

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024

### Message from the Principal



What a fantastic term it's been! We've celebrated so many successes and the incredible talents of our students. A highlight this week was The Elms Academy Winter Snowcase—an amazing evening showcasing the talents nurtured in our Music department. The Sixth Form in particular, set the bar very high, collaborating with other year groups and there were some exceptional performances, displaying the talent that has been nurtured in the Music department.

I am so grateful to everyone involved, including the staff who made the event possible.

On Tuesday evening we held our annual and prestigious Academic Awards Evening, where we were immensely proud to celebrate the academic achievements of our students across all year groups. This was a special opportunity to recognise the hard work and commitment of the top

performers in each subject and year group. Their level of dedication and accomplishment continue to raise the bar for the entire school. Our students inspire us all to aim higher, and I am sure they will continue to do so in the months and years ahead.

It was also wonderful to see students with 100% attendance and high merits enjoy their reward trip to Queens Skate and Bowl. These students embody resilience and our core values of ambition, determination, and integrity. The Brixton Chamber Orchestra's performance on Wednesday further inspired our community and marks the beginning of a promising partnership for our musical future.

For Year 11 and 13, this term has been critical as they prepare for their GCSE and A-Level exams. Their progress has been impressive, and we're committed to supporting them to reach their full potential.

A quick reminder: Year 7-9 and Year 12 exams are coming up the week of January 13th. Thank you for helping them to prepare! I look forward to seeing all their hard work pay off.

As we wrap up the term, I'd like to thank all students and staff for their energy and enthusiasm. You've made this term unforgettable. We return on Tuesday, January 7th, and I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I can't wait to continue our journey together in 2025!

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### Winter Showcase

On Monday we held our annual winter concert which showcased the talent at the academy including a wide range of performers from Year 7 to Year 13. The school choir, KS3 band, some amazing solos and a special appearance from the staff choir were some of the highlights. Well done to all involved in this exciting evening.



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### Year 12 Super Curricular Presentations

Last week, Year 12 delivered their super-curricular project to their peers. This presentation was an accumulation of both an academic project (from outside the curriculum) and two terms of oracy coaching on presentational skills as part of the Sixth Form Oracy Programme. The standard across the year group was very high and students showed signs of exceptional presentational skills on challenging academic content. Featured was, 'the chemical reactions within cookies', 'why do black holes exist?', 'the importance of emotional intelligence' and 'an exploration of writing on race in the Harlem Renaissance', to name a few. We couldn't be prouder of the young professionals our sixth form students are becoming.



### Christmas Tree donation

We were delighted to have been one of the lucky schools to receive a beautiful Christmas tree from the Princess of Wales last week. The tree which we placed in the reception area was part of the *Together at Christmas* carol service held at Westminster Abbey on December 6th.



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## Academic Awards Evening

Our Academic Awards Evening on Monday was an opportunity to celebrate the outstanding academic achievements of some of our top performing students. Mince pies and mulled wine added to the festive atmosphere and created a fitting end to the term as students collected their awards for which they had been nominated by their teachers.



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### Reward Trip

In recognition of students' outstanding achievements and to express our great pride in them, they were invited to participate in a reward trip on Wednesday to Queens Skate and Bowl. During the trip all students had a session of ice skating and a game of ten-pin bowling.

Students who have maintained attendance at 100% and are ranked in the top 20 students in their year group for behaviour attended. Congratulations on their achievement.



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### Brixton Chamber Orchestra

What a wonderful way to end the term! Brixton Chamber Orchestra is a group of local talented instrumentalists who champion providing live orchestral experiences to new audiences in unexpected venues, and today's venue was The Elms Academy. Students from years 7-10 enjoyed an eclectic mix of festive favourites and classical pieces and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



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### Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Christmas Holiday	Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024 – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2025	Two weeks
INSET Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	All Day
Year 11 Parents Evening	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Year 13 Parents Evening	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Year 7 Parents Evening	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Half Term Holiday	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025	All week



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