

## Falcon College Third Term 2<sup>nd</sup> Fixture Free Newsletter

Welcome to this term's third newsletter. As we approach the end of the term and the close of the year, we reflect on what has been a productive and eventful time. We look forward to the exciting developments and growth planned for 2025.

### **Speech Day and Leavers' Lunch**

Last Thursday, we celebrated Speech Day and the annual Leavers' Lunch. Our guest speaker, Peter Trethowan, a former head boy, delivered an engaging and entertaining speech that inspired students and parents alike. Later, Reg and Martha Querl, with Reg as the former Headmaster, delighted us at the Leavers' Lunch with a heartfelt and memorable address, making it a day to remember for all in attendance.

Below are additional highlights, recognitions, and updates from Falcon College.

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### **College Prefects for 2025**

Congratulations to the following students on their selection as College Prefects for 2025. We wish them all the best in their roles:

- Head Boy: James Thompson
- Head Girl: Angela Zhang
- Deputy Head Boy, Head of Functions: Ryan Masuku
- Deputy Head Girl, Head of Kestrel: Jennifer Van Der Merwe
- Head of Chubb: McDonald Chikaponya
- Head of Founders, Head of Sport: Zane Sibanda
- Head of George Grey, Head of Culture: Ruan Nel
- Head of Hervey: Daniel Foster
- Head of Oates: Tian Muller
- Head of Tredgold: Scott Wenham
- Deputy Head of Chubb, Head of Chapel: Bruce Mutatu
- Deputy Head of Founders, Head of San: Joshua Saunders
- Deputy Head of George Grey, Head of Discipline: Alistar Carle
- Deputy Head of Hervey, Head of Library/Tuckshop: Ted Nyamapfeka
- Deputy Head of Kestrel, Head of Chapel: Philippa McKechnie

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# FALCON COLLEGE



ESIGODINI - ZIMBABWE

- Deputy Head of Oates, Head of Kitchen and Dining Hall: Aidan Osborne
- Deputy Head of Tredgold, Head of Support: Bradley Manokore
- Head of Academics: Olivia Accorsi
- Head of Culture: Nonhlanhla Sibanda
- Head of Discipline: Erin Zietsman
- Head of Community Service: Darren Ncube
- Head of Library/Tuckshop: Hannah Godfrey
- Head of San: Buzile Dube
- Head of Sport: Sarah Henwood
- Head of Support: Tyla Love

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## Student Numbers

In response to demand, we will expand our Form 1 Girls intake from 27 to 40 students in 2025. The College currently hosts 503 students, and we anticipate welcoming 559 students by January 2025.

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## Campus Developments

- Astro Turf: Thanks to the generous funding from Falconian Simon Rudland and the Rudland family, this project is progressing smoothly, with completion anticipated in early 2025. We are also grateful to Andre Zietsman and his company, Bitumen World, for their professional approach in constructing the Astro, especially given the current economic climate.
- Solar Farm: Our 1MW solar project is well underway, and we expect it to be operational by March 2025, reducing our reliance on traditional energy sources.
- Staff Village: Site clearing has begun, and construction is scheduled to start soon. This project aims to enhance living conditions for our dedicated staff, with special thanks to the Falconian community for their generous contributions.
- Kestrel House Expansion: The expansion of our Form 1 dormitory remains on track for completion by the end of this year.
- Classroom Construction: We plan to begin building two additional classrooms to support our growing student body. Completion is expected by January 2025.

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## Academics

### Sixth Form Program

In 2025, we are introducing a Sixth Form Diploma Program, fully launching in 2026, to support students with diverse career goals. Led by Mr Andy McKechnie, this program will equip students with practical skills in areas like agriculture, welding, plumbing, mechanics, first aid, heavy

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machinery operation, computers, sports management, and marketing. This initiative will ensure that our students are well-prepared for life beyond school.

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### **Staff Farewells**

We say farewell to Kudakwashe Garakasha, who is pursuing a career in law; Munyaradzi Madhombiro, relocating to Cape Town; and Amanda McTaggart, who is stepping down after 24 years of dedicated service. Amanda will continue to support the College part-time. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

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### **Falconian Recognition**

My wife Jenny and I recently attended the UK Falconian 70th Anniversary Dinner, where we were warmly welcomed by the Falconian Association. We extend our sincere thanks to Peter Coulson and Michael Doddington for hosting us in London, and to Brian Darling and Tapiwa Mafi for their ongoing work to unite Falconians globally.

We were honoured to meet Nigel Pegram, a Falcon founder, actor, and producer, whose generous contributions support our annual Arts and Culture Award. Additionally, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Stuart Jamieson, a distinguished cardiothoracic surgeon, who is currently sponsoring four Falcon students, with plans to expand the program to support six students by 2026.

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### **Falconian Obituaries**

We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Falconian Richard Calder, who recently passed away in a light aircraft accident in the Zambezi Valley. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time.

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### **Student Sporting Achievements**

We proudly recognize the following students for their exceptional achievements in various sports:

- Basketball: Liam Britten - U16 Zimbabwe National Team
- Cricket:
  - Nathaniel Hlabangana, Brandon Ndiweni, Darren Ncube - Zimbabwe U17 Team
  - George Oosthuizen, Frederick Oosthuizen, Merrick Reed - Botswana U19 Team

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- Golf:
  - Jonathan Silwawa - Botswana Golf Team, All Africa Golf Challenge
  - Alistair Carle - Ranked #23 in the National Junior Order of Merit
- Hockey:
  - U21 Girls Junior Africa Cup: Janelle Wightman
  - U21 Boys Junior Africa Cup: Tochukwu Nnam, Nathaniel Hlabangana, Ngonidzashe Ndadzibaya
- Horse Riding: Meaghan Kulera - Zimbabwe Show Jumping
- Karate:
  - Ruan Nel, Tiaan van der Merwe - Zimbabwe Summer Gyashuku
  - Rhyse Caple, Killan Murwira - SA Northern Regions Tournament
- Tennis:
  - Southern Region U15 Girls - 1st position: Yalezwa Chiweshe
  - Southern Region U14 Girls - 2nd position: Lyla van Reit, 3rd position: Montana van der Merwe
- Water Polo:
  - U14 Zimbabwe Girls Team: Minka Drummond, Mia Honiball (Non-Travelling Reserve)
  - U14 Zimbabwe Boys Team: David Middleton, Caleb Crawford (Non-Travelling Reserve)
  - U15 Zimbabwe Girls Team: Lola Accorsi, Rachel Hlabangana (Non-Travelling Reserve)
  - Ashlee Swales (Non-Travelling Reserve)
  - U15 Zimbabwe Boys Team: Preston Caple

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Thank you for your ongoing support of Falcon College. We look forward to another successful and enriching year ahead as we continue to nurture and support our students' growth and achievements.

Warm regards,



**Mr Dave Kirkman**  
**Headmaster, Falcon College**

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