FALCON COLLEGE
SIC ITUR AD ASTRA
ESIGODINI - ZIMBABWE

Falcon College Newsletter – 2nd Term 1st Fixture Free Weekend

Introduction

We are pleased to share the latest updates from Falcon College. It has been a busy and productive period across academic, cultural, and sporting activities, with exciting developments taking place both in and beyond the classroom.

Notices and Announcements

- Data Protection Officer:
  We are pleased to announce that Alan Kusema has been appointed as our Data Protection Officer. Please direct any queries regarding our data policies to him.
- Photography Consent:
  Under the new Data Protection Act, we are required to obtain permission from parents and guardians before using photographs of students. A Google Form has been sent out, please ensure that it is completed and submitted. Failure to do so will mean your child cannot appear in any school photographs, including team selections, awards, and official school images (House, Team, or Class photos).
- Uniform and Presentation:
  Please ensure that students return to school with the correct haircut/hairstyle and with all their uniforms in good condition. While we understand the desire to extend the life of clothing, students must consistently maintain the standard expected of Falcon College.

Academics

- We are currently exploring ways to improve teaching strategies, particularly for students who struggle to focus on their academics. We believe that enhancing engagement will lead to improved overall performance. A dedicated committee is being established to address these challenges and implement effective solutions.
- There are ongoing discussions behind the scenes regarding the new Heritage-Based Curriculum being introduced by MOPSE. We continue to work closely with both MOPSE and

ATS to ensure compliance, while safeguarding the integrity of our own goals, values, and systems. We will keep you updated as developments unfold in this area.

Astra Academy

- Astra Academy has made a strong start to the term, with students gaining hands-on experience in crop production, livestock management, meat processing, and farm maintenance, alongside progress in ICT and workplace skills. These activities continue to build practical knowledge, responsibility, and resilience.
  Please refer to the Annexure for the full report and photo highlights.

Infrastructure Developments

- A sincere thank you to the Rudland Family for the upgrade of the Mark Davenport Pavilion. It has been transformed into a world-class High-Performance Centre—certainly one of the best of its kind in Zimbabwe, and possibly in Africa—thanks to their generous donation.
- Our Girls' Gym has also been upgraded along the same lines. A huge thank you to Mrs Katja Mavros and Mrs Sinkwa for their support.
- Significant progress has been made in staff housing.
- Thanks to an anonymous donor, the Staff Common Room has been refurbished and can now comfortably accommodate our growing staff body.
- Tredgold House: Refurbishment of the Lower Sixth studies and the installation of a new bathroom have been completed.
- Hervey House: A new Lower Sixth bathroom has been completed.
- George Grey House: Refurbishment of the Lower Sixth studies and bathroom has been completed.
- The Boys' Head of School House has been refurbished, thanks to a kind donation.
- Work has commenced on the school's golf driving range.
- Development of several campsites on Swimming Pool Hill has also begun.

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Falcon Parents Association

- We would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlene Honiball and the Falcon Parents Association for their tremendous efforts in ensuring that everyone is well catered for, and that Falcon remains one of the most recognizable schools through their outstanding supporters' merchandise at all our fixtures. This is no small task, and your dedication and hard work do not go unnoticed. Please may I ask parents to put your hand up to assist at our fixtures as the saying goes many hands make light work.

Music

- Weekly music lessons are now being held in Bulawayo at the Academy of Music.
- Several students had the opportunity to attend a music workshop at the Academy and also went to watch.

Quiet Waters

Exciting developments continue at Quiet Waters:

- The full 12 km perimeter fence has been re-energized, internal fencing has been removed, and the reserve footprint has expanded to 1,400 acres. New roads have been established throughout the expanded area, greatly improving accessibility. Looking ahead, plans are underway for a new ablution block at the Old Boys Study Centre, while restoration work has also commenced at Pumula to rebuild the gazebo lost in a bushfire several years ago.
- Please see flier attached on how to book into Quiet Waters

Sport

- Congratulations to all our sports teams for a positive start to the season. For a school of our size, Falcon continues to perform exceptionally well.
- Special congratulations:
    - Jodi Bawden for being selected for the Zambia Polocrosse Team.
    - Lola Accorsi, Iliyah Afzal, Imaan Afzal, Minka Drummond, Rachel Hlabangana, Tiffany Small, Tyla van der Westhuizen and Ewan Burbidge for making their respective

Zimbabwe Water Polo Teams. They will be representing the country on the global stage, competing in Croatia this July and Spain in August at the Water Polo World Championships.

Staff

- Farewell:
  We regret to announce that Mrs Estelle Nel has resigned after accepting a position as Deputy Head at Whitestone School. While we are sad to see her leave, we are incredibly proud of her achievement. Her contribution to Falcon College has been significant, and we wish her every success in her new role.
- Welcome to New Staff:
  - Mazwi Shamu – Travel and Tourism Teacher
  - Bob Mahari – Director of Rugby
  - John Laing – Director of Outdoor Education, Quiet Waters Manager, and support for the Astra Programme

Parents interested in the Learner Hunters Guide for their child in 2027 are encouraged to contact John Laing via email at jlaing@falconcollege.com.

