

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

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London, 03rd May 2024

Dear parents, carers and families,



Our trip to **Genesis Cinema** was so much fun! Our **Stay Up Late** programme has been a great success and many of our students have now chosen to add a trip to the cinema to their **Future Timetables**. Taking part in a fun, safe and regular social evening out has also impacted the behaviour and social skills of many of our students at home, as reported by parents, carers and families. We have received a great deal of feedback on students being more independent and social when out and about with their families and carers.

This week we are also celebrating the great success of our swimming sessions and a fantastic pizza-making workshop with Pizza Pilgrims this afternoon. Please see below celebrations for swimming and I will share photos of the workshop with you next week.

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 – TRANSITION FAIR

WEDNESDAY, 19th June – 3.15pm to 7pm

Open House to all parents. The main focus for our last Open House for this academic year will be the transitions for leavers.

STAY UP LATE – GRADUATION PARTY!

THURSDAY, 18th July – 3.15pm to 7pm

Graduation party!

Please save these dates!

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THIS WEEK



During our cinema trip, **Tahmid** showed us all what it means to be patient, enthusiastic and kind. Tahmid amazed us with his improved self-awareness skills and his great excitement for the movie. Not only did Tahmid really enjoy the film, but he also demonstrated patience and encouraged his classmates to join in the fun. His enthusiasm was infectious and he even motivated his peers to review the movie afterwards. The analyses provided by Tahmid and his classmates will be featured in our upcoming **Student Magazine**! It is truly inspiring to see our students supporting each other and showcasing their talents.

I must also praise the entire class for their fantastic behaviour during the cinema trip. They all showed maturity and had a wonderful time together.

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor

"Although change can be anxiety-provoking for people on the autism spectrum, visual supports, a calm environment, extra time to adjust, and parent/carers support can go a long way in helping students adjust to unexpected change. All these factors will help prepare your child to be more flexible and tolerant of change."

This week, we are celebrating **Ilyas El-Briouki** for being flexible and getting through a busy week. Even though his schedule changed a bit and he stayed up late for our trip to the movies, he handled it well. When things "do not go as planned", we help each other out and figure things out together. We learn to ask for help and come up with ways to deal with changes. It is important to support each other and celebrate when we succeed. Ilyas has been really kind and helpful to his classmates and others around the college. He has shown care by assisting staff when there were small changes or unexpected situations, reminding everyone to stay calm and follow instructions. Keep up the great work, Ilyas!



Mo Ahmed, Catering Instructor

Ilyas

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Our students had a great week! The students in Mo's and Elena's class loved swimming. It was nice to see them interacting and having fun together inside the pool. Some students are feeling more confident in the water and getting better at swimming. They also went to the Cinema this week to watch **Kung Fu Panda 4**. It was a fun way for the students to hang out together outside of Phoenix College. Have a great bank holiday weekend!

Darren, Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor



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This week we are excited to shine a spotlight on our students who are currently attending **Work Placements**. These opportunities allow them to apply their classroom knowledge in real-world settings, enhancing both their learning and personal development. Each student has embraced their placement with enthusiasm and professionalism, making significant contributions to their respective work environment. It is inspiring to see them flourish and gain practical skills that will serve them well in their future careers. **Aston** has recently started a new work placement. He has become familiar with different work tasks and he has been following instructions from the Job Coach. Many employers have expressed appreciation for the exceptional attention to detail our students demonstrate and well done to everyone for their hard work.

Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor



Have a great bank holiday weekend,



Renato Marques
College Principal
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