



## Dear Parents / Carers Welcome to our Newsletter

Spring 1, February 2020

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2020. I am very proud of the work my staff are doing with our students and enjoy sharing some of the experiences with you.

We had an INSET day last Friday in which 'Wellspring the Movie' was shared with 1500 colleagues across the organisation. The short film can be viewed on YouTube using the following link

<https://youtu.be/6lzzTOHg4gg>

The planning stage of new boilers and a whole new heating system at Sevenhills is underway, the disruption has been minimal and the staff team have done a fantastic job in ensuring education continues.

Thank you for your patience and support during this challenging time.

There is an exciting opportunity for a parent to join our Governing Body and to be more involved in how the Academy is managed and to hold leaders to account, if you are interested please let me know, you would be very welcome.

### Governors View

Hi I'm George Krawiec, Vice Chair of the Governing Body with particular responsibility for finance. Our main focus is ensuring that Sevenhills is refurbished as quickly as possible to enable our pupils to return to a top class facility where they can thrive and prosper whilst ensuring the other sites are maintained to the highest standard.

We are working closely with students from Grimsby Institute to redesign our websites following feedback from students and our community. The addresses remain

[www.phoenixparkacademy.co.uk](http://www.phoenixparkacademy.co.uk)

[www.sevenhillsacademy.co.uk](http://www.sevenhillsacademy.co.uk)

I hope you enjoy the newsletter!

*Phil Hutchinson*

Executive Principal

# Phoenix House



Key stage 2 have enjoyed their recycling topic this half term. NELC visited Key Stage 2 to provide an educational talk and a fun

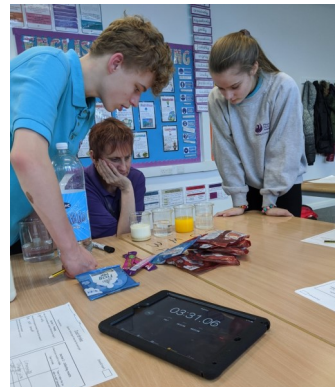
Key stage 2 have enjoyed their '6 Course Meal' reading challenge. Each course represented a different type of text- pupils really extended their reading!

Key stage 2 have enjoyed reading 'Diary of a Wimpy Kid' with our Reading Champion!



Key stage 3 Students had the opportunity to visit Heta and have a tour of their facilities. Students were given a talk about how the Heta apprenticeships work. We were then given a tour around their workshops, where current students were planning, developing and implementing their ideas. Students even got the chance to try some of the machinery.

Key stage 3 have also had focus on Science Experiments this half term, which has seen a rise in the engagement in the subject. The students have made a prediction from an enquiry question, explained their method and conducted fair tests to find out if their predictions were correct! Enquiry questions have included 'Which ice cube will melt the quickest?' and 'How will changing the size of beaker affect the time it takes for the candle to go out?' Along with other enquiry questions.



We have built up a strong relationship with a local community farm over this half term. Students have gone each Wednesday to take part in helping the farm with planting and looking after their animals. It has been such a success, that we are exploring the option of a number of students going back after half term on 'work experience' at the farm.

In maths, the students have had a new approach to their lessons. They have had an 'enquiry quiz' at the start of the block of lessons, so they are aware of their areas to improve on and to choose their target for the half term. During maths, the lessons have then focused on those areas and at the end of the lessons they revisited their quiz and all made progress from their original score which we are all incredibly proud of.

We hope you have a great half term and look forward to welcoming you back!

# Park House



One of our students was lucky enough to spend the day with Hull Trains onboard their new fleet. He was treated to an ride in the cab to Selby and had his lunch served in First Class.

Since joining our Academy he has always spoken about being a train driver and this experience has certainly given him a taste for it!

Students in our Sport group had sporting facilities of Manchester as their classroom. As part of their qualification they visited the Velodrome and learned about the requirements of cycling and the different elements to the sport.

They will also be visiting Old Trafford and the Etihad later in the term.



The Nutrition & Health group have again been helping those less fortunate and visiting Harbour Place to cook breakfasts for the homeless.

Our Multi Trade group have also started planning to improve their outdoor area. Students will firstly clean the grounds then build planters, benches and bird tables.



Once again students are competing in Young Enterprise, this years company This 'N' That are making their own candles to be used on indoor burners. They have attended a number of trade fairs and have started selling online.

We were honored to have the CEO come for a visit after hearing so much about them and she was blown away by their passion, drive and ambition!

She also placed an order for items to be made and shipped to her London office



Hope you have a wonderful Half Term!

# Sevenhills

Welcome to the Sevenhills news update.

We are delighted to announce that this term has seen a return to our home site for some of our staff and learners. We would all like to extend our thanks to staff at Phoenix and Park who accommodated us and continue to support the teaching and learning that is ongoing during our restoration work.

A new model on site at Sevenhills has seen KS4 students working in a more nurturing environment and has produced amazing results: attendance which is 7% above the national average; increased behavior points/ corresponding behavior trips and an invigorated approach to reading which has been embraced by every learner on site.

Vocational learning has taken an exciting route as some of our learners have engaged in Women in STEM learning and accessed construction lessons which have included learning how to build a 7 brick by 5 end stopped structure (which I am reliably informed is a wall...).

Students taking on the role of teacher and sporting fetching staff t-shirts are engaging in a program designed to mentor young people reading on a different site.

Outside of the school community our Sports teacher, John Mansfield has been spending time with students engaging with NCS Youth Zone and designing logos for the organization's branding competition. KS4 learner Spencer designed a clever logo which has made it to the final two. We share his pride in this achievement. #Team GYM (Generating Young Minds).

Students have also been to the National Cycling Championships in Manchester to support the work they are doing in Sports Studies and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience, learning in a different and exciting environment.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome a new member to the KS3 team - Diego the Hamster who is a new reading pet and already a firm favourite with students.

A final thank you to parents and staff who continue to support students across the sites — we wish you all a happy half term.



Students Return on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
Enjoy your half term break