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Newsletter from Aldro

"Bringing out the best in boys'

2nd July 2018

The Headmaster writes:

This has been an amazing term and Aldro is ever at its finest when the sun is shining. This bumper edition of the AldroLink magazine certainly shows off the boys at their best and we have so many people to thank for creating these opportunities for them. Our intrepid Form 8s are heading off to their chosen senior schools as we celebrate all of them passing their CE and scholarship entrance exams. The group has also provided another 15 scholarships this year, many academic, but a fabulous range of achievements — bringing 45 in all over the past 3 years; we salute all of them! When you look back on your time at Aldro (as these boys will do), we hope they revel in the many wonderful events that they took part in for the final

time (and perhaps 6th time in all) – whether it be the Regatta & Family Fun Day, Sports Day, Lads n' Dads cricket, Swim-a-Thon, Art Exhibition or just the leavers' programme - life is full of memories made here. For the younger ones, we know they have been equally busy with a fabulous junior production and grandparents' afternoon and the whole community loved sharing the fun. Thank you all for your huge contributions to enrich every aspect of life at Aldro.

James Hanson Headmaster

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Scholarship & 100% Common Entrance Success

Many congratulations to all our Form 8 boys who have all passed Common Entrance exam and been successful in getting in to their chosen Senior Schools. This year we also need to celebrate the following scholarships won by Aldro boys: on the academic front we are delighted to recognise, D Craig-Wood 11+ St Edmund's, AHR Harris - Tonbridge, LM Hepworth - Winchester, PA Hughes - Tonbridge, CW Thompson - Tonbridge and Benjamin Zhao - Tonbridge. WDM Dyer was awarded a DT award to Charterhouse. There are also four music awards—Siwei Han - Tonbridge, PA Hughes - Tonbridge, JJ Hume - Charterhouse, FGM Whitlam - Cranleigh and for Sport SMG Huet - to Sherborne. Well done to all.



World Maths Day - 2018

The school was buzzing about Maths in the lead up to World Maths Day this year. With over 4 million students competing from all over the world, the boys were certainly ready to compete against the best. During the 'warm up' period there was an opportunity for everyone to practise their mental arithmetic skills before the big day. Over the 48 hour period, quite a number of boys managed to achieve a place on the Top 100 leader board... before the southern hemisphere countries woke up to take on the battle!

At the end of the event, Aldro can be very proud of two individual boys who managed to retain a position in the top 100 for their year group - Harry Liuhan (Form 5 came 89th in the World) and Felix Palmer (Form 7 - came 87th in the World). The fact that almost every year group in the school managed a place on the top 100 leader board (based on a year group average) shows the strength and enthusiasm for Maths at Aldro.

Well done boys! FD



Aldro School Council

The School Council aims to meet on the last Wednesday of each month. Our aim is to enable all boys at Aldro to contribute towards the continuous improvement of the school community. Boys in each class have the opportunity to air their views in Form Tutor periods, but also at any point during the school day. The Form Representatives then put over these views at School Council meetings. Although Mr Jordan is always present at the meetings, they are run by the Head Boy, Patrick Hughes. Minutes of the meeting are taken and the representatives then report back to their Form, updating them on what has been discussed and from here we try to implement as many of the ideas and suggestions that come up. Some are easy, but some take a little longer!



Beauty and the Beast



With nearly 100 boys in the cast, Beauty and the Beast has been one of the biggest shows at Aldro in recent years. When over 70 of them turned up to audition for main roles, I knew it was going to be something spectacular; we were spoilt for choice with casting and so many of them showing such potential. They certainly didn't disappoint in rehearsals and the boys worked tirelessly throughout the term. They were fully involved in all aspects of the show, not limited to performing on stage, but in costume

and set design and prop creation too. I would like to commend each and every boy involved in the show – I am extremely proud of what they have achieved. The performances themselves were magnificent, with every boy rising to the occasion and thoroughly enjoying himself. With confetti canons, sparkly props and silly girls complete with wigs, what more could you ask for from an Aldro production!

