

# THE FALMOUTH EAGLE



*Celebrating our extraordinary students and staff*

**Spring Half-term 2024**

I extend a warm welcome to each of you as we dive into the latest edition of our community newsletter. The start of 2024 has been nothing short of exceptional, with our Year 11s exhibiting unwavering determination in their GCSE preparations. Through intensive revision sessions, targeted interventions, and tailored curriculum adjustments based on exam performance, they are laying the groundwork for success. Simultaneously, our Year 10s are rising to the challenge, gearing up for their own academic milestones.

Beyond the rigorous academics, we recently celebrated the vibrant talent of our KS3 students in a spectacular performing arts showcase. Additionally, our school was buzzing with excitement during two family learning events, one in preparing Year 10 for success, and another centered around the joy of reading.

Witnessing the achievements of our young minds is a privilege. As we step into this new year, their kindness, resilience, creativity, and dedication to excellence continue to astonish me. Here's to a year filled with continued growth and accomplishments. We hope you enjoy this edition of The Falmouth Eagle.

**Jacob Price**

Deputy Headteacher



## **CATERING SUCCESS**

Massive congratulations to Willow who has secured a place in the Rotary Young Chef semi finals after smashing the local and district heats!

Meanwhile the year 10 catering students celebrated by creating a festive feast for themselves and their friends to enjoy!





## FALMOUTH SCHOOL'S READING HIGHLIGHTS

At Falmouth School, we understand the vital role reading plays in shaping a young person's success and happiness. However, there is a concerning 'reading gap' among young people in the United Kingdom, where some enjoy a rich reading experience while others face challenges accessing books. Research from the National Literacy Trust reveals that only 1 in 8 disadvantaged students own a book. Additionally, in 2019, a mere 73% of students leaving primary school reached their expected reading levels. This disparity significantly hampers students' ability to navigate the secondary school curriculum, contributing to a broader educational divide. At Falmouth School, we are committed to bridging this 'reading gap' by implementing initiatives to support all students, ensuring they have access to enriching reading experiences.

We are dedicated to fostering a love for reading through a comprehensive set of initiatives. In the mornings, students in Years 7-10 participate in Tutor Reading sessions, where carefully selected books from the PiXL Canon are read aloud, not only igniting a passion for reading but also modelling pronunciation and enhancing vocabulary. Key Stage 3 students benefit from dedicated Library Lessons in our well-resourced library, providing them with dedicated time to access books and engage with reading at their appropriate levels. Teachers across subjects incorporate reading opportunities, utilising 'Popcorn Reading' for collaborative reading and explaining tier 2 and tier 3 vocabulary within lessons. Additionally, our Reading Intervention program, powered by 'Reading Plus' software, assesses students' reading abilities, allowing our literacy team to offer targeted support during tutor time reading intervention slots and in-lesson assistance. These initiatives collectively contribute to creating a supportive reading environment at Falmouth School, ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive in their reading journey.



## **SPORTS NEWS**

Well Done to the Year 7 netball team who competed at the County U12 Netball tournament last week. The team played fantastically throughout the day with a fantastic attitude, determination and resilience.

The Year 11 boys Football team continued their county cup run by playing in the quarter final against Richard Lander. Falmouth made a strong start against Richard Lander and opened the scoring with a goal from Bobby from outside the box and continued the pressure by adding two more goals before half time. Falmouth continued to play well in the second half scoring four more goals before Richard Lander added a consolation to complete the scoring. It was another excellent performance from the whole team with the goals being shared between Bobby, Jude, Ben, Callum and Alastair. The boys move on to the semi finals where they will play Mounts Bay or Redruth School.

The year 7 and 8 girls football teams travelled to Pool school in a friendly football fixture. The year 7 team performed brilliantly in their first fixture of the year, with excellent passages of open play to come away with a 6-0 win. The year 8 team followed suit with great defending and turn over of the ball, which resulted in a great goal from Hollie to take the win 1-0. Both teams represented the school impeccably, showing great togetherness and tremendous attitude throughout in cold conditions. The opposition's player of the match for year 7 was Lyla and for year 8 Charlotte.



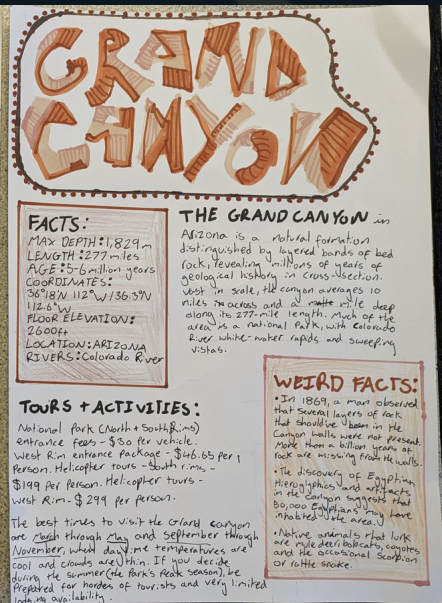
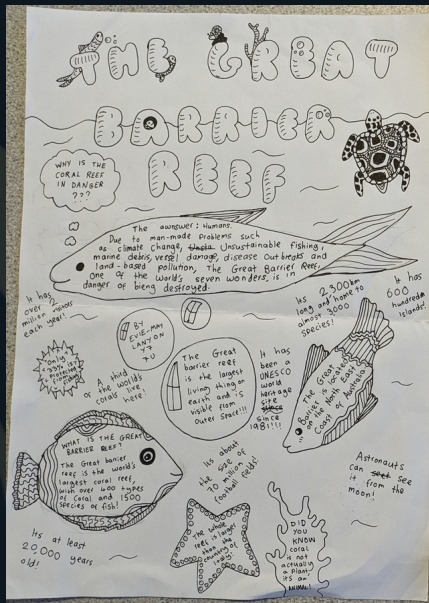
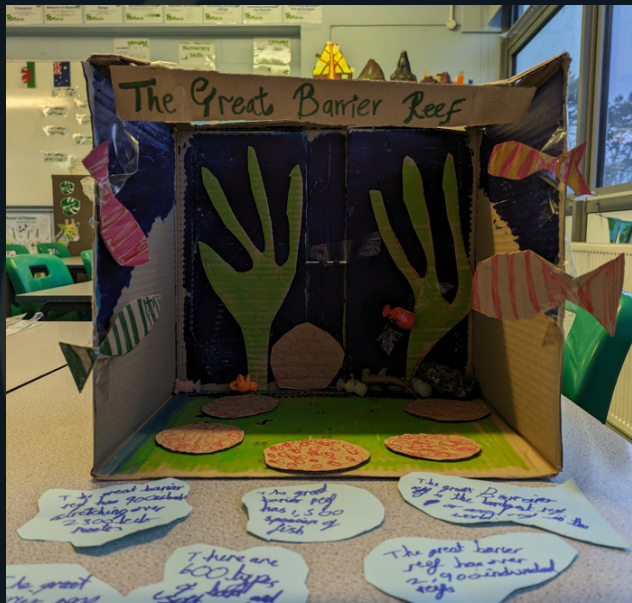
## ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

