

*"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"*

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**London, 05<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Dear parents and carers,

I hope you enjoyed the May Day celebrations last weekend. Phoenix College's ambition is that every single student will graduate with a clear pathway to supported employment and we could not have had a more inspiring week after the International Worker's Day.

Our students were very excited to attend the LET'S WORK Fair yesterday. Our **Careers Lead, Natasha Wood**, organized a whole college trip to the fair and our students did a brilliant job by meeting employers and planning for the future! Please see some great stories below.

**Please remember that Phoenix College will be closed on Mondays 8<sup>th</sup> of May for the coronation bank holidays.**

#### **FREEDOM PASSES**

We are rapidly approaching the end of the academic year and unfortunately not all students have their Freedom Passes yet. **As mentioned in my letters to you since September, all students must have their Freedom Passes with them when attending Phoenix College.**

**Students that do not have a Freedom Pass might not be able to enrol to Phoenix College next academic year.**

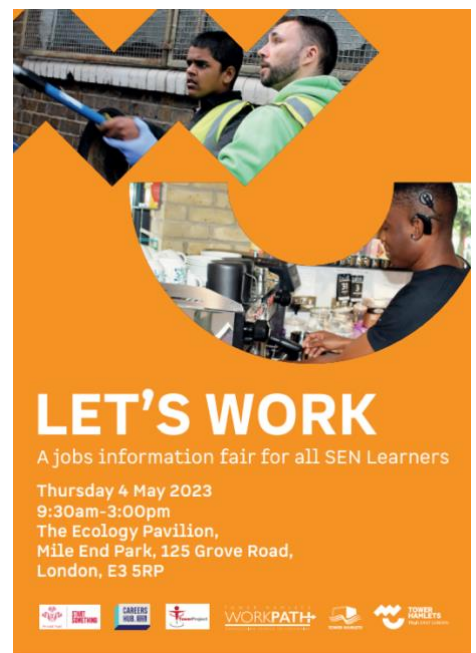
**All our students have the right to travel for free with their Freedom Pass and that is an essential part of our curriculum.**

#### **OPEN HOUSE**

**MONDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> May – 3.15pm to 7.00pm**

Our next Open House is approaching rapidly and we are looking forward to welcoming again current, former and potential students, their parents and families. This term's Open House will take place on the 22nd of May.

**Please save the date!**



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**THIS WEEK**



We had a great time at the LET’S WORK careers fair at the Ecology Pavilion in Mile End. The weather was lovely so we decided to walk to the job fair. We showed off our Travel Training skills. We walked together and crossed the roads safely. The job fair was very busy and staff and the volunteers were very friendly and helpful. All the students were interacting with the different employers - they used their AACs to ask questions and communicate with the employers and joined in with the small activities held at different stalls. I was proud of each student, especially with Norah. This is Norah’s final year at Phoenix College and Norah has learnt many new skills and undertaken different work experiences during her time here. It was amazing to see Norah going round independently with her friend Ryan to each company and introducing herself. Together, we have made some future potential connections for supported employment for our students.

**Mohammed Ahmed, Catering Instructor**

Our Festive Friday goes to... **Maryam Amjad** and **Tryphene Kenga** for all their excellent work this week! They have built an excellent relationship/friendship together by interacting and supporting with one another. During the job



fair yesterday, they supported each other and engaged with potential future employers. They chose together which small gifts to take in their bags. From the pictures, you can be seen how happy they were and the excellent rapport they built together. Well done, Maryam Amjad and



Tryphene Kenga! Keep up the good work.

**Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor**

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This week our students visited the Ecology Pavilion to attend the 'LET'S WORK Careers Fair Event'. It was an opportunity for our students to have meaningful conversations with employers from different companies. **Kameela** and **Ifti** gave a great account of themselves and Phoenix College by having multiple encounters with employers. They showed great confidence in speaking to others and asking for information for them to record on their worksheets. Great work from them both and the entire class!

**Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor**



Our visit to the LET'S WORK Careers Fair at the Mile End Ecology Pavilion was full of exciting moments. Students were engaged in great conversations with the representants of famous catering, hospitality and transport companies. After trying out some coffee from a local roaster, we spoke to members of one of the country's biggest catering companies, and even sat behind the steering wheel of a diesel engine (thank you, **Tahmid** for the information) Stagecoach bus. **Kelly** was interested in Travelodge as she is already working in a hotel (SnoozeBox). **Fida** approached many different stands independently and collected useful information on his worksheet. For sure this was a very memorable day!

**Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor**



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**Aston** and **Ilyas** have worked very hard during their *Horticulture* session today. They have been weeding the lawn area and following introductions very well. They have improved a great deal of garden maintenance skills.

**Rezuana Khan, Horticulture Lead**



Have a lovely weekend and I hope you enjoy the coronation long weekend!



**Renato Marques**  
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