

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Dear Parents/Carers,

May I extend a warm welcome to parents new to The Phoenix Collegiate. I am delighted that you have chosen to send your child to here and can offer you my personal assurance that we are committed to offering every child at Phoenix an education that meets their individual needs and is second to none.

You may have read in the press recently that nationally the percentage of students achieving the higher GCSE grades is falling. I am delighted to be able to report that this is **NOT** the case at Phoenix, and we are celebrating record breaking examination results at GCSE, AS and A2. A massive 57% of our students achieved five or more GCSEs at grade 'C' or above English and Maths. Our results in English are now well above the national average, maths is closing the gap rapidly and many other subjects have been performing consistently above the national average for a number of years now. This is a huge achievement and reflects the hard work of our students and teachers in ensuring that we are a successful school. I am fortunate to have such a talented and committed team of staff. Full details of our examination performance for 2014 will be available on the school website shortly.

Talking about The School Website, have you visited it lately? You can find us at [www.aspirebelievesucceed.com](http://www.aspirebelievesucceed.com). The new site (being launched tomorrow) is full of useful information for students, parents and visitors alike and is easier to navigate than our last site. Links to our Facebook, Twitter (why not follow us?) and email can be found here, as well as important announcements and lots of 'latest news'. Find out what we were up to in the summer term when we raised £100's for charity; our take on the ice bucket challenge? If you think that we have overlooked any particular information on the Website, please let us know.

May I remind you that you can still log on to our parent portal via the school Website to view your child's performance and attendance data? We are currently updating user instructions for the portal and will make them available on the Website shortly. Parents of year 7 students will be sent their usernames and passwords during this half term. If you have lost yours please provide us with a written request for it to be reissued.

Finally, I would like to inform you that school will be closing at the end of period 4 (1.15pm) on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September to allow staff to prepare for the Year 6 Open Evening. We will make grab bags available to students eligible for free school meals before they leave on that day. I have also taken the opportunity to provide you with details of our term dates for this academic year on the reverse of this letter. Can I draw your attention to late start days? As part of our drive to become an outstanding school, we will be opening later to students at 9.55am on four dates in the year, to allow for staff training; the first occasion being Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Gary Hill  
Head teacher

## Phoenix Collegiate Term dates and holidays 2014/2015

### Autumn term 2014

- **Term starts: Monday 1 September**
- Training days – school closed to pupils:**
  - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014
  - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014
- Half term Holiday : Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October
- **Late start for pupils due to staff training (pupils to start at 9.55am):**
  - Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014
  - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2014
- **Term ends: Friday 19 December**
- Christmas holiday : Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January 2015

### Spring term 2015

- **Term starts: Monday 5 January**
- Training days – school closed to pupils:**
  - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015
  - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- Half term Holiday : Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February
- **Late start for pupils due to staff training (pupils to start at 9.55am):**
  - Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015
  - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015
- **Term ends: Friday 27 March**
- Easter holiday : Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April

### Summer term 2015

- **Term starts: Monday 13 April**
- Bank holiday: Monday 4 May
- Half term holiday : Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May
- **Term ends: Friday 17 July**
- Main summer holiday: From Monday 20 July