

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2024

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Phoenix School (Sheffield), Excel & Exceed Centre (Bury) and Summit School (Coventry Joyce Parker) DfE registered special schools, providing education for young people admitted to their co-located hospital services.

Our schools are regulated by OFSTED you can read their last inspection via the websites.

[Excel & Exceed Centre](#)

[Phoenix School](#)

[Summit School](#)

Staff News

At Phoenix, Aimee McGillis has secured a part time position as Education Officer

and Excel & Exceed welcome Danique Wilson who has joined us as Education Support Officer

What we've been up to

The **European Day of Languages** takes place on the 26th of September every year. This year Phoenix Sheffield decided to celebrate some of the culture and languages of the 44 different countries that make up Europe. There are 24 official native languages spoken across the continent, with over 200 languages spoken as a second language.

To help them to sample some of the culture of other European countries, the Phoenix School hosted a **European Food Market** where young people were able to taste foods from different parts of Europe.

A vocabulary scavenger hunt was set up and our young people scrambled enthusiastically to match phrases in European languages to their English translation. Young people and staff also played the "Travel across Europe" board game, answering European trivia questions to gain stamps for their 'passports' and the European version of "Mapominoes" where their task was to line up the borders of European countries in a dominoes style game.

Of course in true Cygnet Hospital Sheffield style, staff came in fancy dress.



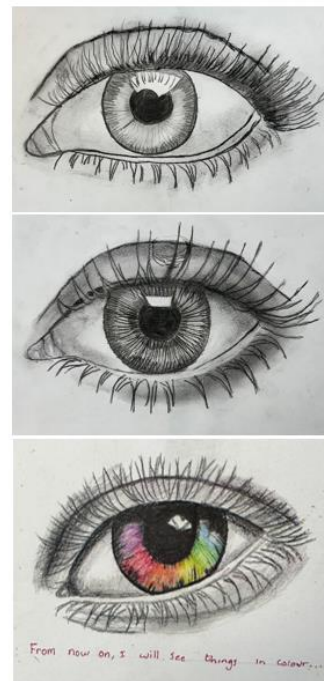
"From now on I will see things in colour"

A talented student from Excel & Exceed Centre had a very successful year with their artwork.

Not only did they win a special award for young talent (and £25) for their entry in the National Annual Koestler Competition, they also won first prize in the art competition at the Psychiatric Annual QNICS conference 2024.

The student's artwork will be on the front of publications from The Royal College of Psychiatrists over the coming year.

What an amazing achievement!



Responsible Reads

A young person on Griffin ward in Sheffield approached the Education team earlier this month to discuss a project that they would like to support the school staff with. Being an avid reader who has read many of the school library books, this young person wanted to create content warnings for the school library books. The intention being that with a quick glance, YPs could decide if the book was suitable for them in their current headspace so that they could make responsible, informed decisions about what they were reading without certain content being censored in the library as a whole.

The Phoenix School team, always looking to make reading for pleasure as accessible to students as possible, were eager to support this mammoth project. The young person has now been appointed as School Librarian, and will receive payment through the OT Therapy Jobs scheme for their part in the project.



Excel & Exceed orientation day

Due to a high number of new students for this academic year, Excel & Exceed decided to run an all ward induction and orientation day.

Students were introduced to the Individual Education Plan system and discussed their own plans on a 1:1 basis with a staff members from each of the subject areas. After that a quiz had been devised that not only tested general and popular culture knowledge but included a scavenger hunt for useful school information.

Finally, students were asked to try out all the break time activities available including Pool, Table Tennis, Jenga, Corn Toss, Indoor Archery, Football Rebounder and Connect 4. The day ended with a very enthusiastic Karaoke session - We have some serious talent in school!

It was a great day during which staff and students learned a lot about school and each other.