It may seem strange in a boys school to do this show, which many think of as a love story, but it actually has so much more to teach us than that. The themes of friendship, loyalty, honour and courage that run throughout the story can teach all of us valuable lessons and help us understand ourselves and each other better. Shows like this don't just happen without a great deal of support and I am hugely grateful to all the Aldro staff for their help with this production.







Superb Science

Mr Rose's chapels have reminded us that we have recently seen the loss of 2 significant scientific legends—Sir Roger Bannister and Professor Stephen Hawking; with their memories firmly fixed in our minds, we have been driven to produce some cracking science work yet again!

The quality of the Science challenges has improved exponentially and there have been swathes of Headmaster's commendations and badges awarded. We are getting so good that Miss Donaldson and Mrs Eves have been trying to think of other ways of rewarding our brilliance.



It is not all good news: Eggbert has been on the naughty step....AGAIN. He has tried two little fingers recently and we are now having to keep him under a watchful eye. He continues to be the major disciplinary problem of our department.



The Lungs by Ben HH



As the Form 8s moved towards their Common Entrance examinations, we continued to model their learning in the most abstract ways. Here they are playing a game of marbles to represent rates of reaction.

The Form 7 boys performed the first 'Scientific Showcase' (we reckon in the world – if we are talking about showing off role plays in respiration). They did nothing less than electrify. Never has such passion been seen from 12 year old boys talking about chemical reactions!



The Form 6 boys have worked very hard on building their core scientific understanding and have produced beautiful pieces of work on producing compounds.



The Form 5 boys showed impeccable behaviour on their trip to the Wellington College Chemistry Extravaganza. Trips like these epitomise our joy for teaching in an all boys school. We are sure you can imagine the (controlled) excitement from these chaps as they witness big bangs flashes and chemistry that makes the impossible seem possible.



The Form 4 boys accelerated through their course at a brilliant rate and it is such a joy to hear their discussions diffuse through the prep room between our two laboratories.





The Form 3 boys have very aptly been talking about plant reproduction and yet again blew us away with their projects on growing crocuses.

Form 6 visit Intech



On Thursday 14th June, Form 6 headed off with great excitement to Intech at Winchester. All the boys thoroughly enjoyed the different hands on activities and spent a happy few hours looking at the different exhibits with the brain being one of the game favourites! In the afternoon, we had a very informative talk on the solar system in the planetarium. Overall, all the boys thought it was a great place to visit and that lots of learning had taken place!



Aldro Regatta 2018

On Saturday 9th June the annual Regatta and Family Fun Day was held. Crews took part in the knock-out event. As always the boys came up with some original names for their crews. The quality of the rowing was in the best of amateur spirits and proving that brute force can triumph over all good style, and hours of training! The victorious crew were An Englishman, Dutchman and Hu? (H Davis, S Huet and A Hu) defeating The West Indians (J Molloy, H Williams and E Bromley). It was lovely to have some music from our Jazz Band adding to the entertainment of the afternoon and the Swim-a-Thon and the Tug of War competition were again a great success. A huge thank you must go to the FoAA for providing and manning the various stalls and inflatables and for the delicious afternoon tea provided by the parents was the icing on the cake.







Outdoor Learning at Aldro

This year Form 5 have had a great time developing their outdoor education skills - both using the school grounds and the woods. We spent some time looking at the birds that inhabit our grounds for the annual 'Big Bird' watch run by the RSPB. We have started to look at how to light small fires safely - as you can see from the photos, they have learnt that it can be quite a tricky skill to master!





Chess - EPSCA National semi-finals at Bristol



The U11 and U9 teams played at the massive Bristol semi-final with over 80 teams competing for places in the National Finals. The top two teams go through to the finals later this term.

We all stayed in a hotel outside Bristol and the boys enjoyed a swim in the pool before supper. On Saturday morning we got to the venue by 9.00am and play started at 9.15am. All the teams played a five Swiss competition which is designed to have the top teams playing each other in the last round. The standard of chess at the Bristol semi-final is much higher than at the other two semi-finals which are both two day competitions.

Both our teams played with determination and all our players had some excellent games. The U11 team captained by G Starmer–Smith had a tough draw and some close matches. They achieved a Bronze team award.

