

## Falcon College Newsletter – Term 3, 2025

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### Notices

#### Valuables

Please note that the College cannot be held responsible for the loss of valuables brought to school. We strongly advise parents not to send children back with smartwatches, speakers, or other expensive items.

#### Appearance and Clothing

Parents are reminded to ensure that children return with neat and proper haircuts and hairstyles. Uniforms must be correct, well-fitted, and presentable — not faded, undersized, or oversized.

#### Photographs

Gregg Robinson from Savannah Studios visited the College this term to take school photographs. Please ensure that you complete the order form that has been sent home with your children and go online to place your order. An email was also sent out from the school with the link and password to the site.

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### Academics

#### Astra Academy

Our Astra students conclude their year with much to celebrate. This term, they visited the Olive Grove Teak Furniture Factory in Bulawayo, our sincere thanks go to Falconian Mike Small for making this possible. The group also returned from an incredible experience at the Buby Valley Conservancy, thank you to Howard Hunter and his team for allowing us the privilege. Looking ahead, we are already working on expanding and developing the Astra curriculum to ensure even greater opportunities in 2026.

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## Public Examinations

With exams just around the corner, both teachers and students have been working diligently to ensure success. We extend a special thank you to the teachers who have devoted extra hours to support our students in their preparation. We wish all our students the very best of luck in their exams.

## Staff Development

Professional development continues to be a priority at Falcon:

- Felicity Van De Ruit and Emma King led a workshop to help staff understand the CAT 4 tests and apply the data effectively. Many thanks to them both for their input.
- Brad Keller will be joining us in October to conduct a Learning Support workshop, further strengthening our inclusive education approach. We look forward to his visit.

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## Campus Developments

### Astro Turf

Our new astro turf is complete and already in use. The next phase involves raising funds for surrounding facilities, including change rooms and stands, to ensure it becomes a venue of international standard.

### Boreholes

Our new water reticulation system is fully operational, with borehole water now being pumped across campus.

- Two 250,000-litre storage tanks and a pump house are in place.
- Several new boreholes have been commissioned to support sustainability.

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### **Chemistry Lab**

We are pleased to announce that the new Chemistry Laboratory is now complete and in use, thanks to the generosity of an anonymous Falconian donor.

### **Kestrel House**

The extension of the Form 1 and 2 prep room is well underway and will be ready in time for our 2026 intake.

### **Solar Farm**

Our solar farm is successfully generating power. At present, the energy is being directed back into the national grid until adjustments are made to divert specific lines onto the campus system.

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## **Special Events**

### **Parents' Meet and Greet – Art Farm, Harare**

Thank you to all those who attended our Parents' Meet and Greet last week — it was very well supported. A special thank you to Heidi Wightman for organizing the venue and to the Falcon team for their efforts in making the evening a success.

### **Western Region Heads Meeting**

Falcon is proud to host the Western Region Heads Meeting today.

### **Sports Dinner**

Our annual Sports Dinner is just around the corner, a special evening dedicated to celebrating the success of our sporting teams and athletes.

### **Speech Day**

Speech Day remains a highlight of the academic year, bringing the Falcon community together to reflect on achievements and celebrate our students' successes. This year, we are delighted to combine the event with the opening of The Rudland Family Hockey Turf.

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### **Leavers' Lunch**

This term we also bid farewell to our leavers. We thank them for their contributions and wish them every success as they step into life beyond Falcon.

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## **Highlights**

### **Cricket – St John's T20**

Our 1st XI secured third place at the St John's T20 Tournament, finishing as the highest-ranked Zimbabwean team, with two South African schools contesting the final. Congratulations to our cricketers. Alastair Carle was awarded the second-highest run scorer at the tournament.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Gold Journey**

We wish all our students the very best as they head to Marula to complete their Gold Journey this weekend.

### **Hockey – Boys' Super 12 Tournament**

Congratulations to our Titans 1st XI hockey team, who played outstanding hockey to win the National Super 12 Hockey Tournament held at Peterhouse at the end of last term.

Janelle Wightman earned a nomination for Goalkeeper of the Year at the Hyundai Hockey 216 Awards during the recent Zimbabwe U18 tour to South Africa. This recognition highlights her remarkable contributions and brings great credit to the College. Congratulations, Janelle!

### **Swimming**

Teak Watson represented Zimbabwe at the XXI Africa Aquatics Zone IV in Eswatini. He was also recognised as the top male swimmer in Zimbabwe and selected to participate in the World Aquatics Future Wave Camp, also held in Eswatini. Congratulations Teak.

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### Water Polo

Congratulations to the following students selected for the Zimbabwe U16 teams:

- **Boys:** Elian Wightman (NTR)
  - **Girls:** Camille Haskins, Tiffany Small, and Amy Barry (NTR)
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## Farewell

At the end of this term, we say farewell to Mrs. Brenda Liepe. Brenda has been an invaluable member of the Falcon community, contributing to Art, Athletics, Golf, and Hockey, and playing a central role in the success of both our boys' and girls' athletics teams. We thank her warmly for her service and wish her all the very best in her future endeavours.

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## In Memoriam

This term, we held a memorial for Mr. Gordon Macdonald, who passed away at the end of last term. Gordon's contribution to Falcon was immense and long-lasting. Our heartfelt condolences go to Heather and the family. His legacy will remain deeply woven into the fabric of the College.

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## Condolences

We extend our sympathies to the following families during their time of loss:

- The **Carle family** (Alastair) on the passing of their father and husband, Derek.
- The **Ncube family** (Darren) on the passing of their father and husband, Midias.

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