



Our values: Resilience, Kindness, Responsibility, Ambition



# Phoenix Primary School Newsletter

Issue 15 | January

## ✿ Weekly Roundup ✿

### Our focus value for this half term is: Responsibility

Firstly, I would like to apologise for the late delivery of last week's newsletter.

I would like to begin this week's newsletter with some positive news about our Boccia Team, who competed in an LSSP competition last Friday at Calderstones School and reached the quarter finals! This is a fantastic achievement and a huge well done to all who participated.

I would also like to congratulate our Year 2 Mat ball Team, who finished second in their competition at Dixons Academy. The children had never played Mat ball before, yet they quickly demonstrated an impressive understanding of the game. As proud as we are of their result, I would also like to acknowledge how well they behaved throughout the afternoon. Their excellent manners and positive attitude were recognised and praised by the competition organisers.

I would like to take this moment to thank all of our KS2 children who have adapted so well to the slight change to the start of the day. We feel that allowing children to come straight into school has already had a positive impact on teaching and learning. Pupils are settled, in class and learning before 9am, taking part in crucial morning activities that set them up for the day ahead. Thank you also to parents for your understanding and support with this change.

Last week, I attended a national education conference in London (BETT) along with several other local headteachers. The theme for the conference was Artificial Intelligence (AI) and how it can be used to support learning in the classroom. While we fully recognise and embrace the influence AI is having on our daily lives, we must also acknowledge the challenges and potential risks—especially for children.

As society becomes increasingly AI-focused, it is important that we as a school hold firmly to our human values and connections. Here at Phoenix, we place great emphasis on helping our children become modern, responsible citizens by embracing social interaction, showing empathy, managing emotions, and always being willing to support others.

AI will no doubt play a role in the future of education, but it is essential that we manage this journey slowly, thoughtfully, and with the right knowledge. Any AI we use in school must add to the excellent teaching and learning already in place—it cannot, and will not, replace it.



### Safer Internet Day (10/2/2026)

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our pupils safe, I would like to share some information ahead of Safer Internet Day, which takes place next month. This is an important opportunity for schools, parents and children to come together to ensure that young people are confident, responsible and safe when using technology.

While technology continues to evolve rapidly, one thing remains constant: children learn best when schools and families work together. To support this, below are some simple but effective tips for helping children stay safe and balanced when using technology at home:

#### Two Tips for Parents:

- Talk openly and regularly with your child about what they are doing online. Ask questions, show interest and encourage them to speak up if something doesn't feel right.
- Set clear boundaries and routines, such as limiting screen time before bed or having device-free family time. Consistency makes a huge difference.
- Know the age ratings for social media, games and apps.

### Key Dates/Events

10/2/2026 – Safer Internet Day

9/2/2026 – Children's mental health week

24/3/2026 – Parents Evening



### ★ Attendance Stars ★

**Our whole school target is 97%**

Our whole school attendance  
last week was:

93%