

“A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment”

Phoenix Autism Trust Offices
49 Bow Road, Bow, London, E3 2AD
Telephone: 020 8980 4740

Phoenix College
2 Paton Close, Bow, London, E3 2QD
Telephone: 0204 546 7710

QMUL Project SEARCH Campus
329 Mile End Road, Mile End, London, E1 4NT
Telephone: 073 6810 0118

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Dear parents, carers and families

What a fantastic half-term! Many students and staff have told me that this has been their favourite half-term so far. The curriculum and system updates that we have put in place after our great Monitoring Visit from OFSTED have helped students to achieve even more – especially with our new baseline system, identifying strengths and areas for improvement in each individual course.

I am excited to share this and other updates with you in September when we will have put in place all the curriculum updates. Meanwhile, I look forward to seeing you on the 6th June for our Parents and Carers Forum.

Please remember that college will be closed for students on Monday 5th of June (INSET TRAINING DAY). After the half-term, students will return to Phoenix College on Tuesday 6th June.

PARENTS AND CARERS FORUM

TUESDAY, 06th June – 4pm to 5pm

During our next Parents Forum we will discuss the calendar for social twilights in the next academic year.

Our proposal is to add two new social twilights to our calendar by removing one term time day. Our social twilights would be:

Term One: 1 Open House, 1 Cinema Trip

Term Two: 1 Open House, 1 Cinema Trip, 1 Valentine’s Disco

Term Three: 1 Open House, 1 Cinema Trip, 1 Graduation Party

In order to add two extra social twilights, we would move the hours from one term day. Term days would change from 180 days to 179 days.

I look forward to seeing all of you on Tuesday 6th June. You can attend the Forum remotely or face-to-face.

OPEN HOUSE

Thank you to all parents and carers that attended our last Open House for this academic year on Monday. It was a great opportunity for families and carers to discuss and celebrate the achievements of our young people. We also had new students and their families visiting us. What a fun evening!

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LAST WEEKEND – 5K RUN!



It was very busy before the race and I felt nervous, but when started running I felt ok. I had to run very fast. When I was out of breath I walked for a bit. In the end I was very proud I did it. I also got a medal.

Thomas Waterton, Student

THIS WEEK

Elena's class had a great term – it has been a pleasure to see the energy displayed in all lessons. Staff have celebrated how focused and determined our students have been, especially during *Fitness, Self-Care* and *Catering* where students have engaged in many different activities. We are confident that this is an excellent achievement by everyone and all stakeholders can be proud as well. We wish for everyone to have a great half-term break where we will have time to reflect and energize as we move forward in the summer term. Have a great half-term!



Elena, Anila, Muhammed and Halima – Elena's Class Team

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This term in *Keeping Safe* sessions we have been focusing on Relationships and Friendships. The students have really enjoyed this topic and got really involved with discussions, giving their understanding and opinions. The small discussions have helped students to learn how to express themselves, consent and how to make friends. During tea and lunch breaks, this has given the students the confidence to approach each other, make new friends and taught them how to start a conversation with new people. Super proud of each and every one of them. Well done!!!!

Mohammed Ahmed, Catering Instructor



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This term, Thomas has been working very hard during the *Horticulture* sessions. He is always looking for new opportunities to get involved in gardening. He has also followed instructions to endeavour and improve his gardening skills. He has been helping his classmates to build the herbs planter.

Rezuana Khan, Horticulture Lead

NOTE: Thomas was our very first student to be offered a paid supported work position! Thomas is a great role model to all our students and he is helping to shape supported employment pathways to all our students.

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We have approached our final term of this academic year. Another great term as all the students have been working so hard in all sessions. All the students have been giving their best, learning new skills and experiencing the world of work, when out on work placements.

This term in *Digital World* we learned about many aspects of Online Streaming. This includes using web cameras, identifying different video and audio content on the computer and navigating through various streaming platforms safely. Frank's Class showed great understanding of what Online Streaming means and why it is important to curtail it in our daily life. We visited music and movie websites to put their content in different categories and identified how these contents makes us feel. We joined live broadcasts from all around the UK and played some webcam games to practice how to use our equipment efficiently.

Fida worked independently in every single session and was especially great with collecting and organising information, Lisa always helped supporting staff to explain complex tasks to the class and Mohamed enjoyed finding content of his interest on unfamiliar websites. Well done everyone, keep working hard!

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor

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The students from all four classes were active in *Fitness* this term! Students were given Assistant Coach roles each week and were given the opportunity to demonstrate teamwork and leadership skills setting up events, locating sports equipment and leading warm up activities. Students were also tasked with doing research during fitness, displaying good IT skills by researching the correct sports equipment for sporting events. This has been a good term building up for our community-based **Sports Day** event next term! Great work from all students and staff from all four classes!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor



Have a wonderful half-term break,



Renato Marques
College Principal
Phoenix College

Paton Close, London E3 2QE
phoenixcollege.london Tel: 020 4546 7710



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Paton Close Bow London E3 2QE | 020 4546 7710

admin@phoenixcollege.london | www.phoenixcollege.london



Phoenix Autism Trust (PAT)

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