The U9s finished a little better beating both St Aubins and the Aardvarks finishing about half way and achieved a Silver team award. It was good to see O Salter again and he was able to play for us as he played in the qualifying round for us. All the boys received a special semi-final medal and a certificate.

We would like our players to compete more regularly in local Surrey tournaments in order to improve our overall standard. Many of the other teams had county and higher standard players.

Well done to all of our players and my thanks go to all the parents who came along to Bristol and helped make it a memorable trip.

Chess - Surrey Megafinals 2018

The UK Chess Challenge is one of our most popular chess competitions each year and it is always interesting to see how our players get on at the Megafinals.

This year most of our players competed at Tormead and once again they were large tournaments catering for players from all over Surrey and further afield.

All our boys did well achieving 3 points or more out of 5.

Results;

U11 AGE GROUP G Starmer–Smith, J Cook and J Lake Coghlan 3.5 \ 5 (All three qualified for the Southern Gigafinal)

U9 AGE GROUP G Hughes 4.5\ 5 2nd, O Richards 3.5\ 5 (Both qualified for the Southern Gigafinal)

U8 AGE GROUP J Kalika and Z Webster 3\5

George had a nice surprise when he was awarded the Supremo trophy for the top Surrey U9 player. The only player ahead of him was from another county.

Well done to all the boys who took part and I hope to see a few more competing next year.

D.J.Archer

Grimston Cup 2018 - Results

The entire school is involved in the Grimston Cup Squad Cross Country event. The conditions this year were cold and windy but underfoot conditions were generally good with the exception of the farmer's field which was tricky and needed considerable focus and attention.

Once again each Year group ran separately and this created a really nice atmosphere with year groups supporting one another when they were not running. It was wonderful to see the senior boys genuinely encouraging and supporting the Junior Boys.

Each race lasted between 8 to 15 minutes and all the runners who completed the course earned points for their Squad.

All the boys involved gave their best to support their squad. There were fine individual performances and it was tremendous to see boys who struggle in this type of event really trying in order to achieve their own milestones as well as contributing to their individual squads.

Well done boys.

Form 3 & 4	1 st : INDIA 2 nd : WEST INDIES 3 rd : CANADA 4 th : NEW ZEALAND 5 th : AFRICA 6 th : AUSTRALIA	
Form 5	1 st : NEW ZEALAND 2 nd : CANADA 3 rd : AFRICA 4 th : AUSTRALIA 5 th : INDIA 6 th : WEST INDIES	133 131 107 103 91 66
Form 6	1 st : AUSTRALIA 2 nd : CANADA 3 rd : NEW ZEALAND 4 th : INDIA 5 th : AFRICA 6 th : WEST INDIES	219 185 184 179 162 148



Grimston Cup cont'd

Form 7	1 st : 2 nd : 3 rd : 4 th : 5 th :	AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND CANADA WEST INDIES AFRICA	134 101 99 84 83
	6 th :	INDIA	61



 2nd: CANADA
 51

 3rd: AUSTRALIA
 50

 4th: NEW ZEALAND
 45

 5th: AFRICA
 44

 6th: INDIA
 11



OVERALL SQUAD RESULTS

$1^{st} =:$	AUSTRALIA &	
	CANADA	555
3 rd :	NEW ZEALAND	549
4 th :	WEST INDIES	469
5 th :	INDIA	456
6 th :	AFRICA	453

RACE WINNERS 2018

Form 3: JAMES SLEET

Form 4: GEORGE HUGHES

Form 5: CHARLIE ELKINGTON

Form 6: JAGO TAYLOR

Form 7: BARNEY BRIDGES

Form 8: LAURENCE HEPWORTH & KIT MACKAY



Grimston Cup cont'd



U10 Charterhouse Hockey Tournament

What a day! Our expectations were set to enjoy the experience and learn the game from other schools, at no point did I think we would end up in the final let alone win it!!!

Huge congratulations must go to all of the boys who demonstrated again their sporting ability and refusal to be beaten. They displayed determination, skill and team work which has served them so well in all of their sport this year.



