

# The Elms Academy

## NEWSLETTER

Integrity

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22<sup>nd</sup> November 2024

### Message from the Principal



It's been another fantastic week at The Elms Academy! I've enjoyed visiting lessons and seeing the excellent teaching and learning that's happening across the school. Elms Academy teachers are providing engaging lessons, and students are contributing with energy and focus, creating a very positive atmosphere. Special mention must go to Year 11 and Year 13 students who completed their first set of mock exams. We look forward to the results, which will guide our lesson planning as we head towards their final exams in the summer. For Years 7–9, there are five school weeks left until their exams, and revision timetables and checklists will be sent to parents before Christmas.

This week, we held a road safety assembly, reminding students to travel safely with the motto *"Travel like you know them."* We emphasized key actions like wearing seatbelts, staying aware on pavements, and being

considerate on buses to ensure safety. You can read more about this further on.

We also conducted the United Learning student survey, where students shared what they love about our school and suggested improvements. We'll work with the Student Leadership Team to address their feedback, as we did with last year's mentoring scheme and Year 7 Period Project.

Thank you to all the parents who have completed the survey too. If you haven't yet, it takes just 15 minutes and is open for another week. Your feedback is vitally important for helping to deliver the best possible education for your children.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming Year 9 parents to the Parents' Evening on Thursday next week.

Thank you for your continued support, and I wish everyone a restful and enjoyable weekend.

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### France and Belgium Trip

Last week, 50 Year 9 students embarked on an unforgettable adventure to France and Belgium, bringing their WWI History studies to life! Our visits to the trenches, memorials and an underground quarry of WWI was a powerful experience. Standing where soldiers once stood, students gained a deeper understanding of the sacrifices made during the war. The Last Post ceremonies at Menin Gate and Vimy Ridge were particularly moving. Of course, no trip to Belgium would be complete without indulging in its world-renowned chocolate, with an exciting visit to a chocolate shop. Year 9 represented the Academy impeccably abroad and greatly enjoyed the trip.



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### Christmas Tree and Food Bank Donation Boxes



Christmas has arrived at the academy! A time for giving, and our annual foodbank collection in aid of the Norwood and Brixton foodbank, to support families in the community over the winter months. All donations of dried goods are greatly appreciated.

Once again this year, we will be asking all tutor groups to buy a present and put it under the tree. Those presents will then be donated to a local child who would otherwise not have a present at Christmas.

Many thanks to Ryan Fofana in Year 8 for decorating both Christmas trees.



### Road Safety Week

Road Safety Week 

17-23 November 2024

During our whole school assembly this week we looked at Road Safety and how we can keep ourselves and our community safe by avoiding dangerous behaviours.

*Travel like you know those around you and keep them safe.*

Our success criteria for Travel Like You Know them is as follows:

- Always Wear a seatbelt in a car.
- When walking in a big group, leave space on the pavement for those travelling in the opposite direction.
- Remove headphones and put your phone away when crossing the road.
- Stick to one person per bike and use the cycle path.
- Behave considerably on the bus: keep your volume to an acceptable level and offer your seat to those who are more vulnerable to injury than you.

Brake have lots of useful information for parents on their website here <https://www.brake.org.uk/get-involved/take-action/mybrake/knowledge-centre/advice-for-parents-and-families>

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### Getting to know you

Name: Emmanuel Opoku Agyemang

Job: Teacher of Geography

House: Thornton

Currently Reading: The Girl with A Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larsson

A favourite film: Harry Potter

Interesting fact about me: I love Chelsea Football Club!



What I like about working at The Elms Academy: The school fosters a welcoming environment where everyone is embraced and encouraged to thrive, often surpassing their own expectations.

### Key Dates for Your Diary

Event	Date	Time
Year 9 Parents Evening	Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Sixth Form Open Evening	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024	5.00pm – 7.00pm
INSET Day	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	All Day
Year 8 Parents Evening	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	4.30pm – 7.00pm
Winter Showcase	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	5.00pm – 7.00pm
Academic Awards Evening	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	6.00pm – 8.00pm
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