

"A Clear Pathway Towards Independence and Supported Employment"

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London, 10th July 2026

Dear parents, carers and families,

Students had so much fun at the end of last week during our **Sports Day!** A big thank you to the whole team for always bringing the professionalism and the energy to our events. A special thank you to our **Senior Instructor, Darren Serrano-Griffiths**, for organizing such a special day!

Please remember that graduating students will finish their courses at Phoenix College on Wednesday 15th July. Only returning students will attend Phoenix College on Thursday 16th July and Friday 17th July.

Returning students will finish college after lunch on Friday 17th July.

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

CLASS TRIPS: 10:00-14:00

MONDAY, 13th July

For all PFA students before end of the academic year!

PFA GRADUATION - STAY UP LATE: 16:00-19:00

WEDNESDAY, 15th July

A big celebration for the students graduating from the **Preparation for Adulthood** programme.

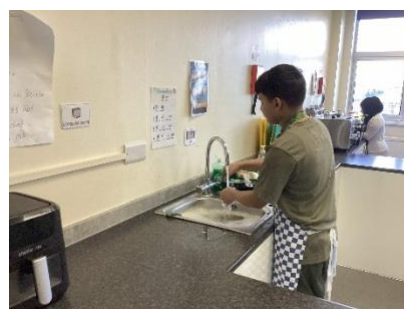
Please save these dates!

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THIS WEEK

This week, we are celebrating **Yousef** for the fantastic progress he has made with his self-regulation and independence. Every morning, Yousef independently collects his sand timer and water bottle. Before going on his break, he tells staff, "five minutes break, please," demonstrating excellent self-awareness, communication and understanding of his daily routine. A concern raised by Yousef's family during his annual review was that Yousef was finding it difficult to keep his money safe and manage his spending. As part of the annual review, it was agreed that Yousef would begin using his bank card to help him manage his money more safely and independently. Since then, Yousef has made outstanding progress. He now uses his bank card independently when buying snacks at the college café and while out in the community. He is also spending less money than he did previously. Staff have agreed a weekly spending limit with Yousef, and he is doing an excellent job of sticking to this budget. This has helped him become more responsible and confident in managing his own money. Yousef is also making positive choices when buying snacks. He proudly tells staff, "I'm making a healthy choice. I'm buying Coca Cola Zero", showing that he is thinking about making healthier decisions.

Elena Vata, Senior Instructor



Tom had a wonderful time at our **Sports Day**! He was active all day, joined in with lots of activities, and had many positive interactions with staff and other students. Tom enjoyed chasing games, being chased by staff, and took part in the egg and spoon race with a big smile. You can watch the fantastic **Sports Day** video on

our **website** and **YouTube channel**. This week, Tom has also been working hard on his graduation speech and is getting ready for his special **graduation day**. Great effort, Tom – we are all very proud of you!

Frank Kasa, Senior Instructor

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Sports Day at Phoenix College was another resounding success this year, providing students with a fantastic opportunity to showcase the fitness skills, teamwork and confidence they have developed throughout the academic year. Students enthusiastically participated in a range of relay events, including the beanbag relay and egg-and-spoon race, demonstrating determination, coordination and perseverance. Teams then joined forces for the ever-popular tug of war, where collaboration and team spirit were on full display. One of the most eagerly anticipated events of the day involved water balloons, bringing plenty of

laughter, excitement and enjoyment for everyone involved. The smiles and positive energy throughout the event reflected the supportive atmosphere that makes Phoenix College such a special place. It was particularly pleasing to see staff supporting students throughout the day while encouraging independence and self-confidence. Watching students take part with such confidence, control and enthusiasm highlighted the significant progress they have made over the course of the year. A huge thank you goes to all staff members for ensuring that students remained safe while having fun, and to the **Project SEARCH** team and interns for help in running the activities.

Darren Serrano-Griffiths, Senior Instructor



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Festive Friday – What a Way to End Another Great Year!



What a fantastic way to round off another amazing college year! With the glorious heatwave, there was only one event everyone was looking forward to — our **Sports Day**. They truly brought our whole college community together and created memories that will last a long time. Everyone had an incredible time, and if you weren't there, you definitely missed out! The photos say it all — smiles, laughter, determination and

pure joy were everywhere. It was wonderful to see students cheering each other on, staff joining in the fun, and everyone supporting one another. The teamwork, encouragement and sense of community made the days so special, and most importantly, everyone was a winner. Sports Day was not just about races and games; it was about building confidence, staying active, celebrating achievements and having fun together. We hope the activities have inspired our students to keep moving over the summer holidays. Whether it is going for a walk, playing football in the park, riding a bike, dancing at home, swimming, or simply enjoying games outdoors with friends, family or carers, every bit of activity helps to keep us healthy and happy.

Have a fantastic summer, keep active, keep smiling, and enjoy making more wonderful memories.

It's coming home! 🏠

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the PFA Graduation on Wednesday!

Have a wonderful weekend,



Renato Marques
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