Results: Pool Stage

v Shrewsbury House 3-0 (W) Greenway, Elkington 2
v Hallgrove 1-0 (W) Greenway
v Arnold House 2-0 (W) Elkington 2
v Westbourne House 2-1 (W) Wright, Hume
v Parkside 1-0 (W) Hickey

Semi - Final

Final

v St Andrews 1-0 (W) Wright v Barrow Hills 2-1 (W) Wright 2

Man of the Tournament - Wright



U10 Winners of the Charterhouse Hockey Tournament



Martin Bicknell officially opens our new cricket nets

We were delighted to welcome ex England, Surrey and Director of Cricket at Charterhouse School Martin Bicknell who officially opened our new cricket nets.



U10 win the Plate at Danes Hill 6-a-side

Form 5 boys enjoyed a successful day of cricket at the Danes Hill 6-a-side festival. The team won three of their five games to reach the final, before beating Kings College Junior School (KCJS) in a dramatic finale to win the Plate.

The tournament format was five overs per side, with each player (other than the wicket keeper) bowling an over.

The boys began the day with a last ball win over Cumnor House, before being beaten by Downsend in our second match. Shrewsbury House then took the win in our third, a close encounter in which Aldro fell short by just two runs. The boys then showed great spirit to reach the finals from this position, never giving up or losing hope, and went on to win against both Cranmore and Rokeby in two highly exciting matches.

The Plate Final awaited, KCJS the opponents, and the Aldro team couldn't wait to get started. After a strong innings with the bat losing just one wicket, Aldro had been set an impressive 47 runs to win, the highest total of the day so far. But a superb partnership from Hurley and Wild allowed Aldro to take the win, scoring all 48 runs between them!

The squad of Greenway (C), Hurley, Wild, Denton-West, Farley, Hickey and Cornelius should all be proud of their efforts, representing Aldro superbly, showing great sportsmanship and commitment.

It was a great day out for boys and parents alike, who enjoyed not only the team performance but the sunshine and beautiful grounds of the school.

JA



The Aldro Sports Day 2018

Sports Day Records Congratulations to the following boys who broke records at the 2018 Aldro Sports Day

<u>TRACK</u>			
James Sleet	U8 75m	11.87s	
James Sleet	U8 100m	16.25s	
Harry Watts	U10 800m	2:44.88s	
Fin Bennet	U11 400m	1:10.91s	
Pat Hughes	U13 400m	1:01.62s	

	FIELD			
James Cassar	U12 Shot Putt	11.16m		
Laurence Hepworth	U13 Triple Jump	10.47m		
SQUAD RELAY				
U10 AFRICA SQUAD	4x100m	1:04.31s		





VICTOR LUDORUM

Form 8	1st 2nd 3rd	Pat Hughes Sidney Huet Laurence Hepworth	Form 5	1st 2nd 3rd	Charlie Elkington Harry Watts Tom Watts
Form 7	1st 2nd 3rd	Perch Suwannakit Alex Dodsworth Seb Kus	Form 4	1st= 3rd=	George Hughes & Eddie Hewitt Oli Richards & Harvey O'Mahony
Form 6	1st 2nd 3rd	Monty Money Jago Taylor Lucas Dyer	Form 3	1st 2nd 3rd	James Sleet Zachary Webster Arthur Hatton

Junior Department

Form 3 Potions!

A great deal of fun was had by Form 3 as they mixed potions to 'turn a teacher into a toad'. Mixing unicorn dust and spiders legs with a few drops of ogres blood certainly helped them to remember the key features of instructional writing in their English lesson, but we will have to wait to see if their potions were successful too!



Notices & Events for your Diary....



JUNIOR CONCERT Wednesday 4th July 2pm



SPEECH DAY PIMMS - SATURDAY 7th JULY

This will take place on the croquet lawn after Prize-giving. All parents are welcome to stay for a glass of Pimm's whilst you wait for your boys.

Friends of Aldro Association (FoAA)

warmly invite you to join them for
Drinks and Canapés
on Friday 14th September 2018 at 8pm
In The Crispin Hill Centre (CHC)

Social Media

Do please follow us on Twitter & Facebook



@AldroSchool
@AldroSport



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