

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

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London, 03rd November 2023

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome back! It was fantastic to have students back to Phoenix College this week. I hope you all had a great half-term break.

On Tuesday, we had a very special INSET Day where we reviewed the achievement data for the first half-term for each student. It was great to see the improved percentages on achievement when comparing this with last year's data. A huge thank you to our **Assistant Principal, Rick Nunn**, for leading on that. We also had our annual recap training on rescue medication for epilepsy. It was fantastic to see our new members of staff gaining more skills to support our students.

Please note that we have renovation works taking place at our reception so students are using an alternative route to enter the building at the moment.

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.

STAY UP LATE

WEDNESDAY, 20th December – 3.15pm to 7pm

Our next twilight is taking place on the 20th December! We are really looking forward to our first **movie night at Genesis Cinema!** Please do support your child to choose which movie they would like to watch on that day.

STAY UP LATE

THURSDAY, 18th January – 3.15pm to 7pm

This is going to be our second **movie night at Genesis Cinema. Students are very excited to see a different movie every term.** This will be another opportunity for students to choose the movie that we will watch.

STAY UP LATE

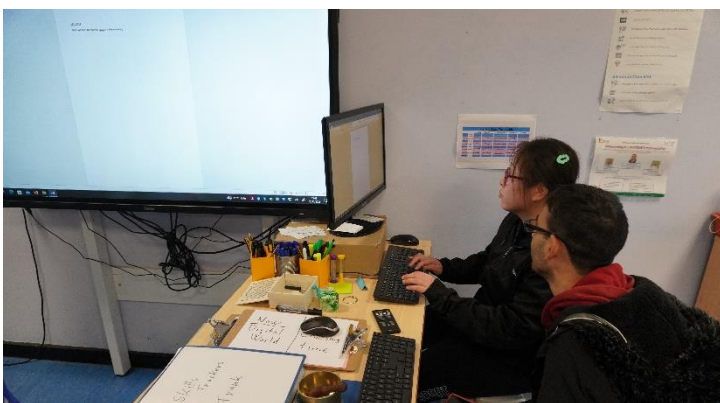
WEDNESDAY, 07th February – 3.15pm to 7pm

Valentine's Disco!

Please save these dates!

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THIS WEEK



It has been great to see all the students back at college this week. Despite the rain, Elena's class have had a very positive start to the term and shown some fantastic communication and friendship skills this week. **Maryam Amjad** in particular has worked hard this week to support her friends in the classroom by telling them what equipment they need in sessions, helping them to answer questions and tidying up her own and others work areas to a high standard. During a trip to Westfield on Thursday, the class was practicing choosing shoes in their size and identifying types of shoes for different occasions. Maryam found a pair of trainers she liked (only pink will do), selected her size with some support, enjoyed trying them on and showing her friends; and tidied them away onto the shelf when she was finished. Well done, Maryam - It is great to see you helping and talking to all of your friends at college.

During the week we witnessed **Shaquil's** exceptional leadership skills. He demonstrated great understanding of responsibility, compassion and empathy, setting example for his classmates. He was keen to lead discussions during *Politics and Culture* and *Digital World*, and even resolved conflicts. He fostered the sense of unity during our Halloween Party as the DJ and he helped to organize the Drama Hall for this event. He also volunteered to check if every laptop is on charge after *Digital World*. Thanks to Shaquil's leadership skills and resilience, this week in Fank's Class was full of achievements and heart-warming moments!

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor



Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor

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What a great way to start the term. The students requested a Halloween Party. We took the responsibility to prepare a delicious pumpkin soup and a pumpkin curry for the party. We went to our local supermarket to buy some pumpkins for our *Cooking* sessions. **Patrick** worked extremely hard to prepare a pumpkin to be carved for the decoration. Very proud of each and every one, working independently and following instructions. The students really showed off their kitchen skills, peeling, chopping, blending, boiling and using the hob safely. This half term we will continue with our brunch theme. Students will be learning to prepare healthy simple breakfast meals independently. Well done to everyone, super proud.

Mohammed Ahmed, Catering Instructor



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This week, both **Syeda** and **Patrick** demonstrated exceptional communication skills and active participation in various activities. Syeda's notable strides in communication were evident during *Keeping Safe*. She confidently interacted with staff and students, using a structured questionnaire to inquire about their internet habits. She worked really well with **Hamda** who provided valuable support when needed. Syeda's development in verbal expression marks a step forward in her interpersonal skills. Patrick's vibrant energy was the highlight of this week also. He showed enthusiasm in participating in courses, including *Cooking* and *Fitness*. He helped prepare a delicious pumpkin curry for the Halloween Party and demonstrated his eagerness to explore a new sporting activity, badminton. Well done, Syeda and Pat!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor

Have a great weekend,



Renato Marques
College Principal
Phoenix College

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