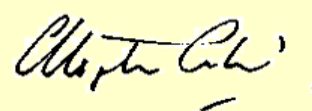


The Headmaster writes:

What a fabulous start to the new school year we have all enjoyed! Our 86 new pupils have quickly settled in, warmly welcomed by the old hands. Aldro's first cohort of girls have arrived too, and what a lot they have contributed to the school in such a short space of time! Alders, Darley, Hall and Meads have made it into the Aldro vernacular; the inaugural matches under the new banners will likely be remembered, however, more for the torrential downpour that seemed to christen the new Squads than the score lines that determined the first results. The boys have enjoyed a super return to football, with the 1st team continuing to make good progress in the Surrey Cup, the U13Bs winning the Highfield tournament, and all teams competing with sportsmanship, grit and determination in their various matches and tournaments. The girls returned victorious from Aldro's first-ever girls' netball and hockey fixtures, and it is exciting to see girls' sport gaining such traction so early on.

Not to be outdone, the dads' football tournament was competed with typical enthusiasm, and we look forward to the first mothers' netball tournament in the second half of term. Add to all this events such as the Science Showcase and Macmillan coffee morning, and with record numbers taking up boarding for the first time, it is wonderful to see Aldro flourishing in the wake of COVID. May the second half of term, with the prospect of rugby, fireworks, the Winter Fair, the Form 7 play and Christmas, ultimately prove to be as enjoyable and as rewarding as these recent weeks have been.



Chris Carlier
Headmaster

Welcoming Girls to Aldro

Mme Croall (Head of Girls) meets the new senior girls over hot chocolate to chat about life at the school and what to expect as a new girl.



First Whole School Chapel



Mr Carlier asks the pupils to “cast away their anxiety”, at the first whole school Chapel Service on the first day of term.

Future Schools Fair

Aldro welcomed representatives from 27 leading independent senior schools and nearly 150 visitors at the 2021 Future Schools Fair. The Fair was open to all parents and prospective parents to meet the schools and we also held seminars on boarding and co-ed and single sex education in the chapel.



ALDRO
FUTURE
SCHOOLS
FAIR 2021



Harvest Festivals

On Friday 8th and Saturday 9th October, we saw the Aldro chapel superbly decorated for Harvest Festival by our wonderful Form 6 parents and a Grandma! On both days it was full of our pupils and their parents singing the traditional hymns we associate with the annual Harvest Festival. All the Junior children sang for their parents – it was a stunning sound and there were many tears in the eyes spotted! Following the Junior Harvest Festival was the turn of the Senior pupils to mark this very important date in the calendar. A huge thank you to Mr Nick Margesson and The Revd Margot Spencer for giving us the addresses and the Aldro choir who were fabulous.

Aldro has been supporting Starfish Malawi for a number of years and we are directly linked with a school in Malawi, in a village called Simiwaya. This year's Harvest Festival Services were wonderful and it is fantastic that we raised £422.10 for this charity.



Middle school boys and girls enjoy a treasure hunt around the grounds.

The boys and girls in the middle school enjoyed a treasure hunt around the grounds. This proved to be a great exercise for many pupils to help them discover new places and very good teamwork for all involved.



Announcement of New Squads

In the whole school assembly the Aldro new squads ALDERS, DARLEY, HALL and MEADS were announced to the school and every pupil and staff member was allocated a squad and a new squad t-shirt.

Let the competitions begin...!



Enrichment - Book Folding



Science at Aldro

It has been a wonderful start to the year in the science department and we have been bustling with practical's and showing off our learning.

The Form 5s have started their proper experiments with Bunsen Burners and the Form 6s have put their surgical skills to the test with heart dissections.

The Form 7 pupils produced wonderful Photosynthesis plays in their showcases and the Form 8s have been homing in on their chemistry and electricity skills in a number of practical's.

So, a very hands on start to the year!



Poetry Week



Aldro pupils have spent this week celebrating the wonder of poetry! As the Pulitzer Prize winning African American poet Rita Dove said, "poetry is language at its most powerful". "This year's fantastic theme was 'Choice'. Our pupils read a range of classic and contemporary poetry in their English lessons to explore their ideas about making choices and their consequences. They then had fun creating and sharing their own poetry, on the theme of 'Choice', either in their classes or joining together as a year group for a mini poetry festival. The entire school came together for a National Poetry Day Assembly, where pupils from all years read and performed poetry, either individually or as groups.

Aldro Dad's Football Tournament 2021

On Saturday 9th October the Aldro Dad's Football Tournament returned after an absence of one year due to the Pandemic. It was wonderful to see this event return to the calendar and it was very well received by all concerned!

Once again, the weather was extremely kind to us and playing conditions were ideal. It was wonderful to see so many Dads playing and fully supported by all the families! This year we had 8 teams; Neville wears Prada, The Pink Panthers, Chicken Tikka Mo Salah, It's Spraining Men, Oldman Asthmatic, Lallana's in Pyjamas, Pathetico Madrid & of course the perennial Aldro Barbarians.

