

FALMOUTH MAT NEWSLETTER

The latest news from Falmouth MAT

Issue 4: February 2019

Senior Leaders from across the MAT will be introducing this and future MAT newsletters so you have the opportunity to get to know our team.



WELCOME FROM ALEX GEORGE

HEAD OF SCHOOL - FALMOUTH SCHOOL

I am delighted to be introducing this half terms newsletter and to be able to share with you the great news that Falmouth School has received this month. The Government's official statistics were published at the start of February which include exam results for A levels and GCSEs. 'The Times' newspaper has collated all of this information and picked out its top ten schools in each county. They have named Falmouth School as the top school in Cornwall which is fabulous news!

The hard work that students must put in to achieve these results with the Government's new 'harder' GCSEs and A levels is immense. We believe that our focus on high standards is intrinsic to students achieving their potential.

We continue to have high aspirations for our students and we continue to insist on high standards in every area of school life. Our students and families deserve no less than this from us. Falmouth School is committed to ensuring students leave prepared to compete in a challenging job market or for prestigious university, college and apprenticeship places, against other students from anywhere in the country.

It was wonderful to receive a letter from the House of Commons, from our local MP Sarah Newton, to acknowledge the work that goes into achieving such great results.

Best wishes,
Alex George
Head of School—Falmouth School

THIS EDITION

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GIFTED AND TALENTED SESSIONS



This half term has seen Year 5 MAT primary students visit Falmouth School to undertake English and Maths sessions.

The English sessions continued on from the creative writing that was undertaken before Christmas and the Maths sessions were about tessellating shapes. The group looked at tessellations that are seen in everyday life such as bees' honeycomb and tiling patterns, then explored which regular polygons can be used to tessellate before finally making their own crazy tessellations. They also looked at the works of M.C. Escher to see how this can be used artistically. This enabled the students to experience a side of Maths that allows them to be more creative and demonstrated to the students that Maths and Art are not mutually exclusive. The students left the session excited to return to their classes and teach their classmates how to design their own tessellating patterns!

The next half term sees the start of the Art, Sports and Science gifted and talented sessions. The introduction of these additional sessions mean that all Year 5 children from St Francis and King Charles have the opportunity to visit Falmouth School and take part in inspiring sessions.

MAT PRODUCTION

Discussions are now well underway regarding this years MAT wide production. Representatives from each school are currently looking at the choice of production for this year in order to build on the success of the previous two years and further increase the involvement from King Charles and St Francis.



CROSS COUNTRY

This half term, Falmouth School hosted the Falmouth and Penryn cross country qualifier. This year, St Francis and King Charles saw a huge number of enthusiastic children keen to take part (81 at St Francis and 64 at King Charles), which is testament to how comfortable the MAT school children are becoming with the Falmouth School site and staff.



The open entry pathway meant that all children in Year 4 to Year 6 across Falmouth and Penryn could sign up to have a go. It was a fantastic opportunity for the children and fundamental in promoting participation. Being able to offer this qualifier to all our Year 4, 5 and 6 children, ultimately allows them to try a new sport or develop the skills that they already have. Some of our best runners have been uncovered at the cross country qualifiers!

The children raced on the Channel Four pitch against their own age groups, running between 1000 and 1800 metres and with the pretty tough incline, the cross country was a real endurance contest both mentally and physically. All the children that took part did themselves and their schools incredibly proud.

The Falmouth School Sports Ambassadors did a fantastic job of supporting all the children that took part.

RECEPTION PEN FRIENDS

Every year the children from St Francis and King Charles reception classes develop friendships through pen pals. This half term, the pupils wrote to each other telling their new friends about themselves including their favourite things and about their families.



Later in the year, these friendships will be strengthened when they will visit each other in their schools - something the children are really excited about! Opportunities like this enable us to ensure that pupils have meaningful purposes to write and through visiting each other, the children learn about relationships and 'living well together' - a key focus for us as Church of England schools.

HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

Falmouth MAT is pleased to be working in partnership with Plymouth Argyle, MSJ Rugby Coaching and Cornwall Sports Partnership to deliver an exciting range of activities throughout half term.

Please click [here](#) for the booklet showing what is on offer and click [here](#) to make a booking.



TERM DATES FOR THE 2019/20 ACADEMIC YEAR

Lots of parents have been enquiring about term dates for the 2019/20 academic year in order to ensure holidays are not booked during term time.

The term dates for the 2019/20 academic year are:

Autumn - 4th September 2019 - 20th December 2019 (*half term week beginning 21st October 2019*)

Spring - 6th January 2020 - 27th March 2020 (*half term week beginning 17th February 2020*)

Summer - 14th April 2020 - 23rd July 2020 (*half term week beginning 25th May 2020*)

Planned INSET days at all Falmouth MAT schools are:

4th September 2019

18th October 2019

19th and 20th December 2019

23rd July 2020