

Tuesday 17th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to be writing to you at the start of a new term and would like to extend a warm welcome to all parents/carers, especially those new to the school who are now part of the Phoenix family. Our new Year 7 intake is full with 350 new entrants with a waiting list of almost 20 children, and I never take for granted the trust that you have placed in us to provide your child's secondary education. As a school, we are committed to offering every child at Phoenix an education that meets their individual needs and is second to none.

Phoenix has had its best GCSE results since its inception in 2010 and this year our A level cohort has produced again some particularly outstanding results for individuals and departments. Every student wishing to go to university did so I am sure you will join me in wishing them every success in their degree courses. We also wish Renesha Hodgson success with her studies at Oxford University, a first for Phoenix. Our highest performing student at GCSE was Paris who achieved a set of results which included seven grade 9s and one grade 8, placing her in the top 0.2% of students in the country. I am exceptionally proud and would like to thank everyone who has been involved in helping these young people achieve their success. Parents, carers, teachers, support staff, governors and friends have all helped make this happen, all with the backdrop of an on-going build programme.

May I remind you that the school website hosts a wealth of information and is worth setting as your home page to help remain in touch. You can find us at www.aspirebelievesucceed.com. School and staff contact details can be found here, as well as important announcements and lots of 'latest news' – check out the summer edition of the newsletter! If you think that we have overlooked any particular information on the website, please let us know. You can also follow us via Twitter @PhoenixCollHQ and @PhoenixCollHead

I have taken the opportunity to provide you with full details of our term dates for this academic year (see enclosed). Note that we will also **be closing at the end of period 4 (1.15pm) on Thursday 26th September** to allow staff to prepare for the Year 6 Open Evening. Grab bags will be made available to students eligible for free school meals before they leave on that day. I welcome all parents to visit the school during Open evening as it is the first time we will be able to show the full site that the school has to offer following the PSBP build programme.

One of the reasons, aside from excellent teaching, that ensures we get excellent outcomes for our students, is the high expectations that we have at Phoenix in terms of student behaviour. Can I thank parents/carers for supporting us with this. For clarity, students in Years 7 – 11 should not have mobile phones switched on whilst in school. If students break this rule, their mobile phone will be confiscated and placed in the school safe.

This term our student focus will be on punctuality (to school and lessons), presentation of work and respecting our environment, and in particular, students disposing of litter appropriately. As part of this drive we will be issuing appropriate sanctions within our behaviour policy to all students who are caught dropping litter.



Clarkes Lane, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B71 2BX

Tel: 0121 588 8384

Email: info@phoenix.sandwell.sch.uk

Website: www.aspirebelievesucceed.com

Very soon, we will have our completed site following the delayed construction works. I am sure you will be relieved as we are to finally see the back of the hoardings and construction site. Please come and see the finished site during Open evening on Thursday 26th September, we are really proud of our new impressive facilities.

Could I please ask for your support now the site has been completed to ensure the on-going safety of our students as recently the parking of cars around the school site has been both dangerous to students but also difficult for our residents to drive through. Please see the attached sheet outlining where we request parents to drop-off and pick-up their children. With almost 1900 students currently on site, it is important the pathways of Clarkes Lane and Marsh Lane are kept clear. Your support with this is very much appreciated. Please note we are working with traffic enforcement to ensure the safety of our students prevails. A number of our parents have already been fined for inconsiderate parking including using bus lay-by; please make sure you don't become one of them.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Mike Smith
Head Teacher



Phoenix Collegiate school term dates and holiday 2019/2020

Autumn term 2019

- School close early on Thursday 26 September at 1.15pm, to allow staff to prepare for Year 6 Open evening (4.00-7.30pm)
- Half term holiday: Monday 28 October 2019 to Friday 1 November
- Inset day: Friday 29 November (school closed to students)
- **Term ends:** Friday 20 December
- Christmas holiday: Monday 23 December 2019 to Friday 3 January 2020

Spring term 2020

- Inset day: Monday 6 January 2020 (school closed to students)
- **Students return to school:** Tuesday 7 January
- Half term holiday: Monday 17 February 2020 to Friday 21 February
- **Term ends:** Friday 3 April
- Easter holiday: Monday 6 April to Friday 17 April

Summer term 2020

- **Term starts:** Monday 20 April
- Bank holiday: Friday 8 May (no students in school)
- Half term holiday: Monday 25 May 2020 to Friday 29 May
- **Term ends:** Friday 17 July (Monday 20 July is an inset day so school will be closed to students)
- Summer holiday: Tuesday 21 July to Monday 31 August 2020

