

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

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4th October 2024

Message from the Principal



Dear parents,

We've reached the end of week five of the first half-term, and it has been a busy and exciting time for everyone at the school. Here's a roundup of the week's key highlights:

Open Evening Success

This week, we hosted our open evening, and it was a wonderful event! We had many local families visit the school, and we received an overwhelming amount of praise for everything we're doing. It's always rewarding to see the results of the hard work we put into ensuring excellent outcomes for our students, promoting strong community values, and maintaining high standards of student behaviour. The evening truly showcased the positive culture we've built.

The real stars of the evening were our **student helpers**. These students volunteered their time to assist with departments and serve as tour guides, offering families a first-hand glimpse into the opportunities our school offers to students in years 5 and 6. Their enthusiasm and dedication made the evening feel like a true community effort, and we couldn't be prouder of their contributions.

Student Rewards Trip to the Cinema

To round off the week, we rewarded 100 hardworking students with a trip to the Odeon Cinema in Streatham for a private screening of *Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice*. It was great to see them having fun, and the trip was a well-deserved treat for their outstanding efforts in lessons. Congratulations to all the students who earned this reward!

House Events

This week also saw some exciting house competitions. On Wednesday, we held our **sprinting championship**, where we discovered the fastest students in the school. On Friday, we hosted a **penalty shootout** competition during lunchtime, testing which students could handle the pressure and score the most goals. These events are always a fantastic way to build camaraderie and school spirit, and we're looking forward to more competitions as the term progresses.

Lunchtime Queues and Lunch Cards

Lastly, I've received feedback from some parents about the length of the lunch queues, particularly on Fridays. I'd like to remind parents to ensure that students have a **lunch card**, which helps speed up the process and ensures students get the most out of their break time. If your child doesn't yet have a lunch card, they are available at **Student Services for £2**.

Thank you for your continued support, and I hope you all have a fantastic week ahead.

Best regards,
Jon Lynes

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Whole School Assembly – Black History Month



This week in our whole school assembly we looked at Black History Month which is focusing on “reclaiming narratives”.

Reclaiming narratives means taking ownership over stories that define black culture and to reflect and celebrate what black history means to people now.

Reclaiming narratives wants to start acknowledging black people who have directly inspired people of today. It is about letting people tell their own stories, not the stories of others.

We were delighted that a number of staff shared their stories with us and who inspired them.

We look forward to hearing lots of other stories in the coming weeks.



**Thank you to the staff who
contributed**

Who is your BHM inspiration?



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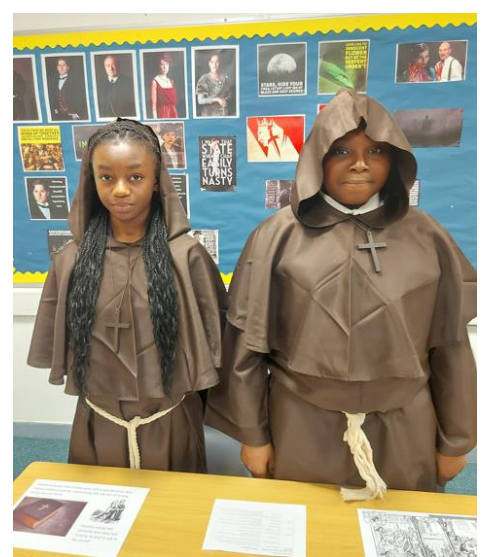
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Open Evening

We were delighted to welcome so many prospective students during our open evening on Tuesday. The visitors were very impressed with our student ambassadors and the welcome they received. Students took groups on a tour of the building visiting a wide variety of departments which provided an opportunity to ask any questions they may have had. Students and staff worked hard to ensure that the evening was a great success.



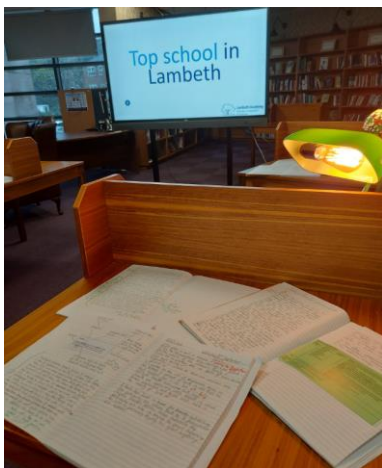
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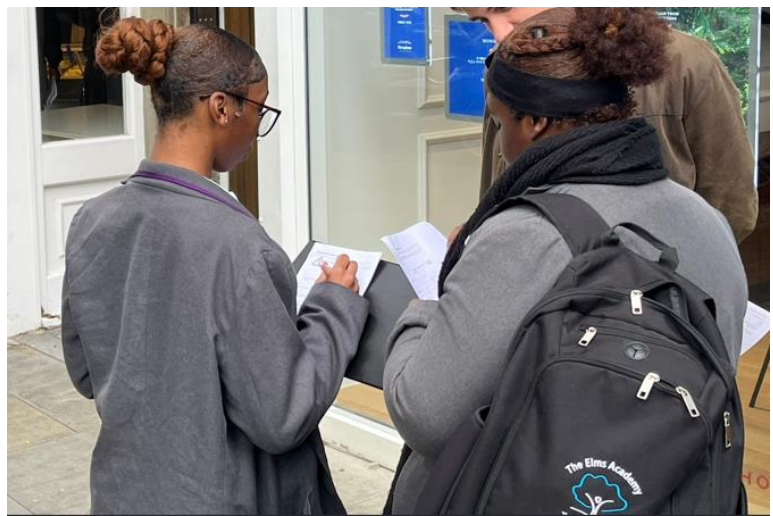
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Year 11 Geography Trip

On Thursday, the Y11 geographers went to Clapham Old Town for a human fieldwork investigation into quality of life. The students were fantastic representatives of our school, engaging with local residents and collecting data with maturity and respect. They asked insightful questions and displayed impeccable manners. Well done everyone.



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100% Attendance awards

Attendance is crucial for academic success, and we encourage all students to aim for 100% attendance.

Well done to all those students who have achieved 100% attendance so far this term. Their names were entered into a prize draw and the winners won a prize.



Congratulations to the following students on winning the 100% Attendance award:



Mia Stevens-Collins



Alison Evora Mendonca

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KS3 Enrichment

Students in KS3 started their enrichment club on Monday in a wide variety of subjects and they all made a great start. Students will continue with these clubs every Monday from 3.35pm until 4.30pm.

Enrichment is important as it provides opportunities for students to develop character, form new interests and talents. It provides leadership opportunities and allows students to develop transferable skills as well as demonstrate commitment and integrity. Through enrichment students become active members of our school community.



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Getting to Know you

Name: Samuel Blackburn

Job: Librarian

House: Jones

Currently Reading: *Case Study* by Graeme Macrae Burnet.

A favourite film: *Clueless* – the best Jane Austen adaption to date.

Interesting fact about me: Margaret Atwood once rolled her eyes at me.

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: The students are eager to read and love being in the library – even those who are not big readers are still happy to give it a go.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 10 Welcome to GCSE Evening	Thursday 10 th October 2024	5.00pm – 6.00pm
Key Stage 3 Information Evening ONLINE	Thursday 17 th October 2024	5.00pm – 6.30pm
International Evening	Wednesday 23 rd October 2024	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Half term holiday	Monday 28 th October - Friday 1 st November 2024	All Week
Year 7 Meet the Tutor Evening	Thursday 7 th November 2024	2.00pm – 5.00pm

