

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Message from the Principal



Last week we welcomed all our students to The Elms Academy. I was proud to see our young people coming through the school gates, looking so smart and professional in their new blazers. It was especially good to see our new Year 7s so full of enthusiasm and excitement. We began the new academic year by going through our new values of integrity, ambition and determination during assemblies. These values support everything we do and all of us are responsible for living them by our daily interactions with each other, in and around our community and in the work we do here in school. Our new school motto is 'the very best in everyone' and our goal is to bring out the very best in every child and member of staff so together, we can all flourish and live happy and fulfilled lives. Even though there have been changes to the school day and slight changes to the behaviour policy, our high standards and expectations remain the same.

We celebrated this exciting new chapter in our school with a brilliant launch event Thursday morning. The students were a real credit to us, and I was so proud of how our academy was represented. The feedback from all of our guests from Sir Jon Coles to parents, local residents and primary headteachers was glowing. The student tour guides were a real highlight along with our student performances. The guests were really impressed with the excellent teaching they witnessed when they went on their tours. We really are a transformed school, and it is so exciting to think of all the things we can achieve, working together in the months and years to come. Thank you to those who were able to attend. We appreciate that the event was during the day when many are at work so we are planning another celebratory event for all our community after half term.



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### IntoUniversity workshop

Year 13 students are already working on personal statements with their mentors from IntoUniversity. The workshop took place the first week of school as we know there isn't a moment to waste in preparing for UCAS applications. Our young people are already working hard to get ready for this next important step.



### Art workshop

Last week students worked with artists from 7<sup>th</sup> pencil to brainstorm ideas for a new school mural. The final, impressive piece was displayed in the atrium during The Elms Academy launch event. More photos will be shared on our socials next week. The Elms Academy is now on twitter, Instagram and Facebook so do follow us.



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## The Elms Academy Launch Event

This Thursday we celebrated our transformation to The Elms Academy with a special launch event in the Main Hall. There were student performances on the drums, poetry recitals and the school choir and band sang The Elms Academy song. Former Year 13 student Leah reflected on her time in school and her road to Cambridge University where she'll study Education & Psychology. Sir Jon Coles, Chief Executive of United Learning, and Dame Sally Coates, Director of Academies, assisted with the plaque unveiling. Afterwards, guests enjoyed a special afternoon tea in the Newton Hall where the Tree of Hope & Dreams created by Year 13 artists Bruna and Stephanie was on display.



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