Another keenly fought tournament resulted in Group 1 having three teams finish on equal points and equal goals only to be separate by the number of corners won! The Semi-Finals saw The Aldro Barbarians take on Its Spraining Men whilst in the second Semi-Final the new comers the Lallana's in Pyjamas took on the 2018 Champions The Pink Panthers. Both matches went to extra time and then penalties! There were a lot of nervous players and spectators at this stage!

The final proved a super match despite some very tired bodies! In the end It's Spraining Men overcame the The Pink Panther 1 – 0, after a penalty miss by the Panthers which would have probably taken the game to extra time! Its was nice to see that some of the winning Dads were returning to play as a Dad with a second child at Aldro!

I would like to thank all the Dads who took part and made it such a fun and entertaining event! We are delighted to announce that we have raised nearly £800 which will go towards providing new high jump mats which will be on show in the summer. GD



Christmas Cards & Gifts are Coming!

Christmas cards and gifts are coming! Every child at Aldro has been very busy this half term, producing a Christmas card design. This has been a very popular project in past years and judging by the stunning designs that have emerged over the last few weeks, this year is no exception. This year we are using a new company and in addition to Christmas cards, designs will be available on gift tags, wrapping paper, mugs, tea towels and tote bags. Once orders have been placed, water bottles and teddy bears will be able to be ordered to be delivered directly to your home. Some of our non-Christian students have created cards which will be blank inside, allowing them to be used as general greetings cards.

Please don't buy your Christmas cards until you have seen your child's masterpiece. Everything will be produced and delivered to you in time for Christmas mailings.



Croquet taken to a new level at Aldro!

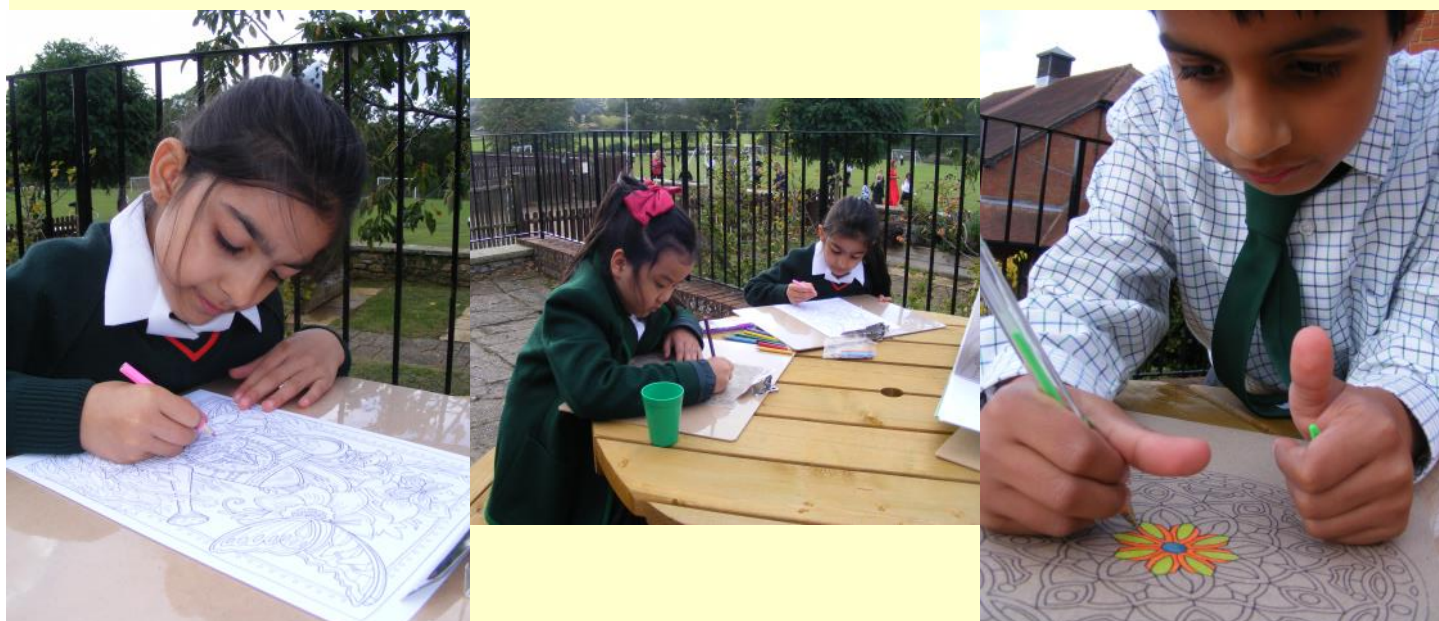
Richard Carline is a member of The Croquet Association and an England referee, and he is keen to get youngsters involved in the sport. He came in to give a masterclass for the students who like to play at school, and he showed them (and me!) how to hold the mallet properly, how to swing, and how to do 'jump' shots. The kids really enjoyed it, and they especially loved playing with Richard's modern, high-tech (and expensive) professional mallets!