In response to our current learning module on portraiture, Jacob has created a truly amazing portraiture response in acrylic paints of the celebrity Hugh Grant! Well done to Mawgan Y10 for his fantastic digital abstract portrait inspired by the abstract expressionist Wassily Kandinsky.



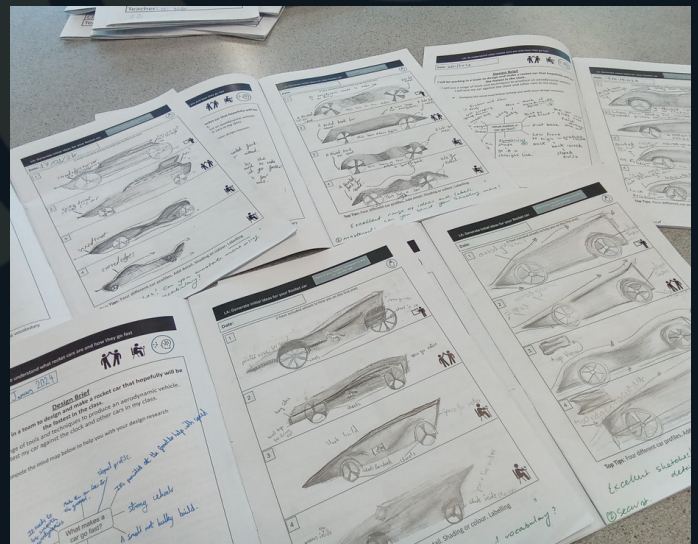
## GEOGRAPHY

This Term Year 7 Geography Students have been working on a home learning project on the Seven Natural Wonders of the World. Max, Nelly, Matilda and Evie-May have made a fantastic start on their projects!



## DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Class 7B/Dt4 have produced some exceptional design work. This is for the rocket car project where they will be collaborating with their peers to create a race car model. They needed to consider the aerodynamics of their model to make sure it was the one that will be fastest!



## BUSINESS BREAKFASTS

At Falmouth school we take the future career aspirations of our students seriously. To help spread the word about the world of work we have been running a Business Breakfast session every Wednesday morning with local employers. All students from year 8 up to year 13 are invited to attend these short, but concise events which give students an opportunity to meet and discuss what each of the careers involves and what a career pathway may look like. We find that our informal meeting venue of the sixth form common room is far more conducive to questions and participation than an assembly. All students attending get offered a croissant and a cup of fruit juice to start the day. Sessions have been conducted by a wide range of sectors so far, including A&P at the docks, fashion firm Seasalt, the Army, the Spaceport, local estate agents, the police and many others. If you or a representative of your company would like to be a guest speaker at a Business Breakfast session please contact Mr French to arrange this.





## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Before the school finished for the Christmas holidays, students treated us to a spectacular Christmas concert. There were acts from every year group and even some teachers made a special guest appearance!

Well done to every single one of you that took part, it was a fantastic way to kick start the Festivities!

Look out for the Music departments next concert- 'The year 9 Charity Concert' on Wednesday 28th February, where we will be raising money for the RNLI. Tickets available on Parent Pay now!



## CLOSING THE READING GAP: READING COMPETITIONS

Get ready to immerse yourself in the world of literature with Falmouth School's upcoming reading competitions! First up is the Alphabet Challenge, where you can explore fiction from A to Z, earning exciting prizes as you progress. Next, embark on a literary journey across genres in the 'Read a Theme' Challenge – complete three books and receive a free book of your choice. For those intrigued by the real world, the Non-Fiction Challenge awaits, featuring four curated non-fiction books. Beyond the prizes, these competitions are designed to ignite a passion for reading, providing a sense of accomplishment and fostering a community of readers. Stay tuned for updates on our dynamic reading programs at Falmouth School.



## CROSS-COUNTRY

Congratulations to Florence and Roman who represented Cornwall at the South West Schools Cross Country championships this past weekend in Somerset. They both ran brilliantly and now have been selected to run at the English Schools Cross Country in March.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Half term: 12-16 February

Duke of Edinburgh presentation: 26 February

Year 9 Charity Concert: 28 February

Family Learning – Exams Preparation for Year 11,12 and 13: 4 March

Year 9 Parents Evening: 5 March

Year 9 Options Evening: 13 March