As we move further into the term, we remain committed to providing a well-rounded experience for all our students, both inside and outside the classroom. We encourage you to take note of the various activities, events, and opportunities outlined in the annexure, which highlights the breadth of engagement available to our students. Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Falcon College.

Newsletter #1 of Term 2, 2026



















Second Term Sports Captains



Hockey Captain (Boys)
Calum Mulder



Hockey Captain (Girls)
Jodi Bawden



Netball Captain
Amie Chubo



Rugby Captain
Callum Orford



Soccer Captain
Cameron Dance

Second Term Club Captains



Cookery Club Captain
Richelle Sikombo



Cookery Club Captain
Peyton Zeloumis

















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Music

Our musicians recently had the privilege of attending a workshop at the Academy of Music in collaboration with the international musicians from Morningside Music Bridge. The workshop provided our students with a valuable opportunity to learn from highly talented and experienced musicians, gaining insight into different musical styles, techniques, and performance practices.
The students also attended the Soundscape Concert, where both the visiting international musicians and talented local performers showcased their musical abilities. The evening was filled with outstanding performances, inspiration, and a shared appreciation for music. It was certainly an enjoyable and memorable experience for all who attended.

Mountain Bike Club

The Falcon Mountain Bike Club recently took part in the Kushanya Challenge held in the scenic surroundings of Nyanga. The team competed in a grueling 65 km endurance challenge spread over two days, testing both their physical stamina and mental resilience.
Throughout the event, the riders demonstrated determination, perseverance, and excellent teamwork as they tackled demanding terrain, steep climbs, and challenging weather conditions. The experience not only pushed the cyclists beyond their comfort zones but also allowed them to develop valuable skills in endurance riding, discipline, and sportsmanship.
The trip proved to be both rewarding and memorable, and the club can be proud of the commitment and enthusiasm shown by all the riders who represented the Falcon Mountain Bike Club so well.

Ballet

Our ballet students have been working extremely hard in preparation for the upcoming "The Library After Dark" dance performance presented by The Dance Academy. Countless hours of rehearsals, dedication, and commitment have gone into ensuring that the production will be both entertaining and memorable.

The performances will take place at the Bulawayo Theatre on the 12th and 13th of June. Audiences can look forward to an exciting showcase of talent, creativity, and passion from all the dancers involved.

Tickets are currently on sale. For further information or ticket enquiries, please contact Jenna on 0775581069 or Nicole on 0773472389.

Celebrating Africa Day

In celebration of Africa Day, our students commemorated the occasion by embracing and celebrating the rich culture, unity, and diversity of the African continent. The day was filled with meaningful activities that highlighted the beauty of Africa's many traditions, languages, and cultures.
Students attended a special Chapel Service and enjoyed a variety of performances throughout the celebrations. Our talented vocalists performed "Asibe – Hello", entertaining the audience with their enthusiasm and musical talent. Learners also had the opportunity to listen to speakers representing different African countries, sharing insights into their languages, customs, and cultural heritage. Adding to the experience was a fascinating Ndebele artifacts display, which allowed students to appreciate traditional African craftsmanship and history. The celebrations also included energetic cultural dances, with the Gumboot Dance and Ingquzu demonstrations proving to be highlights of the day.

The celebrations created a wonderful atmosphere of appreciation, respect, and unity as students proudly acknowledged and celebrated the richness of African identity and heritage.

Interact

The Interact Club visited The Mustard Seed in Bulawayo, bringing donations of food to support children and families in need. The club's mission for the year is to uplift the most vulnerable in the community—and this visit was a powerful step toward turning that mission into action. Members spent time listening to the staff, gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges faced daily. It was more than just a drop-off; it was a moment of genuine connection and shared humanity

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Astra Academy - Growth, Grit, Greenhouses and Livestock

The Astra Academy has had a busy start to the term. In the greenhouse, summer crops have made way for winter vegetables – seeds that students helped sow during a visit to Safari Seedlings, learning about crop rotation and seasonal planting.

At the Reed's Farm in Somabhula, students helped weigh and tag pedigree Tuli and Brahman weaners and got up close to the bulls. "It was amazing to get so close to bulls weighing half a ton of muscle," one student said. The visit taught them about livestock handling and record-keeping.

Closer to home, students have been butchering pigs for the school dining hall, gaining skills in meat processing and food hygiene. They have also assisted with building and metalwork projects on the farm, learning welding and safe tool use. The arrival of sheep at the solar farm has added lessons in rotational grazing and animal welfare.

In the classroom, steady progress is being made towards earning International Computer Driving Licences, as well as completing a course on labour management called “Winners in the Workplace”.

We look forward to upcoming trips to Victoria Falls, Nottingham Estate, and Mashonaland.

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Students releasing sheep onto the school farm



Students get up close to pedigree bulls.

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www.falconcollege.com

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Students operate power tools on farm building projects.

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