best. It is a friendly, welcoming place and I look forward to going in to work every day.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 7-10 & 12 exams finish	Monday 26 th June	During the school day
Mrs Welch's Parent Forum (online)	Tuesday 27 th June	6.00 – 7.00pm (via Teams) Link shared in email / on homepage of web site
Year 6 Transition Day	Wednesday 28 th June	9.00 – 3.00pm
Year 6 Induction Evening	Thursday 6 th July	5.00 – 7.00pm
Year 13 Graduation	Friday 7 July	5.15 – 6.15pm
Year 13 Prom (date TBC)	Thursday 6 or Friday 7 July	8.00 – 11.30pm