

"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

London, 14th June 2024

Dear parents, carers and families,

After our successful OFSTED full-inspection last week, students had a busy week at Phoenix College. It was great to see students celebrating their conduct during the inspection and showing all the skills, behaviours and knowledge that they have acquired over the last three years.

Staff also had a busy week as myself, our **Assistant Principal – Rick Nunn** and our teachers, **Sarah Spiro** and **Helen Gillan** attended the NATSPEC Conference 2024. NATSPEC is the National Association of Specialist Colleges and this conference was very inspiring and thought-provoking.

I look forward to seeing all of you during our **Transition Fair next week**. Please see the letter attached.

Please remember that Phoenix College will be closed on Monday 17th June for Eid.

Students will return to College on Tuesday 18th June.

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!

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

THIS WEEK



We have exciting news to share about **Ifti**! He has been working hard and has achieved something wonderful. He started working at the famous **Ottolenghi** restaurant not too long ago. Initially, he worked just one day a week, but thanks to his dedication and hard work, he now works three days a week! This is a fantastic accomplishment, and we are all very proud of him. Ifti is thrilled about his job at Ottolenghi. He is learning a lot about food preparation, and he is also earning money for his hard work. This experience is not only helping him gain valuable skills but also boosting his confidence.

In this week's Digital World session, Ifti showed his creativity by using AI to write a short story. The prompt he used was "Strong, Kind, Restaurant Worker." The story he created was truly inspiring and reflected his own journey and aspirations. It was amazing to see how he combined his real-life experiences with his imagination to produce such a heartfelt story.

Frank Kasa, eLearning Instructor

Ifti's short story:

"As the sun set behind the bustling city, the aroma of delicious food wafted through the air. Inside the **Kind Strong Worker Restaurant**, Maria worked tirelessly, her hands moving with grace and precision as she prepared each dish. Despite the long hours and demanding customers, Maria always had a smile on her face. She believed in the power of kindness and hard work, and it showed in every aspect

Insert Your Story here

As the sun set behind the bustling city, the aroma of delicious food wafted through the air. Inside the Kind Strong Worker Restaurant, Maria worked tirelessly, her hands moving with grace and precision as she prepared each dish. Despite the long hours and demanding customers, Maria always had a smile on her face. She believed in the power of kindness and hard work, and it showed in every aspect of the restaurant. But as fate would have it, one night a group of rowdy customers entered, causing chaos and destruction. Maria's kindness was put to the test as she calmly diffused the situation and won the hearts of the unruly group. Her strength and kindness not only saved the night, but also earned her a loyal following. From that day on, the Kind Strong Worker Restaurant became known not only for its delicious food, but also for its kind and strong employees who made every dining experience a memorable one.

Insert a Picture for your Story here



of the restaurant. But as fate would have it, one night a group of rowdy customers entered, causing chaos and destruction. Maria's kindness was put to the test as she calmly diffused the situation and won the hearts of the unruly group. Her strength and kindness not only saved the night, but also earned her a loyal following. From that day on, the **Kind Strong Worker Restaurant** became known not only for its delicious food, but also for its kind and strong employees who made every dining experience a memorable one."

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

I am pleased to share that our students had a very productive week filled with engaging activities and meaningful participation. **Mustafa** and **Maryam** have been chosen as Students of the Week for their exceptional engagement and participation in all sessions, especially during the "**Local Offer**" and "**Speak Up**" subjects. Mustafa has consistently used his core board, demonstrating his commitment to effective communication. Meanwhile, Mariam has been incredibly helpful to her peers by providing them with necessary resources, such as fringes. Additionally, during **Travel Training**, our students visited Canary Wharf, where they had the opportunity to play video games, including Mario, and enjoy a game of golf. All of these activities were free, and the staff were extremely helpful and friendly, making the experience enjoyable and enriching for everyone. Have a great weekend and happy Eid!

Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor



As we enter the final half term of this academic year, we reflect on the journeys of our students. Some will be continuing their education at Phoenix College, while a few will be graduating with us in a few weeks. Changes can be daunting, but we have supported our students with numerous life skills, transferable skills, and work experience through college and various work placements. I would like to highlight one of our graduates, **Nae'ma Islam**. I am incredibly proud of Nae'ma's growth into a wonderful, mature young lady. She has become very independent, confident, and expressive. I am confident that Nae'ma will make excellent choices in the future. She is currently completing her work placement at **Starbucks** and is well on her way to securing supported paid employment there. Keep up the great work, Naema. Well done!

Mohammed Ahmed, Catering Instructor

3

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"



Momo was vexcited to go swimming for the first time with his classmates. He demonstrated excellent leadership skills by taking charge of travel safety. Momo ensured everyone knew which bus to take and when to get off, making the journey smooth and organised for the group. Momo has also been demonstrating good work in other subjects. In **Enterprise**, he has shown improvement in his creativity. In **Speak Up**, he is communicating a lot more and in **Self-Care** he is very independent demonstrating routines. Teachers and job coaches have been impressed with Momo's focus, engagement and ability to complete some tasks independently. Well Done Momo!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor



Have a good weekend and Eid Mubarak!



Renato Marques
College Principal
Phoenix College

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



"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

4



Paton Close Bow London E3 2QE | 020 4546 7710
admin@phoenixcollege.london | www.phoenixcollege.london

Phoenix Autism Trust (PAT)
Registered Company no. 09615159 Registered Charity no. 1172227