

# PHOENIXPLACE

## NEWSLETTER

Summer  
Term 2  
2017

"TURNING ASPIRATIONS INTO REALITY"

Chief Editor: Amita Kumari

### From the Directors

As we approach the end of another busy year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank Parents/Carers for the support you have given to your child and to the school.

It is wonderful to end the year knowing we have passed all our Independent School Standards; the last term saw testing times but in the face of significant challenges, we made significant progress. For this, we thank our hardworking staff team, who show unending support and commitment for the welfare and education of our young girls.

The students, as always, participated in school life with gusto, taking part in workshops, fund raising, school trips and producing some wonderful work.

We hope the learning will continue in the summer and hope you will encourage your child to complete homework for the start of September, allowing your child to get off to the best possible start for the new term.

We say farewell for the summer and wish all parents/carers, students and staff a happy, restful break, with a reminder that school finishes at 12.30pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July and reopens on 7<sup>th</sup> September.

Warm wishes

Directors  
Sophie Nelson      Kailash Kumari

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Summer Holidays start on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

INSET Days are on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September, so pupils start back on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September.**

### NEWS & EVENTS

The busy term started with a surprise visit from Ofsted for us at PhoenixPlace. We are very pleased to announce to those of you who don't know that we passed all Independent School Standards!

We've had the London Fire Brigade in, hosting a workshop on fire safety. Prevention, Detection, Escape and Emergency were all covered in the workshop. They said, "All students were very well informed and able to apply their new and existing knowledge to the group discussions and role play!"

We went on a trip to the Science Museum and were especially fascinated by the Robot exhibition.

The second half of the term saw the students take part in a First Aid workshop, so they are now all aware of and clued up on emergency procedures.

Insight visited us to educate the students on, and simulate the effects of, drugs and substance misuse.

The School Nurse continued her group sessions on sexual health education, whilst the Schools' Link Police officer regularly popped in to check in with the students and answer their questions on elements of the law, including gang culture.

Our students completed their end of year assessments, mostly without complaint! Results will show us academic progress for the year and will help set targets for next term.

As you will see, we've been keeping very busy here at PhoenixPlace during the summer term!

## NEWS & EVENTS

Over a period of 4 weeks, as part of the Africa writes literature festival, the students took part in workshops to develop their poetry skills. With guidance from Theresa, Rachel and Joanna, of Africa Writes, and influenced by and exploring themes of identity, our students wrote pieces that were recorded and then played as part of a performance at the British Library. We could have a few Poet Laureates in our midst!

**You could be**

**by Tonianne Hill**

Possessed by demons. You could be running free in your mind, moving across the desert. You could be worn out from having the same relationship. You could be screaming for help but no one hears. You could be locked with no way out. You could be longing for days that have passed. You could be protected by the shadow of your mother. You could be warm. You could be wondering where your father is. You could be trying to fit into a world you don't belong. You could be happy but tired.

**Untitled**

**by Reanna Elliott**

I would love to go back to mainstream, do my revision, exams, get good grades. I don't know about prison I haven't been there before. I will have a future. I'm being positive; sleeping, listening to music.

**Untitled**

**by Shardonay Beavers**

Don't know what it means and I don't care what it means. I've given up on life on people. The bluest things I've ever seen: my room, the Jamaican ocean of some people's eyes. There's no such thing as love, it's just a word. I've lost family through dumb behaviour. Say a prayer to God to better myself. I should have an education when I'm 21. I know little about silver light, about bright sparkles wowing messy like two stars.

**Alien**

**by Rebecca Amode**

Skin of the alien, one eye blind. The alien got stabbed, that's why. Humans have brains, aliens don't.

**Self Portrait with Hair**

**by Hiab Dirar**

Curly, tissue-soft sounds like water dripping, coconuts hanging Tastes like Soothers - purple packet. Each strand dreams of flowers.

**Unforget**

**by Charlotte Sivyver**

I cannot conform to a 9-5. There must be more to this life. I try to make a living. How without selling my soul? I want to live a gypsy life travelling free.

**Ugly**

**by Raynequa Nelson**

Told by so many there's nothing good about me when I look in the mirror all I see is a fat black girl with no dreams. when it comes to killing myself, there have been multiple temptations.

**Potential**

**By Kelly Miller**

I know everything is a mess right now, but I have potential to be great. I know I'm going to grow into somebody great. Slowly by slowly, I am getting there.

# Pupils' Work

In English, the Year 9s wrote letters to Stephen Hawking, as part of the Exploring Difference module. They were motivated to write to the Professor having watched a biopic of his life. Below are two of the letters in their unedited form.

Dear Mr Hawking,

I'm Rebecca, I watched your movie and felt inspired and motivated to write to you.

Something touched my heart for the first time. I felt the need to put myself in your shoes. You went through hell and you never gave up. This is one of the reasons I felt so inspired. Congratulations for being a doctor even though your disease was going on. I wish I could play the movie on BBC One because I want people to get inspired as well.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

By Rebecca

Dear Stephen Hawking,

Hi there, my name is Reanna Elliott and I want to write you a letter and tell you about 'The Theory of Everything'. I am sorry that you were diagnosed at such an early age with Motor Neuron Syndrome.

I am inspired that you did not let your disability to stop you from achieving, instead you wrote the best-selling Science book of all time. Because of you I am determined to pursue my dreams by passing my GCSE and becoming a nurse.

I am holding to the strength of my words that 'where there is life there is hope.'

Yours Sincerely,

Reanna

Wednesday 12th July saw the annual Sports Day at PhoenixPlace, organised by PE teacher, Pav. The competitive atmosphere took over the sports hall as students, current staff, former staff and their children were placed in two teams for the contest.



Team Royal Shadow

Team Royal Shadow started off well by winning the first round of Card Dash. Team Sonic then pulled it back by winning the second round. They also went on to win the Badminton and Bin Basketball matches.

Team Royal Shadow looked like they may snatch victory back, after a gallant effort at Cup Ball. However, Team Sonic dominated in the Hula Human Chain and won the tournament, bagging the prize of the football pinata.

Congratulations to Team Sonic!



Victorious Team Sonic

# ACHIEVEMENTS



This section is our best section!

It is where we like to recognise the achievements of students throughout the term.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance is very important to us. To be successful you have to be PRESENT and take part.

WELL DONE to the following students who have achieved their target attendance % or 100% attendance

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Hayley Maigwa	Charlotte Sivyer	Tonianne Hill	Rebecca Amode	Hiab Dirar	Shardonay Beavers

Year 10 student Shardonay Beavers is getting a special mention from her tutors, Pav & Kat. Shardonay joined us at PhoenixPlace this term and has worked very hard to complete all the work set, so has caught up with the other Year 10 students. Well done, Shardonay!

## We Value Reading

At PHOENIXPLACE we have a passion and determination to improve students love for reading, student comprehension and, in turn, raise students confidence and self-esteem, so have dedicated time every day to a one-to-one reading session.

The We Value Reading programme has several aims:

- To promote the importance of reading (no matter what level)
- To improve reading ability of students (fluency & accuracy)
- To improve students comprehension skills (students ability to elicit & recall information)
- To motivate students to read more!

The programme is proving very successful as we have seen an improvement in all students' reading abilities and confidence!

## Assessments

Each of our students has completed an end of year assessment in both English and Maths, this term. As well as showing staff at the school how our pupils are progressing and developing, it prepares the students for exam techniques and practices, and helps us to set targets for the next academic year.

