

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

17th January 2025

Message from the Principal



I am so proud of the dedication and focus demonstrated by our Year 7, 8, 9, and 12 students tackling their exams this week. Their hard work and positive attitude are truly inspiring. Year 7s have shown amazing growth since September, and the school's atmosphere is buzzing with energy as students even use breaks to revise in the library. At The Elms Academy, our vision is to ensure that our students have a future full of opportunities and choices, leading to happy and fulfilled lives. Their determination to give 100% and live by our school values is fantastic to see.

We're also extremely pleased with the significant improvement in attendance, which is already boosting academic outcomes. Every lesson counts, and we're grateful for parents' support in ensuring students attend school daily.

Thursday's Year 13 Parents' Evening was a success, with valuable discussions on exam preparations. We were also delighted to host several headteachers from another Academy Trust for an "excellence visit", who praised our unique school

culture and ethos, including our commitment to high academic standards, our focus on student well-being, and the strong relationships we foster between staff, students, and parents. Our students' warm welcomes and wonderful manners were commented on.

House activities this week, including Chess, Connect 4, and Tug of War, were a hit, with students eagerly earning points for their Houses. Stay tuned for the next leaderboard update!

Looking ahead, our school production of Aladdin is set for February 27th and 28th. It promises to be magical, so mark your calendars and join the fun! Parents, carers, siblings and friends are all welcome. Tickets will be available soon.

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Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge – The Winners

A huge congratulations to all Year 10 students who took part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge. The following winners will go on to represent our school in further rounds of the competition. Well done everyone!

Congratulations to our Winners!



Freddie



Jelena



Hamza



Fatina



Yacoub



Salma



Toby



Winta



Nickain



Qadra



Cody

King's Scholars Welcome Session

On Tuesday evening, we hosted the parents of the newly selected King's Scholars from Year 7. A member of the Widening Participation Team at King's College London came to present about the King's Scholars scheme and invited parents to support their children with planning their future pathway. The King's Scholars scheme is a 3-year programme that engages 25 students in activities that aim to develop their study skills while educating them about universities and careers. We are looking forward to seeing our Scholars embrace this invaluable initiative.



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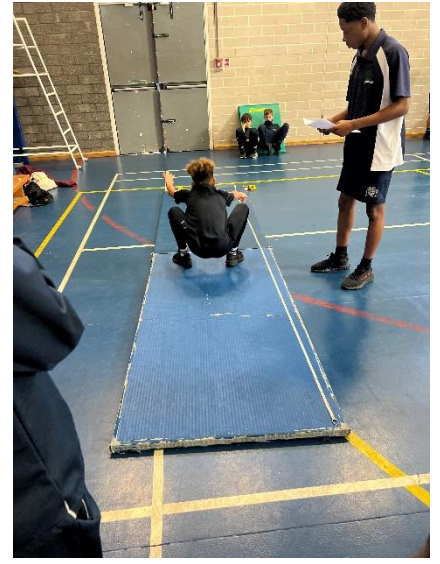
Determination

Year 7- Indoor Athletics

On Tuesday, our Year 7 boys represented the school in an exciting indoor athletics competition, showcasing outstanding effort and teamwork across a range of track and field events.

The team, consisting of Arther, Jayden, Carlson, Leo, Troy, Teshen, and Charlie, competed in six track events, including the obstacle relay, 2-lap race, 4-lap race, 6-lap race, 8-lap race, and 4x2-lap relay. They also participated in five field events: shot put, speed bounce, standing long jump, standing triple jump, and vertical jump.

Through their hard work and determination, the boys secured a fantastic 2nd place in the track events and achieved an impressive 3rd place overall. A special mention goes to Jayden, Charlie, and Arther, who demonstrated incredible resilience in completing the most laps on the day. Well done to the entire team for their enthusiasm, commitment, and sportsmanship!



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Charity Donation

Thank you to all our students and staff who participated in our own clothes day at the end of last term. We raised £1,130 which will be donated to The Ace of Clubs charity which supports vulnerable and homeless people in Clapham. Thank you for your contributions.

We received the following letter from the charity.



2025

Happy New Year to our Donors, Friends & Volunteers!

Impact of your support at Ace of Clubs

Dear Friend,

On behalf of the Ace of Clubs, we thank all our donors, friends and volunteers who have supported us this year – as a charity that relies on voluntary donations, we really couldn't do our work without the support of our community.

**Over 94% of our clients would
recommend AoC**

(service user survey)

**Your support has helped us help
thousands of people who are
homeless, vulnerable and isolated.**

(pic on right: Our Christmas Day volunteer team)



Last year, we provided a staggering

37,595 hot meals. Every day, we serve around 200 meals. People not only come in for a meal, but there is a sense of community and belonging. Our Case Workers support urgent and daily needs such as laundry, IT, finding clothes, helping with post or more longer-term requirements such as housing and health.

Our amazing volunteers contribute over 15,660 hours a year.

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Envision Programme – Mentoring Visit

Envision is a 20-week programme that brings together a team of students who create a social action project. They develop essential life and employability skills while working together to make a difference in their community. Part of the programme is regular meetings with mentors from a local business. This year, our Envision students work with RELX, a multinational analytics company based on the Strand. The students had a very productive session with their mentors where they focused on improving their presentation and public speaking skills.



Atrium Art

Our most recent Atrium Art installation has been produced by Leylla Karamoko in Year 11. This is Leylla's outcome for her project on "Identity". Throughout her project, Leylla explored themes of how relationships shape our identity, and specifically how her own relationship with her sisters is significant in her life. Leylla explored a range of artists and photographers to inspire this piece and developed her skills in portraiture and oil painting.



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House Competition - Great Elms Bake Off!



Staff and students are invited to put their baking skills to the test and enter The Great Elms Bake Off! The first round will be making cupcakes.

If you would like to enter, email Miss Briscoe by Wednesday 29th January to confirm that you will be taking part. The best cupcakes from each house will advance to the next round.

Bring your Cupcake creations in for the competition which will be on Wednesday 5th February.

If you would like to sample the cupcakes, please bring a donation of 20p per cupcake. Further details can be found on Show My Homework.

We look forward to seeing your creations.

Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
INSET Day	Friday 24 th January 2025	All Day
Year 7 Parents Evening	Thursday 13 th February 2025	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Half Term Holiday	Monday 17 th February – Friday 21 st February 2025	All week
Year 12 Parents Evening	Tuesday 25 th February 2025	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Pathways Evening (Year 9)	Thursday 3 rd April 2025	5.00pm – 6.00pm
Easter Holiday	Monday 7 th April 2025 – Monday 21 st April 2025	Two Weeks
INSET Day	Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	All Day