

“A Clear Pathway Towards Independence and Supported 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

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Dear parents, carers and families,

A very important part of our students' EHCP targets in **Independence**. That is a key part of **preparation for adulthood** and an exciting element of our curriculum. This week, you can see our students becoming more independent when **out in the community**, when **working with other people**, when **accessing IT** devices and when learning important **work** and **independent living skills** such as **cooking**. I hope you enjoy reading these inspirational stories as much as I did!

Renato Marques – College Principal

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: 4pm-7pm

WEDNESDAY, 06th May

Our last **Movie Night** at Genesis Cinema this academic year!

FUTURE FEST: 4pm-7pm

WEDNESDAY, 17th June

A special event for all students, especially those graduating in the summer.

PFA Graduation: 4pm-6pm

WEDNESDAY, 15th July

A big celebration for the students graduating from Phoenix College this summer.

Please save these dates!

Formatted by:



**Imran Hassan -
Advocate**

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THIS WEEK

This week’s **Festive Friday** goes to **Taffazal**. Taffazal has made it very clear that he is afraid of dogs. In the past, we have struggled to access the community and sustain group **work placements**. However, this year we have been working really hard together to set meaningful targets and support all students in developing new skills and overcoming difficulties in different areas. Taffazal has been doing incredibly well going out with his friends, transitioning to local places, and gradually extending the distance while exploring different community environments. He has been especially brave in facing his fears and communicating clearly with staff about what helps him feel safe and calm. When he sees a dog, he might close his eyes, make a “woof” sound, or tell staff that he has seen one. He is now able to make safe choices, such as walking on the other side of the path or stopping to let the dog pass. This shows great progress in managing his anxiety and staying safe in the community an important skill that has enabled him to access the **curriculum** alongside his friends throughout the week.

A highlight was our trip to **The Phoenix Blend**, where students explored different job roles. The café is a fantastic place where people with disabilities work, helping to raise awareness and provide meaningful opportunities. We also enjoyed lunch at **Park Square in Spitalfields**.

Mohammed Ahmed, Senior Instructor



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This week we chose **Labib** for **Festive Friday**. Labib has been doing great work over the last weeks in his **1-1 baking sessions** and always shows great independence in **Cooking!** During **Local Offer** Labib had lots of fun burying himself in the sand and showed good street safety skills. Labib always gets the measurements perfect in **Enterprise** when making **Jesmonite**. Labib has been showing great teamwork, has had many positive interactions with friends and worked well with **Joe** during **Keeping Safe**. Amazing week for Labib well done.

Mya Chaaban, Job Coach



This week, we are celebrating **Seayum** for his fantastic engagement and positive approach to learning! Seayum has shown great focus during lessons, particularly when working in **Keeping Safe**. He used the computer confidently to complete tasks exploring comfortable and uncomfortable situations, and did a wonderful job identifying how he feels in each. This is an important skill, and it is great to see him building his understanding with such thoughtfulness. In **Expressive Arts**, Seayum impressed us with his independence while making salt dough. He

carefully measured the ingredients and mixed them together, demonstrating both practical skills and confidence in following the process. Well done, Seayum - keep up the brilliant work!

Helen Gillian, Teacher



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It was a busy morning in the kitchen for students in **Darren’s Class** this week during their **Cooking session**, as **Catering Instructor Mo** challenged them to prepare chicken salad wraps. The class began with their usual handwashing and hygiene routine before carefully following the recipe step-by-step. It was pleasing to see the students challenge themselves further by choosing to make potato wedges from scratch. Working in pairs, they demonstrated a range of skills, including stirring the chicken and vegetables in the frying pan, carefully chopping potatoes for the wedges, and grating cheese. The session highlighted excellent teamwork, communication, and growing confidence in the kitchen. We would like to give a special mention to **Emma**, who has made fantastic progress across several areas over the past few weeks. At her **Work Placements**, **Job coaches Marta, Mich, and Janita** have noted how she is building strong relationships with colleagues and continuing to develop her confidence in greeting and interacting with customers. This progress was clearly reflected in the cooking session, where she communicated effectively and took a leading role at her workstation. Well done, Emma!.

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Senior Instructor



Have a fantastic weekend,



Renato Marques
 College Principal
 Phoenix College
 Paton Close, London E3 2QE
 phoenixcollege.london Tel: 020 4546 7710



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