

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

5th December 2024

Message from the Principal



It has been another fantastic week at school! We're thrilled with how focused and hardworking our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been since returning to lessons after their recent exams. They are looking ahead with optimism to receiving their results. Across all other year groups, we've seen the same productive and determined attitude in lessons, with students making great progress in their learning.

As always, we would like to remind parents about the vital importance of attendance. Every single school day counts, right up until the last day of term. Missing even one day can create gaps in learning that may affect future performance in exams. Your support in ensuring 100% attendance is essential for your child's success.

This week, we launched revision checklists for our Year 7, 8, and 9 students ahead of their exams in the new year. By next week, students should have received their exam timetable and all checklists. Please encourage and support them in using these resources to prepare effectively over the coming weeks.

Looking ahead, we have some festive events to enjoy. On Tuesday, we'll celebrate Christmas lunch, and staff and students are invited to wear Christmas jumpers to get into the holiday spirit. On Thursday, we'll host the Year 8 Parents' Evening, a vital opportunity to hear about your child's progress and ways to support their learning at home. We encourage all parents to attend. In the final week of term, we have two exciting celebrations: the Winter Snow Case on Monday, showcasing the talents of our musical and performing arts students, and our Academic Awards Evening on Tuesday, where we'll honour students who have shown exceptional dedication and achievement.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

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Preparing for Exams



December 2024						
30 days included						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

January 2025						
13 days included						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

During our whole school assembly this week we looked at preparing for exams as, from Monday, there were only 18 more school days until the mock exams start for KS3 and Year 12. The exams are a chance for students to show how hard they have been working and also identify some areas that may need further work. In the lead up to exams, any homework set will be revision based. Exercise books provide a valuable resource when revising. Flashcards, summary tables and mind maps are the 3 top tips for revision techniques.

We can apply our values when preparing and sitting the exams:

Ambition – aim high and do your best

Determination - work hard, in lessons, revising and the exam

Integrity - always try your best in the exams

We wish all students the very best of luck for the exams which start on Monday 13th January 2025.

In summary:

1. Use the 3 revision strategies when revising
2. Use the revision checklist to identify key topic areas you are weak in.
3. Complete your homework to the best of your ability and before the date it is due.
4. Ensure that your book can be used as a revision resources.
 - Title and date underlines
 - Self assess your work in red pen
 - Stick in loose sheets!

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Visitor Feedback

During the course of a week, we have a wide variety of visitors to the academy from many different backgrounds. These can be staff visiting from other schools, people from outside agencies coming to deliver a workshop or a variety of other settings. We are proud of the welcome and respect our staff and students give to anyone visiting the academy. We are delighted with the positive feedback we have received and wanted to share some of the comments with you.

Full of warmth, positivity and high expectations.

Students are really bought in and are happy to be held to high standards because they know what is in it for them.

The teaching here is consistently outstanding

Students are welcoming, polite and

The school is clean, tidy and calm; students care about their environment.

Student behavior is excellent.

Chess in the Atrium

Students are invited to play chess in the atrium during break and lunchtime each day. It is already proving a popular activity. We look forward to seeing students using their skills to out-manuever each other in a bid to capture their opponent's king.



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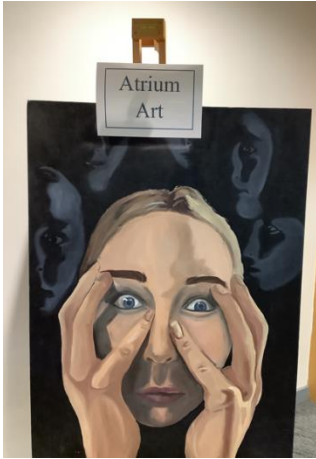
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Atrium Art



In celebration of one of our most successful Sixth Form open evenings held on Wednesday of this week, the Art Department have had a range of A-Level Artworks on display across the school. The piece shown here was by one of our most outstanding alumni, Maisie Gascoyne who left last year with an A* in A-Level Art & Design and is now studying Animation at Portsmouth University.

This skillfully executed oil painting explores complex and deeply evocative emotions experienced by young people and the multitude of pressures and influences they face living in modern Britain.

Brixton House Trip

Year 8 and 9 performers took a trip to Brixton House Theatre to watch a musical version of Alice in Wonderland. The show was based on the Victoria line and used elements of South London culture to engage students. The genre of music was rap and the play was put on with only 5 performers.



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Winter Concert

Details of our winter concert have been released this week. It will be held on Monday 16th December at 5pm. Tickets will go on sale next week from Student Services. Students are invited to join up to participate, details of how to do this are shown on the screens around school. We look forward to seeing you all there to celebrate the end of the term and to showcase the amazing talent we have within the academy.



The Elms Academy
Winter Concert
Monday 16th December 2024, 5pm



Getting to know you

Name: Samira Hasan

Job: English Teacher

House: Jones

Currently Reading: Atonement by Ian McEwan

A favourite film: The Grand Budapest Hotel (dir Wes Anderson).

Interesting fact about me: I walked on my tip toes until the age of 3!

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: I love the culture of appreciation and kindness here, both staff and students are so polite and supportive, making TEA an incredible place to work.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 12 th December 2024	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Winter Showcase	Monday 16 th December 2024	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Academic Awards Evening	Tuesday 17 th December 2024	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Last day of term	Thursday 19 th December 2024	Student to leave at from 12.30pm
Christmas Holiday	Friday 20 th December 2024 – Friday 3 rd January 2025	Two weeks
INSET Day	Monday 6 th January 2025	All Day