

5th April 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

I thought I would take the opportunity to write to you before we break up for Easter to provide you with some important information, given that our next school newsletter will not reach you until August.

End of term

Following tradition, school will be ending early on Friday 12th April at 12.20pm (reception at 12.45pm) and will reopen to students on Monday 29th April at the usual time. Don't forget that these details are also available on the school website.

Easter revision

As year 11 students continue to work towards their GCSE examinations, the staff at Phoenix continue to work hard to ensure that the students achieve their aspirational targets. To this end, we will once again be offering revision sessions during the Easter holidays to support your child. Students will be receiving a letter that identifies which revision classes they need to attend over the holiday.

Please support your child in attending these sessions.

ParentPay

I would like to remind parents/carers that we are encouraging them to activate their ParentPay account, as this is the school's preferred method of payment, as part of our move to becoming a cashless school.

Please note that after Easter, we will no longer accept cash for school ties and replacement ID badges. Parents/carers will need to pay via ParentPay.

Please contact the finance office on extension 107 for additional information.

Punctuality (reminder)

We are keen to ensure that students continue to arrive punctually to school and lessons throughout the year. Students should aim to arrive at school by 8.30am and no later than 8.40am. Lessons start at 8.45am.

I thank you for your support in ensuring that your children leave home in good time to arrive at school on time.

Uniform

Before the start of a new term, many parents get their children some new uniform including shoes etc. Please do not let your children encourage you to buy black trainers which are sometimes placed in the school shoe sections of some shoe shops as these do not meet our uniform policy. Please see our website for further information on uniform. Reminder: note that hooded tops are not acceptable either.

Twitter

Don't forget that you can follow us on Twitter **@PhoenixCollHQ**

All essential information will still be communicated by other channels (website updates / texts / letters home) but on Twitter we will keep you updated with all the latest news and events.

Our Twitter name is **@PhoenixCollHQ**. Please do follow us!

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Email: info@phoenix.sandwell.sch.uk

Website: www.aspirebelievesucceed.com

Healthy drinks in school

As you know, the Governors took the decision to make Phoenix a healthy drinking school back in January 2018. We want water to be the drink of choice for all students – we are lucky enough to have drinking water fountains to refill bottles at a number of locations across school. Please send your child to school with an empty bottle each day, to allow them to refill and keep hydrated during the day.

Please do not send your child to school with a fizzy or energy drink, including diet varieties as, if seen in school, **these will be confiscated and discarded with no return to students** at the end of the day. We would also ask you to encourage your child to make appropriate drink purchases should they do this on the way to school. We thank you for your support.

Anti-social behaviour

It is with disappointment that I ask all parents/carers to discuss this with their children as I have recently received a number of complaints regarding our students behaving unacceptably on their way home from school. This tarnishes the school's reputation in the community. Examples have been blocking pavements so parents with babies cannot pass or throwing litter in the street and shop doorways, behaviours that no one wants to see in our children.

School facilities available for hire

I am really pleased to be able to tell you all that our school facilities are available for hire and I would ask you to see our website at <http://www.phoenixcollegiate.org/page/?title=Lettings&pid=47> for details and our very competitive prices. Could I ask you to consider us for any regular clubs or one off events you might be involved in and also pass the word to any clubs and associations that your children are involved in too. In the current education financial climate, any additional funding sources for the school are all of benefit to your children so please consider us and spread the word. Thank you

Additional information

I would like to remind parents that access to site should only be made via Clarks Lane entrance at all times. I have taken the opportunity to provide you below with details of term dates for the remainder of this academic year.

Please note that our term dates for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 are now available on our school website.

Finally, on behalf of the governors and staff I would like to wish everyone a very happy Easter Holiday and look forward to the summer term bringing yet more success for our outstanding young people.

Yours faithfully



Mike Smith

Head teacher

Summer term 2019

- Term starts: Monday 29 April 2019
- **Bank holiday:** Monday 6 May 2019 (school closed to students)
- **Half term holiday:** Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2019
- Term ends: Friday 19 July 2018
- **Summer holiday:** From Monday 22 July 2019