

*"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"*

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**London, 06<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Dear parents, carers and families,

I would like to start this letter with a big **THANK YOU** to our **Assistant Principals, Rick Nunn and Natasha Wood**, for covering for me this week. We are really lucky to have such a strong **Senior Leadership Team**.

This week, Rick and Natasha participated in Learning Walks and the feedback on our courses has been very positive. Learning Walks are a short visit to classes in preparation for the Termly Lesson Observations that will happen in December with an external NATSPEC consultant and OFSTED inspector. I am really looking forward to those!

#### **FREEDOM PASSES**

As mentioned in my letters to you last academic year, all students must have their Freedom Passes with them when attending Phoenix College. We have contacted all parents, carers and families with reminders about this.

**This academic year, students will only be able to attend Phoenix College if they have their Freedom Passes.**

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

#### **OPEN HOUSE**

**THURSDAY, 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – 4pm to 7pm**

Our Open House is open to all current, former and prospective students, parents, carers and families. Our focus on this first term will be on Year 1 parents, carers, families and students though.

Open Houses are a great chance for parents, carers and families to learn more about the progress that students are making at Phoenix College and for students to see their friends – current and former students!

#### **STAY UP LATE**

**WEDNESDAY, 20<sup>th</sup> December – 3.15pm to 7pm**

Our next Open House is taking place on the 20<sup>th</sup> December! We are really looking forward to our first **movie night** at **Genesis Cinema!**

**Please save the date!**

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### TNIY BIT

'Tiny bit' is an app which seeks to offer a unified, all-inclusive solution for people with cognitive disabilities and their access to technology.

Ways in which our students could use the app:

- Write to do lists;
- Create and follow a calendar;
- Find locations using digital maps;
- Record their mood and send notifications to parents/carers;
- Translate text into speech;
- Set alarms;
- Watch motivational videos.



For students who are able to access a smartphone, we would encourage for them to have their own device as this can be vital in facilitating independence in modern life.

If you think that your child would benefit from using the TinyBit app, please support your child to download the app from the app store and inform the class instructor via the home college book. Staff will then support your child in using the app's many features.

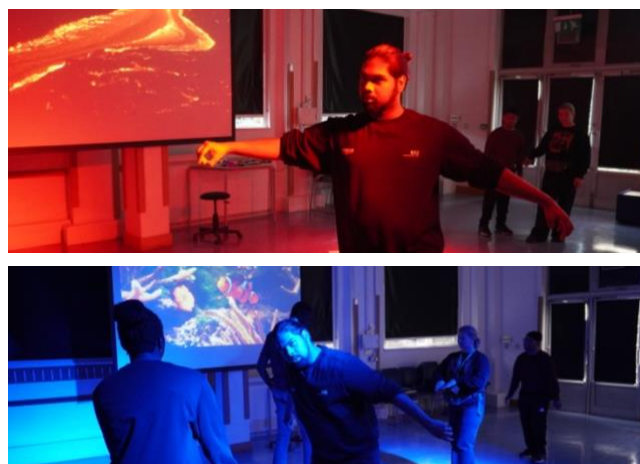
If you need any further information. Please feel free to contact me at college.

**Rick Nunn, Assistant Principal – Quality of Education**

### THIS WEEK

This week, **Ifti** has shown a great example to the whole class about how to focus on tasks. He managed to direct his great energy into work and encouraged peers to engage with activities. He modelled several different exercises to his friends at *Drama Enrichment* on Wednesday afternoon and used his fantastic communication skills to lead activities. Thanks to his enthusiasm, every student understood quickly how to play pantomime about job activities, jump on floating rock in a "floor is lava" game and how to create geometrical shapes with a single line of rope.

**Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor**



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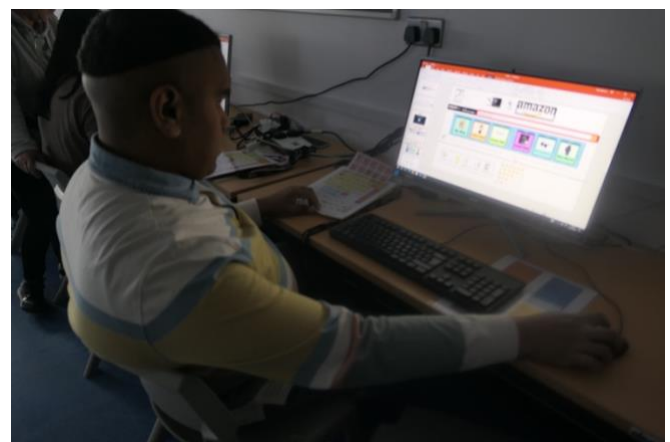
Syeda is doing really well engaging in group activities in class and out in the community. Her confidence is growing, being able to demonstrate her work or skills in front of everyone or being part of a small group to complete a task. Staff have noticed she is trying to come out of her comfort zone and is coming to college with a smile on her face. Well done, Syeda!

**Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor**



Another great week in Elena's Class! All students were enthusiastic and engaged in every session. This week's Festive Friday goes to Yaminur! We received very good feedback from Frank, our eLearning Instructor as Yaminur has excelled in Digital World. He was able to type all the products that he had on his shopping list and put them in the basket independently. Yaminur has also improved his communication skills as he has been using new vocabulary like swimming, lunch, good, shopping, happy, walking and many other word. Great work, Yaminur. Well done!

**Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor**





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This has been a great week in Mo's class. All students have been engaged and focused on lessons. This week in particular, Mo's class have really enjoyed *Expressive Arts* with Rick, where we have been taking part in drumming circles. Each student is learning the importance of waiting, turn-taking and how this helps when taking part in a drumming circle and using different rhythms. Mo's class have also really enjoyed *Fitness* with Darren. During our *Fitness* sessions, all students are learning different football techniques. The class were set several tasks which help improve their coordination skills and learning how to work as a team; working together, supporting each other and turn-taking. One student in particular showed great focus and development with their skill set of handling a football. The student who really took their fitness/football session with effort and pride is **Soheli**. Well done, Soheli! Keep up the good work.

**Mich Leece, Job Coach**



Have a fantastic weekend,



**Renato Marques**  
College Principal  
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