
The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

24th November 2023

Message from the Principal



I would like to congratulate students in Years 11, 12 and 13 on a successful two weeks of mock exams. They have shown fantastic levels of determination in these exams, and their ambition to succeed is brilliant to see. Through marking these exams, teachers will now be able to give our students important feedback about areas where they show a good level of understanding and what action steps they need to take between now and the next set of mock exams in February. I have no doubt that the future is looking bright for our students in these year groups due to their hard work and the daily commitment they show to their progress.

On Wednesday evening we welcomed a record number of visitors to the academy for our Sixth Form Open Evening. I would like to say a big thank you to staff, and also our wonderful Sixth Form student ambassadors who gave such a warm welcome, and talked about their Sixth Form and the subjects they study with such passion, pride and enthusiasm. It is heartening to see that our Sixth Form students

know what a good deal they are getting. We are proud of the reputation we are building as a Sixth Form for outstanding outcomes but also a high level of pastoral care, alongside outstanding career support and enrichment.

I would like to thank all parents who have completed the United Learning parent survey within the last few weeks. It is so helpful to get feedback from so many of you and helps to ensure that we can deliver the best possible education for your child. A reminder that the survey is open for one more week until Friday 1st December and should take no more than 15 minutes to complete. The link has been sent out via email and text message. This week, we have also launched the United Learning student survey so over the next two weeks, students will be able to have their say about what is going well at the academy, and things that they would like to see improve. I am looking forward to working with the student leadership team to implement some of the ideas that come out of this student feedback.

Lastly, a reminder to please consider signing up for the DCYPHR research project that we are supporting. It is very quick and easy for you to go online to sign your children up using this link: <https://bioresource.nihr.ac.uk/dcyphr/>. I believe that our support for this campaign could help positively change people's lives for generations to come as more is understood about health conditions and diseases. The project leaders are running an online event for any parents and carers who have queries about D-CYPHR on Tuesday 5th December (18:00 – 19:00). This will give you the opportunity to meet some of the D-CYPHR team, find out about the research D-CYPHR will be supporting and why health research for children and young people is so vitally important today. The second half of the session will be a Q&A to ask further questions about the initiative and process. This is the link to sign up for the online forum: [parents and carers forum registration link](#).

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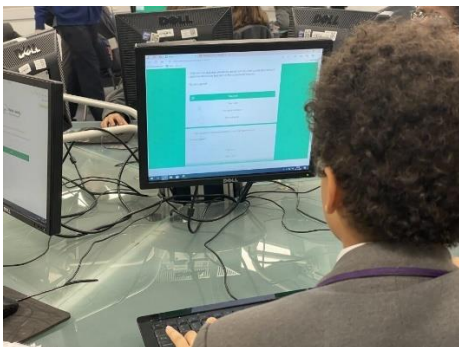
Christmas Tree and Food Bank Donation boxes

In preparation for the festive season, we have put up two Christmas trees, one in the main reception area and the other in the Atrium. Tutor groups will be holding a collection to raise money to purchase a gift to place under the tree which will then be donated to charity. We also launched our collection boxes for the local food bank. Any non-perishable items can be donated.



Student Survey

This week students participated in the Student Survey which gave them the opportunity to give their feedback. As with the parent survey, this is incredibly valuable and important in shaping the future of the school. The Parent survey will remain open until Friday 1st December. The link has been sent out via email and text message.



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Multi-Cultural Week

Our assembly focus this week has been on our Multi-Cultural society where people from different races, ethnicities and nationalities live together in the same community. We looked at how people retain, pass down, celebrate and share their unique cultural ways of life, languages, art, traditions and behaviours.

Multi-cultural society



We learnt during Cultural Diversity Week that we live, work and attend school in a **multicultural society**.

London is one of the most ethnically diverse populations in the world.



D-CYPHR project

The DCYPHR research project is one that we are supporting. It is very quick and easy for you to go online to sign your children up using this link: <https://bioresource.nihr.ac.uk/dcyphr/>.



DCYPHR The DNA, Children + Young People's Health Resource

Your child can be a hero – just by spitting in a tube. The information in their DNA has the potential to transform the lives of millions of young people through health research, creating better treatment and care. Together with the NHS, the NIHR BioResource is building a movement to help us unlock the power in our DNA to understand everything from diabetes to mental health. Your child can be part of it.

