

From the Headteacher:



As the summer term comes rushing to its very damp conclusion, we can reflect back on what has been a fantastic year for Falmer High School.

We started the year with our best ever examination results and this was followed in October by a superb OfSTED inspection. Both were testimony to the success of the school in recent years.

Furthermore, many of our students have achieved personal successes over the past year. Here is just a sample of these:

- **Aaron Odedra** had a very successful year winning **two Princess Diana Awards, the Argus Pupil of the Year Award**, presenting to MPs at the House of Commons and meeting Princes Harry and William at Wembley (ably supported by **Chris Jeeves**).
- **Soshana Day** was commended at the University of Sussex for her excellent work in the Mathematics Masterclass organised by the Royal Institute of GB.
- Our dancers, representing all year groups, performed brilliantly at the **Gardner Arts Centre** and **Brighton Dome**. Once again demonstrating what talented young people we have at Falmer.
- **Rebekah Harmer** successfully became a **Festival Young Critic** with her work published on the internet.
- Our athletes performed brilliantly at the City's athletics championships this term. In particular, **Declan Dwyer** came third in the shot and **Sadie Ashby** came second in the javelin after breaking the City Championship record.
- Year 11 completed their final year at secondary school and we are now eagerly awaiting their examination results – fingers crossed for another successful year! Their Prom at the Thistle Hotel on 22nd June was a resounding success!
- Year 9 won the Construction award at the City College taster day.

- Over 70 Enterprise events took place throughout the year. Year 9 participated in the Learn to Earn day, whilst more recently Year 10 was involved in the excellent Sell 4 Success event where they had to set up their own company to promote a product.
- Year 7 have been involved in a Gifted and Talented project whereby they have produced a video describing their early experiences at Falmer.
- Well done to Year 9 for excellent SAT results in mathematics and science exceeding the school's targets significantly (English results are not issued until August). If the students work that hard, in two years time they will achieve excellent exam results.

We are now looking forward to the new academic year and welcoming the new Year 7 to the Falmer community. We hope that they enjoy many successes and personal triumphs.

The new school year will bring many exciting opportunities for our learners. For example, we will be opening our own hairdressing salon in the South Building and a skills centre in Moulsecoomb Way for Motor Vehicle Maintenance. We are refurbishing science labs, adding new computers in maths and lots, lots more.

We should all be very proud of the recognition we have received for our successes this year. Let's hope that the year ahead proves to be as successful as this one! Thank you to all parents and carers for their continued support. Thank you also to the staff and Governors of the school – your dedication and commitment is very much appreciated.

Stuart McLaughlin
Headteacher

Read about the Falmer Plus Progress on centre pages and Student News on back pages.

- > Falmer Plus Friends
- > The Bridge Community Education Centre
- > MAC's Place
- > Clubs and Activities
- > Student News
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Falmer is an **extended school** and encourages parents and the local community to make use of the school facilities and the range of learning opportunities at the Bridge Community Education Centre.

As an extended school, Falmer is able to offer more opportunities to students. A wide range of **clubs** is available to students, giving them the chance to take part in activities outside their normal studies.

Mac's Place has gone from strength to strength this term with lots of people from the school and wider community making use of the excellent advice and support services that are available.

Continue reading to find out more about recent activities and achievements and see how you can become involved in future developments.

Proud to be Parents and Proud to be Friends **MACs Place**

'**Falmer Plus Friends**' parents and supporters have been busy organising social events at the school. These events are great fun - you can bring along your own refreshments and young children as well - so there's no excuse. See you at the next one!

This year Falmer Plus Friends have organised Quiz Nights and Race Nights which have been very popular and successful. The group have agreed to donate £100 of the funds raised towards the school ski trip.

Falmer High School and the Bridge organised a Summer Fun Day on July 8th which was a great success with lots going on. Falmer Plus Friends organised a car boot sale, there was also live music, sumo wrestling, lots of stalls, refreshments and a football tournament – well done to the winning team, Seagulls FC.



Football tournament at Falmer and The Bridge Summer Fun Day

Mac's Place is a multi-agency advice and guidance drop in centre for 10-25 year olds which is based at the Bridge on the Falmer School site. The friendly team of workers are there to offer advice, support and information. Mac's Place also offers free after school clubs such as the popular Snack Attack Club on Tuesdays. Other clubs include Girls' Group, Cooking Club, BME groups and Mother and Daughter complementary therapy. September will see the start of an exciting film club. If you are interested in finding out more about any of these activities pop in or call Christine Brady on 01273 294823.

