



# Falmer High School

## Newsletter – December 2009



Dear Parent/Carer



### Former Falmer High School Students

Former student, Dionne Hughes won the National Funny Women Competition; the final took place at the Comedy Store in London in September. She is now working as a professional comedienne called Miss London. Also, Dogan Mehmet who left Falmer in 2006 launched his album *Gypsyhead* at the Komedia on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The album is described as gypsy-punk with strong acoustic grooves! Well done Dionne and Dogan.

### Joint BBC and Glyndebourne Opera Project

We are extremely proud that recently 60 students from Falmer High School participated in opera workshops which will be televised in a forthcoming BBC documentary. The programme stars Gareth Malone, who is the choirmaster, famous for his role in *The Choir* and who is now working with Glyndebourne Opera House on their production of *A Knight's Crew*. This is a modern tale, set in gangland, about King Arthur and has been written to capture young audiences; the majority of the cast are young amateur performers. Gareth Malone was impressed with the singing and acting of Falmer High School students who took part in the workshops. Kai Kinsey, Ollie Southwell, Gaille Consolocaion, Poppy Coe and Marcus Hollingsworth were amongst the 450 students throughout the country who auditioned and went through to the final 60 competitors. Kai, Ollie and Gaille were chosen with Marcus as an understudy. Elsie Edgar a former student of Falmer was also successful. *A Knight's Tale* will be performed in March 2010 at Glyndebourne Opera House. Ms Banks will be selling tickets and it is hoped that many students and parents will see the performance. The three part documentary will be televised on BBC 2 in the spring of next year and we will keep you informed of the dates. Gareth Malone has been so impressed with Falmer that he has returned to search for younger male students whose voices are as yet unbroken and they will take part in *A Knight's Tale*.

Glyndebourne are currently looking for a small number of adult females possibly family members to be part of the 'Mothers' Chorus' for *A Knight's Crew*. If you are interested enjoy music, can sing and act rehearsals begin in January 2010 and will take place on Thursday evenings at Glyndebourne with additional sessions before the opening night then please contact Sarah Cant, Education Project Co-ordinator on 01273 815023 or email [sarah.cant@ glyndebourne.com](mailto:sarah.cant@glyndebourne.com).




## PE Update

Congratulations to the Year 9 girls football team who won the recent Brighton and Hove Schools football tournament, they will go on to represent Brighton and Hove in the Sussex tournament date to be confirmed. Thank you to Sadie Ashby in year 10 for her support at this event. Congratulations to all the team: Sophie Tibbs, Stephanie Nicholls, Amy Coomber, Rebecca Feronni, Bobbie Linton, Brodie Hill, Sophie Sergeant and Ellie Hargie. Our Year 8 girl's netball team recently played in the Brighton and Hove Schools netball tournament and the first Year 9 girl's netball match of the season was played against Hove Park. There are future matches against Patcham and Stringer in the coming weeks. To help support our teams, Year 10 girls have had cheerleading taster sessions and we are holding an after school club which runs every Thursday.

## Clubs and Activities

This term's activities which run before and after school, break and lunch times, have been very popular with students, with record numbers attending. New activities have included Cheerleading, Year 7 Football club and Holistic Therapies. Keep an eye out for the Spring Term programme which will include Basketball, Music clubs, IT clubs and much more.

## Diary Dates

Christmas Holiday:	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> December to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> January.	
School Inset Day:	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January (students return on Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January at 8.25am).	
Early Closure:	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January, school closes to students at 1.25pm.	
Falmer's Finest:	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> January.	
Half Term:	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February. Students start at 9.30am on Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February.	
Progress Review Day:	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March.	
Inset Day:	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March.	
Easter Holiday:	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April.	
Inset Day:	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April (students start at 8.25am on Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April).	



### Motor Vehicle Access to Falmer High School

As you are aware there have been a series of changes to entering and leaving the site, accompanied by moving the number 90 bus stop to the corner of Halland Road. These changes will remain for the next twelve months until the A27 flyover is completed. May I thank you for your support in these times of change and I wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful 2010.

Lauren Atallah  
**Interim Headteacher**