

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

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London, 27th January 2023

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you had a nice week. Students had another busy week at Phoenix College and we were very excited to see all class groups attending the Careers Live Event at London Metropolitan University. A big THANK YOU to our **Careers Lead, Natasha Wood**, for organizing this. This was a great opportunity for students to be more visible in our community, to make new connections and develop their networks and to explore new career paths. Some of the employers presenting at the event were The Young V&A, The Switch, Skills 2 Use, Creative Mentor Network, Escape Studios, Blueprint or All and Rich Mix.

NEU TEACHER STRIKES

As you must be aware, the National Education Union (NEU) is planning a series of strikes in the next couple of weeks. The first strike is planned for this coming Wednesday, 1st February. I have been meeting with our team and our Chair of Trustees in order to evaluate if we could keep Phoenix College open to students during the days when NEU is taking industrial action.

It is possible that Phoenix College will be closed for students on Wednesday 1st February and our Admin Team will contact you on Monday with more information on this.

The following dates for planned industrial action are:

- **Thursday, 02nd March**
- **Wednesday, 15th March**
- **Thursday, 16th March**

STAY UP LATE

09th February – 3.15pm to 7.00pm

Students will join their second social twilight, our Stay Up Late programme, at the end of this half-term.

We have now booked Rich Mix for a true Valentine's Disco experience. A big THANK YOU to our **Enterprise Lead, Alfie Begum**, for organizing this.

Please save the date!



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Phoenix Autism Trust (PAT)
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THIS WEEK



Our visit to the Careers Live Event at the Metropolitan University was really exciting. All class member showed genuine interest for different job opportunities and got engaged with different activities. We met students from a different college and talked to a digital art studio about their work. Shakhel shared his gamer experiences with a professional eGamer and had a lovely conversation about jobs related to video games. Students would have been happy to stay much longer and discover more but unfortunately we have been on a tight schedule. It was inspiring for all of us to meet keen professionals from various jobs and different industries.

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor



This week for Festive Friday, we chose Maryam Amjad. She has been amazing in all the sessions this week and she has been leading our Zones of Regulation activity by asking her friends how they are feeling. She has improved her interaction with her friends during all the sessions and during lunch clubs. Well done, Maryam!

Elena Vata, Beauty Therapy Instructor

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Our students attended the Careers Live Event yesterday at London Metropolitan University this week. They engaged with different employers, learning about the different jobs and opportunities they provide gathering information and asking questions. The students also interacted with other students from OneLab College and were fascinated by the designs they created. It was a great experience for our students who had great fun and enjoyed all the freebies on offer!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths

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We are having a great January in our class. All students have been working tremendously hard in all areas. We have set great personal targets with each of our students and that will help them to gain knowledge and skills that will support them at College and in future work placements. Week after week all the students have shown progress: this week Sanjida Khan has been the student of the week. Sanjida has shown huge confidence when speaking and approaching different people at Tate Modern. At college, Sanjida has been supporting the staff team with setting up classrooms for sessions. Sanjida has also been working with different peers in class, helping them when they need. During morning tutorials. Sanjida has been very confident in answering questions and giving her peers time to answer and supporting them with their AAC devices. We are extremely proud of all the students!

Mohammed Ahmed, Catering Instructor

Have a wonderful weekend,



Renato Marques
College Principal
Phoenix College

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