RI



New popular break-time activity

A popular new break time activity has been introduced around the picnic tables in the playground. What could be more enjoyable than sitting in the fresh air, with your friends, indulging in some mindful colouring?



SPORTS | TALK

Aldro Play First Ever Girls Sports Fixtures

September saw a historic moment for Aldro with our junior girls playing the first ever fixture of netball away at Edgeborough School, the middle school against Barrow Hills and the seniors against St Edmunds. Congratulations to all the Aldro teams, and thank you to our opponents for being such great opposition.



Boarders' News

A very busy first half of term in the boarding house...

A lovely start to the year in the Boarding House this term with lots of new boarders joining the community and loads of fun activities that the children have enjoyed both during the week and at weekends. I would also like to take this opportunity to announce our new Boarding Prefects for the year. They are Robbie Ibegbulem, Balthazar Ellis, Jonty Lambeth and Mark Smedley, who have done a great job already in the role and made a great start to the year with their responsibilities.

There have been a number of highlights throughout the term including such things as Liquid Leisure, which was the first Sunday Activity of the year for the Full Time Boarders. The boys definitely enjoyed climbing over the obstacles and pushing their new Housemaster into the water. I wonder why...



As well as this, we have had the first Big Boarding Weekend for the Form 5 and 6s, and what made this one a unique occasion was not the number of boarders we had in for the weekend (52 children in all), but that we had a number of girls involved in the weekends activities, such as Archery Tag, Swimming, Dodgeball and Biscuit Decorating. There was a brilliant feel throughout the whole weekend and all the children had a brilliant time, even with the inclement weather. Unfortunately, we couldn't have the girls boarding in school yet, but it gave the girls a great opportunity to get a feel for what boarding will be like when we can have Girl Boarding here at Aldro.



Boarders' News

A very busy first half of term in the boarding house...

And lastly, we had our Full Time boarders take part in our first Community Development Day where the boys went out into the village and got their hands dirty helping out at the local Stovold Farm. The boys had a great time feeding the cows and cleaning the tractors, which was well rewarded with a Dominos Pizza in the evening!



Overall, a really fun and diverse beginning to the school year in the boarding house and I'm very much looking forward to what is ahead of us during the next half of term.

Junior Department

The Aldro Library Reopens...

For the first time in many months, the Aldro library reopens. Junior pupils enjoy this fabulous facility where students can relax, study and read a book. For many of our new pupils, this was their first time borrowing a school library book.



Junior Department

Form 4 read The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe

After reading Chapter 6 in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, Form 4 assumed the role of woodland creatures who had witnessed the attack on Mr Tumnus' cave. They returned from chapel to find their classrooms turned into the crime scene. They looked at the clues and worked in pairs to complete witness statements of the incident.



Junior Department

Form 3 English

The children became Minpins and took their miniature selves on an adventure in the woods, in preparation for writing an adventure story.



Form 3 & 4 Gymnastics and Cheerleading Enrichment Activity

Some of Form 3 and 4 girls made gymnastics and Cheerleading their Enrichment choice. They have been enjoying learning routines, balance and gymnastic moves.



Friends of Aldro

Annual Drinks Party

On Friday 17th September the Friends of Aldro (FoAA) held their annual drinks party. With a warm welcome from the Headmaster, Mr Chris Carlier, this event gives existing parents a chance to meet new parents and catch up on holiday news.

Special thanks goes to the Form 8 reps who organised the evening and the team of Form 8 parents who helped run the all-important bar. Thank you also to Mrs Fenwick who decorated the CHC with a small array of art work which was much enjoyed.

Aldro boys provided the music for the evening, organised and ably accompanied by Mrs Lett. No Aldro event would be complete without superb food from our catering staff. After a quick briefing about the names of the canapes, the Form 8 prefects enthusiastically handed round the food during the evening.

In addition to all those mentioned above, thanks must go to all those who worked behind the scenes at Aldro to make this event a success.



Friends of Aldro

The Friends of Aldro Association hosted a coffee morning in the school Dining Room, joining Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning. Form 3 and 4 reps did a fantastic job organising the event. Coffee was served from 8.30—10.30 for parents and then staff joined at break time. Many cakes, cookies and cupcakes were baked by the Aldro community. These items were sold to those attending the coffee morning or to the children at breaktime. Each child was allowed to purchase 2 items. 500+ beautiful baked cakes were displayed outside the Dining Hall during morning break, what a choice the children had! Many thanks to the kitchen staff for keeping the urns full, to those who donated funds and attending the event, and to everyone who baked the delicious treats. The total amount raised for Macmillan was a staggering **£ 1,064**. Thank you!



Dates for your diary

Aldro Fireworks Display



Friday 5th November 2021
Gates Open 5.45pm
Fireworks 7.15pm

Aldro Winter Fair



Friday 26th November 2021
11.00am—5.00pm