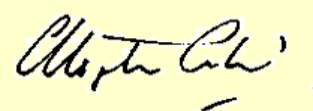


The Headmaster writes:

In the context of all the disruption caused by COVID over the past six weeks, what follows is a remarkable celebration of all that the school community has achieved in challenging times. The past half term has been framed by a most uplifting Form 7 production of 'Shakespeare Rocks!' and the more recent FoAA Quiz Night. In between, the children have enjoyed all manner of activity including, for example, a variety of sports tournaments, charity fundraisers, the resurgence of early-morning running club, and the marking of events such as Chinese New Year and the Queen's Accession to the throne. The recent launch of the new badges to go with the new school uniform is a living reminder of all that our children engage in, day in day out, and equally of the excellence that they have achieved along the way. I would like to congratulate the boys and girls on all their successes of recent weeks and to thank both staff and parents for their heroic efforts supporting the children

through the complexities of remote access learning. We shall hope for a less complicated second half of term; in the meantime I would like to wish all in our community a very happy half-term break.



Chris Carlier
Headmaster

New badges are introduced

With the new uniform introduced this year all the Aldro badges have had to be redesigned. At the end of January every pupil was given their current badges in the new design plus a new one showing which squad they are in. Here are a selection of junior pupils showing off their first badge—one of many we are sure. The school jumper can accommodate forty-eight in total!



Aldro Bake Off - Forms 3,4 & 5

On Friday 11th February we held the Aldro Bake Off for the children in Forms 3, 4 and 5. The bake off was given an Animal theme and the wonderful array of cup cakes and larger cakes arrived at school in the morning. At break time all the pupils got to buy a cake and we were delighted that the whole event raised £410 for our school charity.



Shakespeare Rocks

Well what an absolutely amazing achievement it was too finally get to show the world that shakespeare did indeed rock! After being so near the finish line in the Christmas term and then having to postpone due to covid, The Form 7s showed so much grit and determination and we were finally able to put on a performance to a real audience, something we haven't been able to do for sometime! It was incredible and what an amazingly joyful and positive start to the lent term it provided. I'm so pleased with how they all performed on the night and so proud of each of them. I would like to say a huge thank you to everybody involved in the show and everybody who came along to watch as well.





Rugby Shirt Day, in aid of Wooden Spoon

On Friday 21st January we held our annual Rugby Shirt Day, in aid of the charity Wooden Spoon. The idea is very simple—all pupils and staff are invited to wear a rugby shirt of their choice at school for the day. In return, we ask that everyone makes a contribution of at least £1 to the charity. It was our very own Yves Lombardot who first dreamt up the idea of Rugby Shirt Day, eighteen years ago.

This year we had all sorts of shirts on display, ranging from England shirts and Lion jerseys to the local Guildford RFC. Many clubs and nations were represented, and some staff even managed to squeeze in to their old shirts!

This year we were delighted to raise £742.50, bringing the total donations over eighteen years to £7,541.24.



Aldro Welcomes the Headmaster of Pangbourne College



Aldro was delighted to welcome Mr Garnier, Headmaster of Pangbourne College to speak in our first formal Chapel service of the year. Pupils, parents and staff delighted in the re-enactment of Jesus' miracle, turning water into wine!

Chinese New Year

On February 1st our amazing catering team produced a fabulous Chinese banquet to celebrate Chinese New Year, this was followed by lychees and fortune cookies!



In the Library we had a display of many books relating to China



Outdoor Education - Form 5 Orienteering

In Outdoor Education Form 5 enjoyed a orienteering course in the beautiful Aldro grounds. Having learned basic orienteering skills last year, they have now progressed to a more challenging route. Some impressive teamwork, good map skills and competitive drive lead to some speedy times being recorded. Great to see everyone having fun, keeping warm and working hard.



Bonne fete de Chandeleur

The Aldro French Department celebrated Candlemas or Bonne fete de Chandeleur, The presentation of Jesus at the Temple. In France and Belgium it is considered the day of crêpes. A fusion of French, the Christian ethos at Aldro and of course a love of crêpes!



