

"A Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"

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London, 24th October 2024

Dear parents, carers and families,

It is hard to believe that we have already reached the end of the first half of this term. And we are proud to share so many achievements from our students in such a short period of time!

It was marvellous to see so many parents, carers and families yesterday during our first **Open House**. I hope you enjoyed your meetings with teachers, instructors, job coaches, the careers team and leaders to discuss your child's progress during this first half-term. We had 25 families attending our Open House yesterday!

I hope you have a fun half-term break.

Students will return to Phoenix College on Wednesday 6th November.

FREEDOM PASSES

As mentioned in my letters to you since September 2023, 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

STAY UP LATE

WEDNESDAY, 13th November – 4pm to 7pm

Movie Night at Genesis Cinema!

STAY UP LATE

WEDNESDAY, 18th December – 4pm to 7pm

Christmas Party and Movie Night at Genesis Cinema!

Please save these dates!

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THIS WEEK



I would like to say a big "well done" to all the students for working so hard this term. It has been an enjoyable and challenging period, but all students managed exceptionally well. Whether attending work placements or participating in sessions, their efforts have truly stood out. A special mention goes to **Adam** this week for his fantastic leadership in the **Digital World** and **Keeping Safe** sessions. Keep up the great work, Adam! Thank you to all the parents and carers for your continued support and I hope you all have a wonderful and restful half term.

Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor



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After a brief absence, **Tahmid** is back in Frank's class, and we could not be happier to have him with us again. Tahmid brought such good energy this week, brightening up the classroom and inspiring his classmates. In **Fitness**, Tahmid jumped right in and played badminton. It was fantastic to see him engaged and having fun while staying active. His enthusiasm on the court was contagious, and many of his classmates joined in the excitement! Beyond his participation in sports, Tahmid has been impressively self-reflective and focused throughout the week. He has shown a strong desire to improve himself and his organization skills. We have noticed how he is taking steps to be more organized in his studies, which is a fantastic goal. His determination to work hard is commendable and sets a great example for everyone. Tahmid's positive attitude and commitment to his growth are truly inspiring. We look forward to seeing his progress and supporting him on this journey. Let's all continue to encourage each other as we work towards our goals, just like Tahmid is doing! Welcome back, Tahmid! We are thrilled to have you with us again.

Ferenc Kasa, eLearning Instructor



Darren's class has had a fantastic beginning to the college year, with students adjusting well to their new environment. Strong friendships have formed, creating a consistently positive atmosphere within the group. This term, the students have shown exceptional effort in their **Cooking** sessions with our **Catering Instructor**, **Mo Ahmed**. They have been working on identifying ingredients for various breakfast dishes and learning how to combine them to create balanced meals. Additionally, they have focused on developing key skills such as following recipes and safely cracking eggs to make different omelette dishes. As a reward for their hard work over the past few weeks, the class enjoyed a visit to a cafe in Shadwell for a breakfast brunch. Each student had the opportunity to practice taking orders and paying for their own meal, applying the skills they've learning in a real-world setting. A big well done to all the students and staff in Darren's class for their hard work this term. Enjoy your well-deserved half term break!

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Fitness Instructor



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As we reach the end of the first half-term of the 2024-2025 academic year, I would like to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly rewarding time working with the students. It has been an absolute pleasure and a true honour to cook alongside them, and I must say, they have impressed me in so many ways. Whether returning students or new students, everyone has settled in beautifully. It has been fantastic to see them feel so at home in the kitchen, confidently navigating the space and equipment. The level of independence they have shown has been inspiring, and I love when they ask, "Can we try this?" or "Is it okay if we make that?" Their initiative and creativity have added so much to our lessons, and the personalised dishes they have created have been a joy to see. Well done to all our talented chefs! To conclude the term, we have been focusing on breakfast and brunch, experimenting with a variety of omelettes recipes and fillings, paired with different breads like brown bread, pitta, baguettes, muffins, and even crumpets. To celebrate their hard work, we finished the term with a "no cooking, no washing up" week by visiting one of my favourite local spots, Cafe Rosh in Shadwell. Each class had the opportunity to dine together and order a brunch meal, and I could not have been prouder of how they carried themselves. Their independence in choosing their meals, their manners, and how they interacted with each other. The staff at the cafe, along with other customers, were full of praise, commenting on how polite and well-behaved the students were—some even said these were the best young adults they had ever seen! The visit to Cafe Rosh was such a success that we will now make it a part of their **future timetable**. Many students enjoyed the experience so much that they mentioned wanting to return with their families. Looking ahead, I encourage you to continue supporting their independence and passion for cooking at home. Cooking together is a great way to promote healthy eating and build confidence. I am incredibly proud of what they have achieved this term, and I cannot wait to see what they will create next. Thank you for your continued support.

Mohammed Ahmed, Catering Instructor

Have a fantastic half-term break,



Renato Marques
College Principal
Phoenix College

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