

*"A Clear Pathway Towards Independence and Employment"*

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**London, 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Dear parents, carers and families,

We had a very busy week at Phoenix College! On Wednesday we celebrated the **National Supported Internship Day**. On the same day, I joined another three SEN FE providers for our regular **Inner London Small Provisions** meeting. We have also attended an amazing book launch at **UCL: Improving Mental Health Therapies for Autistic Children and Young People**. Please see more below.

On Wednesday we are hosting our now traditional **Eid Party**! Students are encouraged to dress up on that day to share their culture and beliefs.

**Phoenix College will be closed on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March and students will return to lessons on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April.**

#### **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**

**EID PARTY: 1pm-3pm  
WEDNESDAY, 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Please encourage students to dress up for this celebration!

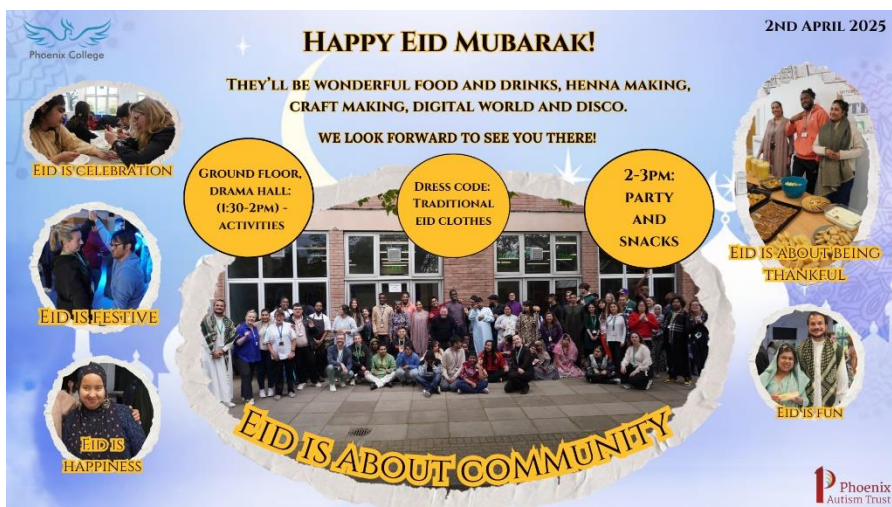
**STAY UP LATE: 4pm-7pm  
WEDNESDAY, 14<sup>th</sup> May**

Our last Movie Night at Genesis Cinema!

**STAY UP LATE: 4pm-7pm  
THURSDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> June**

Open House for all students, parents, carers and families.

**Please save these dates!**



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## THIS WEEK



This week we have taken a different approach in **Cooking**. Not only have students been preparing tasty meals for lunch, they have also been learning about **Hospitality**. All classes have been preparing a balanced lunch. They have made chicken wings, vegetables and potatoes. Students have learned different ways to elevate vegetables such as peppers, onions, mushrooms and carrots, adding different flavours and spices as they season their freshly diced vegetables before cooking them. Doing the

same with their potatoes. In regards to the Hospitality side of the lesson, students have learned to collect all items needed to set up a lunch table and utensils needed to serve the food. **Mo and Darren's class** showed their skills in cleaning the lunch table, helping each other to lay the table cloth, set out the cutlery, plates and cups and making sure that all items were brought on a trolley ready to serve. We have seen a great deal of team work during cooking sessions and how students are focused, ready to learn and execute their newly learned hospitality skills.

**Mohammed Ahmed, Cooking Instructor**





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This week, the students in Darren's class demonstrated excellent teamwork skills during their **Self-Care** sessions. They have been building their confidence in carrying out personal hygiene routines, and this week, they worked in pairs to wash and blow-dry each other's hair. The session showcased strong communication, as students asked for consent, gave clear instructions during the routine, and checked in with each other about the temperature of the water. **Aniqa** has shown great progress not only in these sessions but also in adapting to her personal timetable. **Khadija** also stood out by demonstrating her growing ability to collaborate effectively with others. The class has thoroughly enjoyed the Self-Care sessions this term, and we'd like to extend a special thank you to our Self-Care instructor, **Elena Vata**.

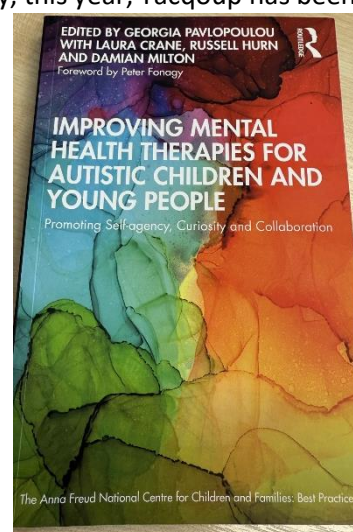
**Anila Xhika, Job Coach**



This week, **Yacqoup** has been **chosen** for his outstanding independent work in most sessions. During **Local Offer**, he confidently shared his work with his peers—an achievement that aligns perfectly with one of his **EHCP targets in friendships and relationships**. He has also demonstrated **excellent digital skills**, using the laptop effectively to complete tasks independently. Additionally, this year, Yacqoup has been attending a **Work Placement at Cemetery Park** with his class, where he enjoys gardening and remains focused and engaged in all activities. It's truly inspiring to see Yacqoup actively participating in sessions and enthusiastically supporting his peers. Well done, Yacqoup!

**Elena Vata, Self-Care Instructor**

Please see on the right the cover for the amazing book by The Anna Freud National Centre, curated by Georgia Pavlopoulou.



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### National Supported Internship Day

This week, **Kelly** once again proved why she is a rising star in our class. Already balancing a paid job at **Lush**, she continues to show dedication to her future by actively selling products at **Spitalfields's Market** every week made by students during our **Enterprise** sessions. On Wednesday, Kelly visited **Clyde & Co**, a prestigious global law firm, where some of our **DFN Project Search** students are already gaining valuable experience. She was there to showcase and sell our student-made products and she absolutely shined! With impressive product knowledge, confidence using IT tools (including the card machine and tablet), and a charming personality, Kelly engaged customers with ease. Her communication skills were exceptional, making her a natural in a professional sales environment. We are incredibly proud of Kelly's ambition, work ethic, and entrepreneurial spirit. Keep up the fantastic work, Kelly!

**Ferenc Kasa, eLearning Instructor**

Graduates from Phoenix College, a key partner of Project SEARCH Queen Mary University, gave an outstanding talk at the **Business Leaders** meeting held at **Portcullis House**, a prominent office building which houses Members of Parliament and their staff. **Imran** and **Juned** spoke about their rich journey dating back to their time at Phoenix School and College right up to their current positions in the workforce. Amongst the business leaders were prominent figures from **Amazon**, one of the largest companies to have paved the way for more businesses to join them in becoming **Disability Confident** employers and leaders. The audience was highly impressed with how well both our graduates articulated their experiences, encouraging employers to think bigger, outside of the box, and not be afraid of diversifying their pool of talents. We are all extremely proud of how our young people are defying the odds, working hard to gain their economic independence and social confidence all the while being a voice for many more young people to follow suit.

**Cigdem Yilmaz (Chi), Projects Manager**

Eid Mubarak for those of you celebrating on Monday,



**Renato Marques**  
College Principal  
Phoenix College

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