SPORTS | TALK

U11 Girls enter the IAPS Netball Tournament

We were delighted when the U11 Netball team won the National IAPS Small Schools Plate tournament on Friday 11th February.

They travelled to Framlingham College in Suffolk for the tournament, which is open to all IAPS schools with fewer than 30 girls in year 5 and 6 combined. Thursday afternoon saw the girls win their warm up match against a team from Framlingham, followed by the excitement of an overnight stay!

Friday was a busy schedule of back to back matches, in the BEE Netball format. This is the five aside version of the game promoted by England Netball which involves players rotating around every position on court, as well as fulfilling off court roles such as scorer, statistician and photographer. This format of the game allows players to develop their skills in all areas of play, providing a challenge for even the most able players. After some tough oppositions in the group stages, the Aldro team went through to the plate competition in the afternoon. A very close semi final, and then an even more closely fought final led to an exiting end to the day, with Aldro emerging victorious in the final with a 3-2 win.

A huge well done to all the girls Grace A, Romilly B, Emilia F, Ava G, Lily H, Charlotte L, Amelia M, Beth P, Arabella S and Katie T .



SPORTS | TALK

Highfield Cross Country Meeting

U13 Boys

6th Place overall
54 Runners
9 Schools

1st	S. Lomtadze
18th	B. Santaolalla
23rd	S. Butcher
26th	G. Hughes
35th	E. Hewitt

U12 Boys

6th Place overall
66 Runners
11 Schools

4th	B. Reed
19th	H. Crosby
30th	J. Graham
Tbc	B. Everett

U12 Girls

8th Place overall
48 Runners
8 Schools

Tbc	A. Yule
Tbc	C. Bateman
n/a	M. McCombes
n/a	C. Templeton Ward

U11 Boys

11th Place overall
72 Runners
13 School

31st	H. Everett
46th	A. Wareing
59th	A. Graham
72nd	T. Newman

U10 Boys

2nd Place overall
60 Runners
13 Schools

7th	H. Evans
10th	J. Barnes
12th	F. Everett
14th	J. Patterson
31st	B. Hargrave
59th	H. Cox

U9 Boys

5th Place Overall
86 Runners
15 Schools

1st	Henry Thompson
19th	T. Niel
26th	L. Booth
30th	A. Moss
34th	F. Edwards
51st	A. Cruse

U9 Girls

4th Place overall
64 Runners
11 Schools

4th	E. Crichton
17th	M. Templeton Ward
21st	L. Orr
37th	K. Thompson
39th	B. Watson
56th	J. Moss



