

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025

### Message from the Principal



It has been a pleasure walking around school this week and seeing the excellent teaching taking place, as well as the way our students are actively engaging in their learning. Our students asked thoughtful questions, showed confidence in their answers, and worked hard to deepen their understanding. I was particularly impressed by the focus and resilience of Years 7, 8, 9, and 12 during their exams.

Every day, our students embody our values of ambition, determination, and integrity. From excellent manners to revising during breaks and supporting peers, these qualities make our school special. We nurture a community where students feel safe, happy, and enjoy being at school.

This week, we were privileged to host headteachers from other schools within United Learning. These headteachers had the opportunity to observe lessons in

the morning, and they were incredibly impressed by the high standards of teaching and learning. Both our students and staff truly shone, and it was a proud moment for me to see our school so highly regarded. It reinforces the fantastic work that happens here every day.

During Energy Saving Week, Ms. Haworth's assembly shared practical tips on saving energy, emphasizing that small daily changes can make a big impact. We encourage everyone to continue making sustainable choices.

Finally, we celebrated the launch of our spring term enrichment clubs. It was fantastic to see activities like sports, crafting, cooking, chess, and more. Thank you to the staff and students for their passion and enthusiasm in making these clubs a success. You can see the full list of enrichment clubs here

<https://www.theelmsacademy.org.uk/learning/clubs-and-extracurricular-activities>.

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## SUSTAINABILITY IN OUR SCHOOL

By encouraging our students to live with **integrity**, we aim to support them to make healthy, wise and principled choices, and foster respect for the world around us. Throughout **Energy Saving Week**, students have been looking at the ways in which we can all reduce our use of non-renewable energy, and therefore reduce our the amount of carbon emitted as a result of our actions.

**We take sustainability very seriously across the Academy...**

- Mixed recycling bins are in every office and classroom for paper and plastic.
- The majority of our lighting has been switched to low-energy LEDs.
- All of our food waste from the canteen is turned into renewable energy by ReFood. ReFood provide a unique end-to-end recycling process that creates renewable energy and fertiliser from waste.

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### WAYS TO SAVE ENERGY AT HOME

Here are a few quick and easy ways to save energy, lower your bills and reduce your carbon footprint.

#### 1. Turn off lights

Turn your lights off when you're not using them or when you leave a room. You could even put stickers on the switch to remind everyone.

#### Switch off standby

Turn off electronic equipment such as televisions, computers and chargers when not in use to avoid unnecessary use of electricity.

#### 3. Improve Home Insulation

Insulating and draught-proofing your home helps prevent wasting heat, keeps the home warmer and could reduce your energy bills.

#### 4. Careful with your washing

Use your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle instead of higher temperatures, only wash full loads, and avoid using the tumble dryer if you can.

#### 5. Switch to LED lights

Replacing incandescent or energy-saving lamps with more efficient LED lamps can reduce energy consumption for lighting.

#### 6. Speedy showers

Swapping your bath for a shower saves a huge amount of water, and set a 4 minute time on showers



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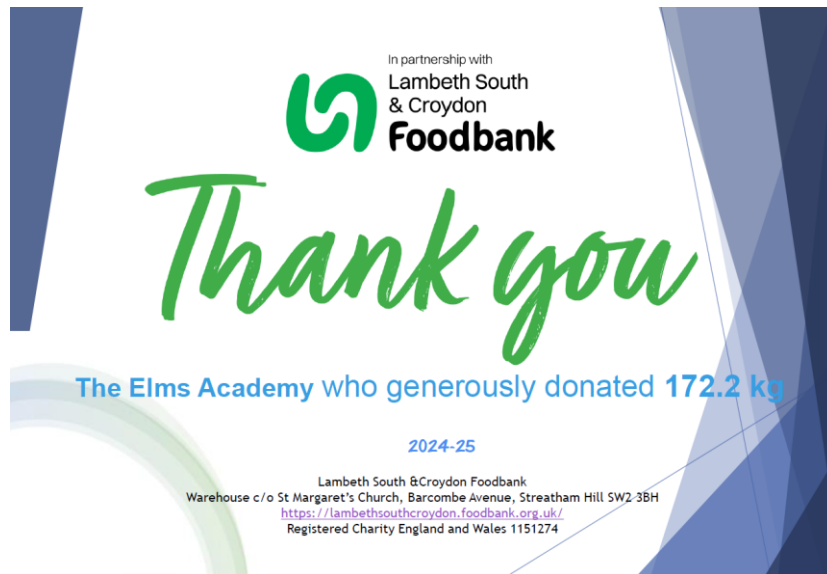
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### Food Bank Collection

Thank you to all our students and staff who contributed to the food bank collection we held before Christmas. The Lambeth South and Croydon Food bank wrote to thank us and said that the items we had collected, "made a big difference to the families who needed it." Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



### Sixth Form ambassadors

This week we were delighted to host GEF, which saw Head Teachers and Directors from a wide range of schools visit us for a conference. Our Sixth Form ambassadors provided a warm welcome to all our guests and assisted them with registration.





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## Professional Basketball coach

A group of Year 7, 8 and 9 girls were recently given an exciting opportunity to be coached by a professional basketball player. During the session, the students were taught new skills through various fun games.



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### Student artwork

Georgia Williams from Year 13 has produced this stunning portrait of her mum. She is currently working on a larger portrait as part of her A Level Art class.



### Key Dates for Your Diary

| Event                     | Date   | Time            |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 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        |
| Year 12 Parents Evening   | Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2025                                   | 4.30pm – 7.00pm |
| Pathways Evening (Year 9) | Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2025                                      | 5.00pm – 6.00pm |
| Easter Holiday            | Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025   | Two Weeks       |
| INSET Day                 | Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025                                      | All Day         |
| Year 11 Exams Evening     | Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2025                                     | 5.00pm – 6.00pm |
| Year 10 Parents Evening   | Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2025  | 4.30pm – 7.00pm |