

The Elms Academy

NEWSLETTER

Integrity

Ambition

Determination

8th November 2024

Message from the Principal



I'm delighted to be back after my maternity leave and thrilled to resume my role as Principal. I would like to thank Mr Lynes and the staff team for doing a fantastic job while I have been away. So much has been achieved in my absence and I am excited to build on this success as we continue to strive for continuous improvement. It's wonderful to reconnect with the school community, and I'm especially excited to be working closely with your children and with you, our families, once again.

This week, I've had the chance to step back into lessons, and it's been fantastic to see such a high level of engagement and learning happening across the school. Our staff and students are working incredibly hard toward our shared goal of helping every student achieve their very best. I held welcome assemblies this week, with each year group, where we discussed our school values of integrity, determination, and ambition. Together, we talked about what it means to give 100%, to live without regrets, and to make every moment count. We also highlighted the importance of 100% attendance, as we know how profoundly

absences can impact student achievement, particularly by the time students reach the end of Year 11 and Year 13.

For our Year 11 and Year 13 students, mock exams are starting next week. A huge well done to all those who have been putting in the effort to prepare for them! We want these exams to be a positive and constructive experience, providing our teachers with a clear picture of each student's strengths and areas for improvement. This will help us ensure that we're supporting every student's progress through the rest of the year.

I hope you have all received a letter and text this week with details of the United Learning parent survey. Your feedback is invaluable and will help shape our school improvement plan as we strive to deliver the best possible education and school experience for your child. The survey takes about 15 minutes and is open until Friday, November 29th. The link has been sent via email and text. I do hope as many of you as possible will take the opportunity to give us feedback. Please contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our school. Please know that my door is always open, and I look forward to working closely with you all in the months ahead.

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Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams - Different strategies to support exam revision

As students in Year 11 and 13 prepare for their mock exams next week, here is a reminder of different strategies to support revision.



1. Establish a consistent Study routine:

- Encourage your child to use their revision timetable.
- Help them create a consistent and organised study routine.

2. Distraction free Study environments:

- A quiet and distraction free environment contributes to effective learning. For example: A dedicated space for studying, free from electronic distractions.

3. Active Retrieval Practice:

- Engage your child with active recall exercises such as flashcards or quizzing.
- Studies have shown that active recalling information from memory enhances long term retention and understanding.

4. Healthy lifestyle habits:

- Adequate sleep, regular exercise and balanced diet are essential for cognitive function.



5. Emotional support:

- Be supportive, offer encouragement, and help your child manage stress.
- Open communication about concerns and feelings can contribute to a positive mindset and increase confidence.



Good luck to all Year 11 and Year 13 students who are sitting the mock exams next week!

Good Luck!

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House Event - Cheerleading Try Outs Round 2

For any student who may have missed out on the first round of Cheerleading Try Outs there is another opportunity on Wednesday 13th November at lunch time!

Students are invited to:

- Create a routine to a song of their choice.
- Perform solo or as a group (doesn't have to be from the same house!).
- Music must be the clean version and e-mailed to Miss Briscoe rbriscoe@theelmsacademy.org.uk.



Sixth Form Open Evening - Tuesday 3rd December 2024 - 5.00 - 7.00pm

Students are invited to join us at The Elms Academy for an exciting in-person event where you can explore all the opportunities available to you in our Sixth Form.

Meet our dedicated staff, tour our extensive music, sports and media facilities, and discover the vibrant community that awaits you. Whether you're interested in academics, sports, or extracurricular activities, we have something for everyone. We can't wait to welcome you!

We welcome students applying to our Sixth Form from within the academy and external applicants. To book a place visit our website.

36% A* - A grades

70% A* - B grades

88% A* - C grades

COME AND JOIN OUR SIXTH FORM

Continuing our positive trajectory year on year, our 2024 A Level and BTEC results secured places at top UK universities including Cambridge, St Andrews, King's College London and Warwick.

Parent Survey

We sent out an email this week with details of the United Learning parent survey has now opened, and it will be open until Friday 29th November. The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete.

The Elms Academy is a school committed to continuous improvement. We hope that all of you will share your views with us so that we can act on this feedback and continue to work hard to deliver the best possible outcomes for your child.

Thanks in advance for taking the time to complete this.

The Elms Academy

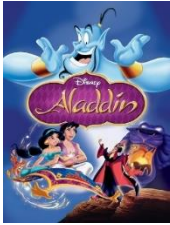
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Aladdin Rehearsals continue



A reminder that rehearsals for our school musical Alladin, continue to take place every Thursday from 3.30pm – 4.30pm in the Drama Studio.

Getting to know you

Name: Hywel Jones

Job: Maths Teacher

House: Szabo

Currently Reading: Guards! Guards! By Terry Pratchett

A favourite film: Interstellar

Interesting fact about me: I have performed on Broadway.

What I like about working at The Elms Academy: Everyone is very supportive and has both the staff and children's best interests at heart.



Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 9 Parents Evening	Thursday 28 th November 2024	4.30pm – 6.00pm
Sixth Form Open Evening	Tuesday 3 rd December 2024	5.00pm – 7.00pm
INSET Day	Friday 6 th December 2024	All Day
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 12 th December 2024	4.30pm – 6.00pm
Winter Showcase	Monday 16 th December 2024	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Academic Awards Evening	Tuesday 17 th December 2024	6.00pm – 8.00pm
Christmas Holiday	Friday 20 th December 2024 – Friday 3 rd January 2025	Two weeks
INSET Day	Monday 6 th January 2025	All Day