Mac's Place would like to say a big thank you to Joanna Blackaby from Marie Clare magazine who took time away from her busy schedule to donate a new logo to Mac's Place. We would also like to thank Academy Internet who encouraged Elsie Edgar in Year 10 with her designs for Mac and Macina, the Mac's Place characters, and with the mural outside Mac's Place. Thanks also to all the local businesses which have supported Mac's Place. Mac's Place has been transformed recently and the feedback from young people is that it is very **friendly and welcoming.**



Mac's Place characters Mac and Macina



Falmer Judo Club

Clubs and Activities

A varied programme of activities is available to students outside normal class time, before school, during break and lunch times, after school and during the school holidays. These include a popular breakfast club, homework clubs, sports activities, music clubs, cookery and lots more.

This term has seen the start of an exciting new judo club. The school was successful in applying for judo equipment from the Youth Opportunities Fund and purchased lots of brand new judo mats and judo suits. The club runs on a Monday after school and is led by Mrs Hamm, a fully qualified judo coach.

The breakfast club is open to all students every morning 7.45-8.25am in the social area of the canteen. Students can enjoy breakfast in a calm, friendly and secure atmosphere and play games or just have a chat. There is bingo on Wednesdays and a crib club on Tuesdays, with those playing cribbage entitled to a free breakfast. The average cost of a breakfast is 50p and the food ranges from cereals and toast to hotdogs on Wednesdays. Drinks and snacks can also be purchased at reasonable cost.

An exciting film making club has been running this term with Martin Smith from Silverbox films. The group are making a DVD all about the school to show prospective parents, keep an eye out for it next term!

Falmer High School is offering lots of free summer activities for 10-16 year olds from 26th July to 10th August. Activities include cooking, trampolining, health and beauty, rounders, crafts, gardening, judo, theatre workshops and film making. For booking information please call Katherine Gregory on 01273 691191, 07930 962271 or e-mail katherine.gregory@falmer.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Carnival Club

During the month of May in Brighton there was a huge arts festival showcasing a vast array of talents from street performers, artists, theatre and film, dance and many other disciplines. To kick off the month of celebrations, a children's parade, organised in association with Same Sky, danced and strutted



Falmer students at Brighton Festival Children's Parade

their stuff through Brighton from various points in Brighton's North Laine area down to the seafront. It was a magnificent spectacle of colour, costume and creativity, with over 70 schools partaking in the event and this year Falmer High School was invited to join in. The theme this year was based around 'inventions'. Mr Moot and his enthusiastic team of Year 7 students bounced ideas around, coming up with some fantastic inventions such as bubble machines and dream makers, but opted for creating mad professor outfits. The students worked very hard designing outrageous glasses, beards and facial hair to give their costumes authenticity. There were printed T-shirts with chemical symbols, banners and huge chemistry equipment such as test-tubes, beakers and conical flasks which were paraded through town by the students. It was a great day for all, with lots of children, staff and parents showing their support. A big thank you to Mr Moot and everyone involved in the Carnival club for their hard work and support.

Enterprise at Falmer

Momma Cherri, local celebrity chef, visited Falmer in April. She worked with the Year 10 catering students



Celebrity chef Momma Cherri visits Falmer

showing them how to prepare her Soul Food recipes and giving them the experience of working with a real life chef under real restaurant conditions. The students made jambalaya, sweet potato salad, corn bread and key lime pie. This was then served to the guests of local head teachers, school representatives and local business people in the Catering Café. The whole event was filmed by Bite TV and is currently available on the internet via ITV Local. <http://www.itvlocal.com/meridian/yourtown/?void=63930>.

Young Enterprise came to Falmer to deliver a new programme called **Sell 4 Success**. Year 10 students



Year 10 Enterprise Masterclass

from Catering, Retail Business and Health and Social Care took part alongside volunteer advisers from local businesses. Students were split into three companies. They had to design a new games console, speak with a supplier and agree the specification and costs for the product. They then met a Bank Manager, and presented a business plan to gain a loan to finance their company. Finally they had to set up a



Small Planet T-shirt competition

stall, develop a customer service policy and give a presentation on their company and what they had learnt to fellow students and the business advisers. All this was successfully achieved in just one day. Awards were presented to companies and individuals to recognise their achievements.

Small Planet Surf Shop came to Falmer and talked to the students about their shop, their customers and what they sell, including examples of T-shirts. The students were then set the task of designing a t-shirt for sale in the Small Planet shop. Over the last couple of months the designs have been placed in the shop where customers voted on their favourites. The most popular designs were chosen, and awards were then presented to the students. Winner and runners up T-shirts will be printed as a limited edition and be available in the shop for customers. Well done to those students who produced successful designs.