

“A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment”

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London, 06th January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope you and your family had a restful, joyful and exciting holiday. Students came back to Phoenix College with big smiles on their faces and ready to learn! It was great to see how easily most students transitioned back to their routines. All courses restarted this week and work placements will resume next week.

Coming back from a long break can be difficult for some students and I have been liaising with some families on strategies for transitions. If your child is struggling with transitioning back to College, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I have added some great photos from our **Winter Fayre** and **Stay Up Late** events to this letter. I hope you enjoy it!

NEURODIVERSE PEOPLE IN EMPLOYMENT

At Phoenix College we are very proud to support our students to find their pathways to employment. Our Carers Lead, **Natasha Wood**, would also like to increase the opportunities that we offer as an employer to neurodiverse professionals so we have started a new programme. Every term, we are going to hire at least one neurodiverse consultant!

This week we had Jorik Mol with us for two days. Jorik is a qualified teacher and trainer, consultant, speaker and mentor.

During our INSET Day on Tuesday, Jorik delivered his training: Introduction to Autism and Neurodiversity 1. On Wednesday, Jorik spent the day observing our practice during transitions, break and lunch times and observed lessons. It was really important for us to hear feedback from someone in the Autism spectrum and with so much experience in education.

If you would like to know more about Jorik, please visit his website:

<https://www.autangel.org.uk/training/#jorikmol>



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THIS WEEK

All the students are happy to be back at College after the Christmas Holidays. It has been really pleasing to see how energetic and positive Patrick has been this week since returning. He has been helping to support students during sessions and also offering to help staff. Patrick has not stopped smiling this week and he was really excited to show everyone his new glasses! Great start to the new year Patrick well done!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths



WINTER FAYRE – by Alfie Begum, Enterprise Lead



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STAY UP LATE - Genesis Cinema



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Have a great weekend,



Renato Marques
College Principal
Phoenix College

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