

PHOENIX ARCH SCHOOL

End of Summer Term Newsletter • July 2026

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another busy and rewarding school year comes to an end, I would like to thank you for the trust, support and encouragement you have shown Phoenix Arch. This term has been filled with learning, creativity, new experiences and many moments of pride. Our pupils have continued to grow in confidence, independence and resilience, and it has been wonderful to see them take part in opportunities both in school and across the wider community.

The progress children make is possible because families and school work closely together. Thank you for sharing information with us, attending meetings and coffee mornings, celebrating successes and supporting children through their challenges. Your partnership remains central to everything we do.

Learning and achievement

Across the term, pupils have worked hard in all areas of curriculum. Some of our Year 6 pupils completed their statutory assessments with determination, while some of our Year 4 pupils took part in the Multiplication Tables Check and younger pupils completed phonics screening. Teachers have continued to use careful assessment for all children, personalised targets, visual support and adapted teaching so that every pupil can make progress from their own starting point.

- Learning walks and book monitoring helped us celebrate strong teaching and identify the next steps for each class.
- Pupils explored renewable energy, climate change, local history, money and enterprise, online safety and cultural diversity.
- Choir, instrumental music, weekly assemblies and End of the Term show continued to develop confidence, communication and belonging.
- The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra workshop gave pupils an exciting opportunity to experience live professional music.

Trips, residentials and community experiences

Learning beyond the classroom has been a major strength of the term. These experiences help pupils practise communication, independence, travel skills, emotional regulation and positive social interaction in real-life settings.

- Pupils attending the Paccar Scout Camp residential developed independence and courage through ziplining and other outdoor challenges.
- Ash and Rowan visited the Wallace Collection, where pupils explored art and history and travelled successfully on the London Underground.
- Willow Class visited the RAF Museum, while other classes enjoyed visits to Birchen Grove, local garden centres and community venues.
- Mitsubishi renewable-energy workshops and trips brought science and sustainability learning to life.
- Our partnership with Wembley Stadium continued to provide inclusive experiences, including match-mascot opportunities and access to the sensory room.

Celebrating creativity and culture

Pupils have had many opportunities to express themselves through music, dance, art and performance. Cultural Diversity Day was a particular highlight, with live dhol, sitar and tabla music. It was wonderful to see pupils enjoying the rhythms, joining in and celebrating the many cultures represented within our school community.

- The end-of-term concert celebrated pupils' confidence, teamwork, singing and performance skills.
- Pupils who find large audiences overwhelming were supported to perform in comfortable and accessible ways.
- Art, design and technology projects encouraged pupils to explore identity, sculpture, construction and practical creativity.
- Music Festival participation and regular choir sessions gave pupils further opportunities to perform alongside others.

Sport, movement and wellbeing

Physical development and wellbeing remained an important part of the curriculum. Pupils participated in swimming, horse riding, Bounce Therapy, dance, trampoline activities and a wide range of PE lessons. These activities support fitness, balance, coordination, confidence, turn-taking and emotional regulation.

- KS1 and KS2 Sports Days gave pupils the opportunity to participate, persevere and celebrate one another's achievements.
- The trampoline showcase allowed pupils to demonstrate skills they had developed over time.
- Horse riding continued to offer valuable opportunities for confidence, responsibility and hands-on learning.
- Movement breaks, sensory support and low-arousal approaches helped pupils participate successfully.

Preparing for change

Transitions can be exciting but also challenging for some of our children, so considerable care has gone into preparing pupils for September. Children took part in transition mornings, met new staff, visited new classrooms and became familiar with changes to routines. Teachers also shared pupil passports, EHCP information and effective strategies to ensure continuity.

- Year 6 pupils celebrated their achievements at a very special graduation ceremony.
- We wish all our leavers every happiness and success as they move on to their secondary schools.
- We are equally excited to welcome new pupils and families into the Phoenix Arch community in September.

Working with parents and carers

Thank you to everyone who attended our parent coffee mornings and school events. Sessions this term included support around puberty and behaviour, with contributions from the school nurse and educational psychology. These opportunities allow families to ask questions, share experiences and work with professionals in a supportive environment.

Please continue to contact the school whenever there is information that may affect your child's wellbeing, transport, health or emotional regulation. Early communication helps us to plan support and maintain consistency between home and school.

Safeguarding and personal boundaries

Safeguarding remains everyone's responsibility. This term, pupils have continued to learn about online safety, personal space, respectful behaviour and seeking help from trusted adults. We ask families to reinforce these messages during the holiday, particularly around safe use of devices, appropriate physical boundaries and telling an adult when something feels wrong.

Looking ahead to September

In the new academic year, we will continue strengthening communication, reading, independence and emotional wellbeing. We are also looking forward to developing our work with the Thrive Approach, expanding musical opportunities and continuing our focus on ambitious, personalised learning for every pupil.

Thank you to our pupils, families, staff, governors and community partners for everything you have contributed this year. I hope you have a safe, restful and enjoyable summer.

A heartfelt thank you

On behalf of all our staff and myself, thank you for the wonderful cards, gifts and flowers that we have received at the end of term. Your kindness, generosity and thoughtful messages are very much appreciated and mean a great deal to us.

Enjoy the summer together

The summer holidays are a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time together. Simple experiences such as visiting a local park, reading together, playing board games, cooking, drawing, swimming or exploring museums can make lasting memories while continuing to develop communication and independence. Do make the most of TfL's £1 child travel offer and enjoy exploring London together.

September dates

Tuesday 1 September	INSET Day – School closed to pupils
Wednesday 2 September	Target Setting Day
Thursday 3 September	Children return to school

Warm wishes,
Falu Mehta
Headteacher