Junior Department

Form 3 study Shackleton/Antarctica

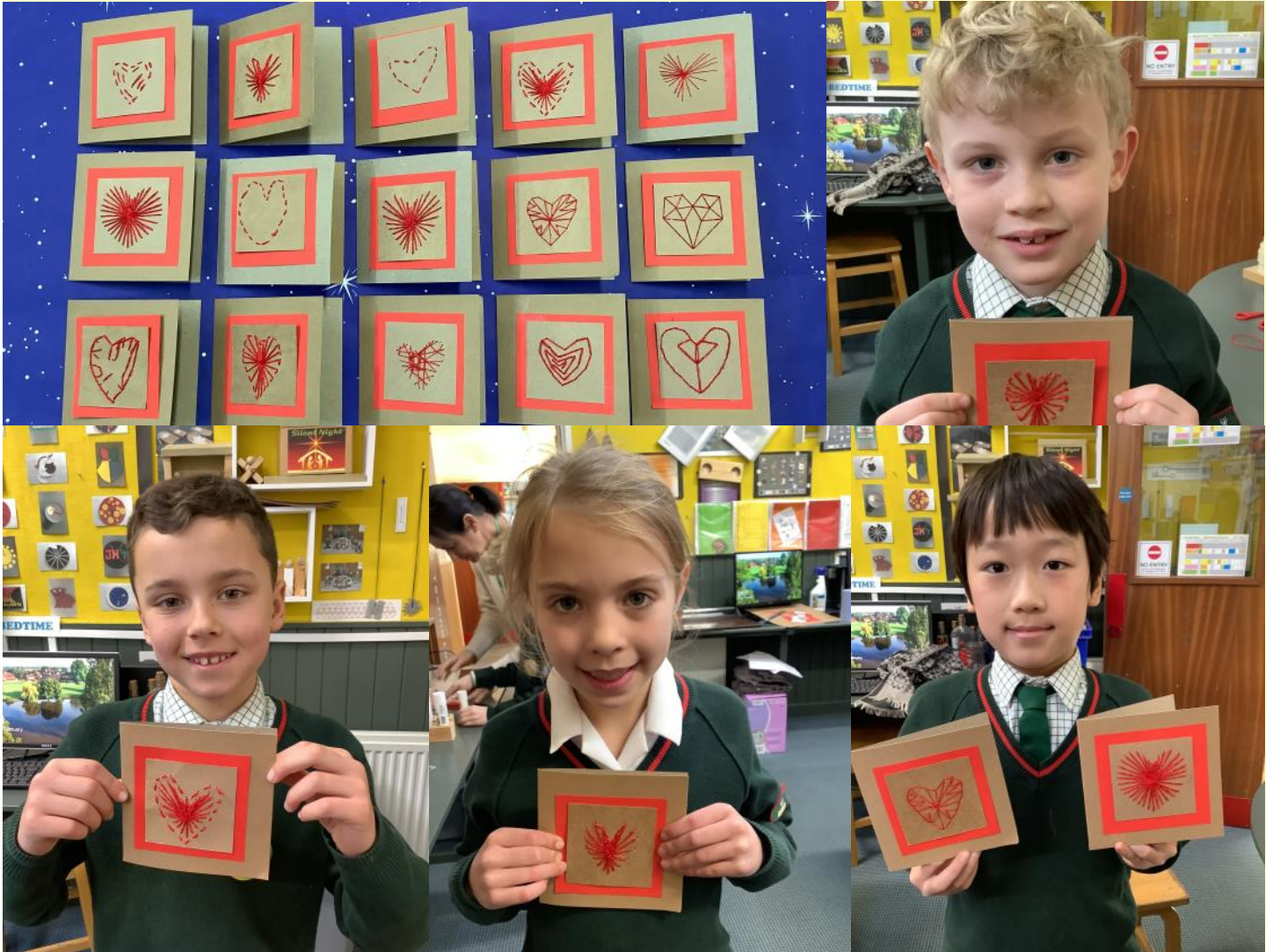
In support of Form 3's Geography and English unit of work on Ernest Shackleton, the Outdoor Education team provided 'boats and ice' for the children to recreate the journeys of the James Caird, the Dudley Docker and Stancomb Wills. These were the lifeboats salvaged from the Endurance prior to her being crushed by the Antarctic ice and sinking. The children worked together in teams to haul boats – sadly, no ice, but a muddy rugby pitch – and to hear all about the challenges and privations of Shackleton's epic and historic journey. Form 3 showed fantastic prior knowledge of this last expedition of the Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration (1888- 1914) and great understanding of how Shackleton's story is one fraught with unimaginable peril, adventure and of course, above all, Endurance.



Junior Department

Valentines Cards

Form 3 have been designing and making Valentine's cards for their nearest and dearest, we hope you enjoyed receiving them!



Form 3 English

Form 3 have been studying the Polar regions and learnt about Shackleton's Endurance journey. They acted out the voyage as his crew and imagined how they would have felt in the most desperate of times. They celebrated enthusiastically once rescued!



Junior Department

Mr Carlier Joins the Juniors at Break!

Mr Carlier, joined the Junior pupils for a game of table tennis, albeit with a very small bat!



Form 3 pupils meet the Headmaster

Form 3 pupils meet the Headmaster, Mr Chris Carlier, to show him their work on note taking.



Friends of Aldro

Quiz Night

The Aldro quiz evening on Friday, 4th February was a huge success and an excellent evening, enjoyed by all who took part. The Form 3 and 4 reps worked incredibly hard to ensure that the evening ran without a hitch and were well supported by the Form 4 parents. Mr Rose ran the evening with his usual sense of humour and enthusiasm and kept the evening on course and all the parents in line! We are delighted to announce that the evening raised £1,000 for the school charity The Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex.



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