NIHR | BioResource | **NHS**
Schools programme in partnership with **Anna Freud**

Express interest or find out more:
bioresource.nihr.ac.uk/dcyphr/

Be a hero and help health research by talking about it, learning about it or joining in!

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Year 9 Belgium and France Trip

Last week, Year 9 students went on a two-day residential trip to Belgium and France to visit memorials about World War One.

Day one started off with us exploring Belgium, in the morning we visited the Lijssenthoek Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery where we recalled the MAIN causes of WW1. The rest of the day included a visit to Bayernwald German Trench System and Hooze Crater Museum. We ended the day with some Belgian chocolate shopping in Ypres and taking part in the Menin Gate remembrance ceremony, before our overnight stay at Flanders Lodge. My favourite part was the visit to Hooze Museum as we explored the weapons and uniform of a Private and how they attempted to protect themselves through gas attacks. - Nadiya 9A.

On day 2 we travelled into Northern France and explored the French Market city of Lille. We then visited Faubourg d'Amiens and Vimy Ridge which was a memorial and a battlefield which today represents the success of the Battle of Arras in April 1917. My favourite part was exploring the Old Lille Market - Megan 9B.



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The Great Debate

We were extremely proud to host the South London heat of the 'Great Debate' on Tuesday evening. Students from six schools across London came to compete in the national public speaking competition in association with the Historical Association. Each student researched, wrote and presented a five minute speech on a lesser known person or a place from their local area. All the students put so much work into their speeches and the results were incredibly inspiring. The three judges voted unanimously that the best speech of the evening was given by our very own Lois Vincent Gobel from The Elms Academy and she has been put through to the next stage of the competition to take part in the semi-final. Congratulations Lois!



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Sixth Form Open Evening

We were excited to hold our **Sixth Form Open Evening** on Wednesday evening this week. This was an exciting opportunity for all year 11 students and parents to talk to teachers about the broad range of subjects and enrichment experiences we offer in the Sixth Form and to hear about why we have achieved the best university destinations and exam results in Lambeth for the past two years. Our students were joined by over 100 prospective applicants looking to join a Sixth Form where they can succeed. This was the highest number of external visitors we have ever hosted at our open evening and reflects our Sixth Form's growing reputation for excellence in the local community. If you were not able to attend the evening and have any questions about our Sixth Form, please get in touch with the Head of Sixth Form, Mr Hemming. His email is themming@theelmsacademy.org.uk.

10 reasons to choose The Elms Academy Sixth Form

1. We are a friendly and inclusive Sixth Form with a diverse student body that reflects our vibrant community.
2. We bring out the best in our students, thanks to our inspirational teaching and focused learning environment.
3. We offer academic and vocational excellence with over 50% of all awarded grades at A* - A or Distinction.
4. Our students get ahead with academic progress that positions us within the top 1% of Sixth Forms in England.
5. 40% of our students go on to Russell Group Universities when only 10% do nationally.
6. Our curriculum is ambitious and broad with over 23 high quality subject options to choose from.
7. We care about developing everyone as well-rounded and active citizens through our education with character and careers programme.
8. We look after student health and wellbeing through our PSHE curriculum and enrichment activities.
9. All are offered leadership opportunities through our House system and strong Student Leadership Team.
10. The school benefits from being part of the United Learning Trust, a prestigious group of schools, and we also have partnerships with a range of local, national and international organisations.



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The Elms Academy
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

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Children in Need Visit

Last week our Thursday afternoon producers club were visited by Leigh-Anne from Little Mix as part of the BBC's Children in Need campaign. The producers club is run by the music charity 'Grounded Sounds' and we were privileged to be selected to host this special visit. Leigh-Anne listened to the students' tracks and gave an inspirational speech about her journey in the music industry.



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Professional Studio Visit

It has been a busy fortnight for the producers club who visited a professional recording studio this week, the 'Sound Bank' in Oval. The students were able to work with a range of professional sound engineers and producers to start recording their tracks. It was amazing to see how the students grew in confidence over the session and worked together as a team. They also bumped into the UK rapper Castillo! They have two more sessions in the studio before their tracks are mastered and released. Watch this space...



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Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 9 Parent Evening	Thursday 30 th November	4.30pm – 7.00pm
INSET Day	Friday 1 st December	All Day
Year 7 Kings Scholar Programme – Introduction for parents	Thursday 7 th December	5.00pm – 6.00pm
Sixth Form Parent Evening	Thursday 14 th December	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Last day of Term	Friday 22 nd December	

