22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023

## Message from the Principal



We have had a wonderful last week of term at The Elms Academy. I really enjoyed taking 60 students who had received golden postcards this term, on a trip to the cinema on Monday. This was in recognition of their outstanding hard work and consistent demonstration of our values of determination, ambition, and integrity. We hope that you enjoy receiving the postcards that are sent home by staff to celebrate your child's effort and achievement. Please continue to encourage students to being their postcards to me, once they receive ten, so that they can receive their golden postcard and go on the list for the golden postcard trip which happens once a term.

On Tuesday, we were treated to a number of brilliant performances in the Winter Snowcase. This was an opportunity for our students to showcase their musical talent. We were all blown away by the performances, and it was great to see so many parents, students, and staff there to support the performers. We were even treated to a sneak preview of the Matilda musical which will be on show in February. I am certain that this will be a real hit! I would like to thank all performers

and the performing arts staff team who worked tirelessly to put on such a fabulous show.

We hosted our first ever annual Academic Awards night on Wednesday where we celebrated students who last year, in Years 7-13 excelled in the various subject areas. We welcomed staff, parents, current students, and welcomed back students who have left us to start their undergraduate courses at some of the country's most prestigious universities. We commended their ambition, determination and commitment to progress and recognised the amount of hard work that goes on behind the scenes to achieve such exceptional attainment. I am already looking forward to this becoming one of the highlights of the academic year for years to come. And it will be lovely to see some of our current Year 7 students being recognised for their achievement at the awards in 2024!

Lastly, as we approach the festive season, I want to extend my warmest wishes to you and your families. May this holiday break be filled with joy, laughter, and cherished moments with your loved ones, and a chance for some rest and rejuvenation. I also want to take a moment to acknowledge that this can be a challenging time for many. Please remember that we are always here to support our families. I would like to thank our students and parents who have contributed to our food bank collection and donated money to buy presents for children who are less fortunate. As we bid farewell to the current year, let's embrace the promise of a fresh start in the coming one. There is much to look forward to at our school, and I am excited about the continued growth and success of our students. Thank you for your ongoing support and see you in 2024!



### Winter 'Snowcase'

On Tuesday we hosted our annual Winter show where family, friends and staff were treated to a variety of amazing performances by students in Year 7-13. There were some beautiful vocal solos and duets, Saxophone and Piano solos, a performance of 'Bella Ciao' by our talented KS3 Elms Band and a rendition of 'Last Christmas' by the Elms Voices. Some highlights included the captivating performance by our three Year 9 superstars who performed Stormzy's 'Blinded by Your Grace' with such energy and passion, and our Year 7 choir who sang so beautifully. The show was closed by our GCSE and BTEC Music students in Year 10 and 11 who gave us a roaring Samba finale. We are so proud of every single student who took part in the 'snowcase' and look forward to the next Performing Arts production (the Disney musical, Matilda) on the  $22^{nd}$  and  $23^{rd}$  February.













# The Elms Academy

# **NEWSLETTER**

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### **Academic Awards Ceremony**

We are delighted to share the resounding success of our recent Academic Awards Evening, an event that celebrated the outstanding achievements and scholarly accomplishments of our students. The evening was a true testament to the hard work, perseverance, and intellectual prowess displayed by our exceptional students. The school hall was abuzz with excitement and pride as we recognized and honoured individuals who consistently demonstrated excellence in their academic pursuits in every subject last year. The atmosphere was filled with a sense of camaraderie and inspiration, as students, parents, and teachers came together to celebrate the pursuit of knowledge and the pursuit of success. The Academic Awards Evening not only acknowledged the achievements of our students but also reinforced the importance of education as a cornerstone for personal and collective growth. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the awardees and express gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this remarkable event.













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### **Scholar's Odyssey**

Students in 8A completed the final stage of their 'Scholar's Odyssey' project this week by presenting their 'creative responses' to a book they had chosen to read. Students used their oracy skills to proudly present artworks, models and poetry based on characters and plot twists. It was a real joy to see students support each other through these presentations and the range of books that students had read!

Lejon Miles-Miller

#### **Lost on Mars**

On Mars, a soul, stranded and forlorn, Red echoes of loneliness, like a thorn, Dreaming of home, tears in their eyes, Under Martian skies, a heartfelt sigh

Solitude's weight, heavy on the heart, Yearning for Earth, where emotions start,

In the cold, red dust, a silent cry Lost on Mars, where echoes never die. **Amara Coley** 

#### The Inside

It's normal that you shed a tear, when first I took my leave
But I like it where I am,
So there is no need to grieve

I was a captain who travelled the seven seas I caught a sickness in my lungs, kidneys and knees

The sight that surrounds me would take your breath away
The colour that I can't describe reminds me of a rose bouquet

'Don't worry' they say with such cheerful tones Knowing that I don't have long to go

Don't worry about the things you have said to me
I only forgive and forget, no need to plead

Just place your heart upon my grave And remember always to be brave Habiba Diallo

#### Villain in Disguise

A villain in disguise
A wolf among sheep
He speaks only in lies
As he puts caution to sleep
The enemy within
The darkest of his kind
The Devil calls him kin
Demons are never far behind

A villain in disguise
A wolf among the sheep
From darkness he did rise
And our soul he's come to reap
The Demon silver-tongued
The deceiver from below
When the final bells have rung
His truest form shall show

The mark of hell shall be Shown upon his face And all shall see The deceiver oft foretold The bringer of the end New horrors yet untold Upon earth shall descend

A villain in disguise
A wolf among the sheep
From hell he shall rise
The world is his to reap



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### **Food Bank donations and Tutor Group presents**

Thank you all so much for your generosity and thoughtfulness with the Tutor group presents and Food Bank donations. The presents were donated to the Grove Adventure Playground in Loughborough Junction. They had a Christmas party on Saturday where Santa delivered all the gift's they received from us. The children had a wonderful day and the staff passed on their thanks for making such a difference to the Christmas experience for local children.









### Support over the festive season

The team at Kooth Digital Health are on hand to provide support for anyone over the festive season. They are aware that there will be some young people who may struggle during the holidays without the access to the daily pastoral support, trusted adults and friends that the school community provides. Equally, seasonal illness and the closure of many services at this time of year can lead to extended wait times across both adult and young people's NHS and community services. Their service will remain open for students to access at any time over the winter period as shown below.

#### www.kooth.com



### **Key Dates for Your Diary**

Event	Date	Time
Last day of Term	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Half day - Students leaving at 12.30pm
INSET day	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	All Day
Start of term	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	8.25am
Year 11 Parents Evening	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	4.30pm – 7.00pm



