

“A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment”

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London, 16th June 2023

Dear parents, carers and families,

“The summer is magic!”, said Playahitty a long time ago. Students have made the most of the remarkable summer weather and spent a lot of time outdoors. It has been great to see students and staff enjoying outdoor London so much. The heat also brings challenges, especially around personal care: please see a bit more about that below.

It is very important that your child wears light clothes and sun cream during these hot days. Our team has been making sure that students keep hydrated during their time at Phoenix College.

GRADUATION PARTY

Thursday, 20th July from 4pm-6.30pm

Please save the date for our last social twilight/Stay Up Late event!

PARENTS FORUM

Thank you for those of you that attended our second Parents Forum today. We had the opportunity to discuss our proposal for the social twilights in the next academic year and to look at our final staff structure.

I have also added some good news stories to my presentation.

All parents that attended our two Parents Forum agreed with our proposal and we are delighted to add two more social twilights to our calendar.

Our social twilights will 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 will move the hours from one term day. Term days will change from 180 days to 179 days.

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THIS WEEK



Over the coming weeks students will be taking part in an **All Ability Bikeworks** cycling session. Ability Cycling Clubs are designed for people with learning, physical and/or sensory disabilities to enjoy cycling on a range of adapted cycles. As part of the registration process, they will take some basic personal details and a (digital) consent form will be signed. The information they ask for is only what is required for safeguarding purposes or monitoring information which will be anonymised and sent to their funders. This is a great opportunity for students to take part in a fun and social healthy activity, which they can hopefully then continue throughout the holidays and onwards.

Sarah Spiro, Teacher

This week’s Festive Friday goes to Thomas Davies! Thomas self-confidence has improved greatly this term. He is becoming more independent when completing tasks. During our *Catering* session, Thomas was able to follow a three visual steps recipe with minimal support. This week, Thomas has been attending different work placements and he has been proactive but also following all the instruction given by staff. We received good feedback from his Job Coach and employers. He completes a range of tasks set out by Mudchute Farm’s staff with increasing independence.

Have a lovely weekend!

Elena's Team: Elena (Self-Care Instructor), Anila (Job Coach), Muhammed (Job Coach) and Halima (TA)



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We had a great visit to ArtBox this week. ArtBox is an inspiring charity that works with neurodiverse artists. You should see their work, it is absolutely beautiful! **Madeline Alterman, Co-Director**, showed us the beautiful creative space, with a special area where the artists can pack their paintings for online sales and art fairs. They have exhibited at the Affordable Art Fair and Freeze. What a treat!

Our **job coach Toyin Olubamiwós** used to be an artist there and now she works for ArtBox three days per week. The beautiful and colourful artwork that you can see in the background is from Toyin. **Renato Marques**



Samiya's attendance at college has improved greatly the last couple weeks! She has been progressing really well with her targets, trying to become more independent by completing tasks without support and following job checklists. Samiya has also been working really well with other peers in her class when out on class trips, community-based learning and guided reading sessions. It has been a pleasure to see Samiya coming into college consistently! Keep up the good work, Samiya!



Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor

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Summer is finally here and with the hotter days, we need to pay extra attention to self-care. That does not only mean drinking enough water or resting long enough in the shade but washing our body thoroughly as well. Every student manages self-care mostly independently in Frank's class, but we know it is important to speak about personal hygiene a bit more during a heatwave. We created a plan with students about what is the ideal way to arrive to work placements clean and neat. We also wrote a shopping list and went to buy cleaning products at the beginning of this week. Staff and students were very pleased with the results: on Thursday morning, every student wore clean clothes and our class smelled really nice. Well done, Everybody!

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor



Have a cool weekend,



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