



HeadLines



The first half of term has, as ever in this short term, been packed full of action – some of which you can read about in this edition of Aldro Link. In particular, I would like to join David Carr in congratulating Sandy May and Gavroche Gergaud on their musical successes; also congratulations to Charlie Eaton who has won an art scholarship to Charterhouse!

The second half of term promises to be equally busy and

exciting: I know that the boys are looking forward to the start of the hockey season or to picking up their rugby sevens skills; and the main concert and the school play, "Honk!" are also eagerly awaited. On top of that, there is plenty of important work ahead, especially for Form 8 boys who have either their final trial exams at the end of the month, or "the real thing" for some of the scholarship candidates. I hope that the next few weeks will be bug free and very productive for us all!

David Aston

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This has been a busy and very enjoyable season, with eighty matches played so far and Aldro winning almost a half and drawing a further six. Despite the changeable weather, we have only had to cancel the home matches against Papplewick; otherwise all scheduled games have in some cases, miraculously, gone ahead.

The 1st XI have had a tough campaign losing to two very fine sides at Charterhouse and Shrewsbury House. Most of the other losses were purely because of the lack of any consistent goal-scorer, for it would be fair to say that we played well enough to win these comfortably. However, there were excellent wins against KES Witley, Highfield, Papplewick and Edgeborough in each of which we managed to score readily.

There was a similar problem with

Soccer Season Summary

goal-scoring for the 2nd XI at times, but they have chalked up four wins and three draws in their ten games. There has been much good football from a promising 3rd XI who have had four fine victories, while the mighty 4ths are unbeaten. Even the 5th and 6th XI's have had two matches each with a win and a loss apiece.



The Under 11 squad has had a tough season, but it has to be said that they have improved much from last year and notched up two fine victories against Eagle House and Edgeborough. Three fine triumphs from the Under 10s underline promising potential in this age group, but the Under 9s look even better still with four excellent wins.

We have also seen the Under 8 boys in action with two very good results before the loss against a

very talented
Danes Hill side.

ENDING ON A HIGH...

The season ended on 7th February with the 1st XI team winning the Highfield Tournament in fine style. The final finished 1-1 and we duly collected the Shield for the fourth time in six years with a 5-4 advantage in the sudden-death penalty shoot-out. Furthermore, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th XI's all won their matches against Downsends – a remarkable feat considering much absence due to injury and illness.



Soccer is certainly enjoyed by boys at Aldro and at least 200 of them have represented the school in some team this season. Judging by the successes of the younger boys this year, the future of the game looks to be bright. Well done to all boys and staff involved.

Malcolm Cronshaw



Form 8 Visit Woking Mosque

As part of their Common Entrance R.S. Coursework, 8R and 8D went to visit Woking Mosque. This is the oldest Mosque in the U.K., and remains a thriving place of worship today. The boys were given a tour by the Imam and had the chance to ask a range of questions. It proved to be a fascinating insight into life as a Muslim in Britain today and a great chance for the boys to appreciate something outside of their usual experiences and to widen their cultural awareness.



ALDRO CHESS TEAMS QUALIFY FOR THE NATIONAL SEMI-FINALS



Both the U.11A team and U.9A teams played well on Saturday, 3rd February, at Basingstoke. Both sections included old rivals from Yateley Manor, Twickenham Prep, Whyteleafe, Dulwich College Prep and others, which made for a tough heat for all the teams.

The under 11 section was particularly close and a spanner was thrown in the

works early on when one of the teams didn't turn up. This meant that one team would have a 5 point bye each round. Our U.11 team captained by Raunaq Cavet managed to pick up points in every match but defeats in rounds 3 and 4 put us in danger of not qualifying for Pontins. We needed a great result in the last round and for the other teams to share the points in some of the other matches. The bye would have suited us, but as it happened we didn't need it with a resounding 5-0 win against Yateley Manor B team.

The U.9 team captained by Elliott Ghent played with skill and determination from the start and won all five of their matches in an all play all section. The win in round 3 against Yateley Manor A was particularly impressive.

Congratulations to all 12 players, we can now look forward to the semi-finals at Pontins in the summer for the A and B teams.

David Archer

U.9A Results	U.11A Results
v Yateley Manor B won 5-0	v Kempshott won 4-1
v Ridgeway won 5-0	v Whyteleafe draw 2.5-2.5
v Yateley Manor A won 4.5-0.5	v Twickenham Prep lost 1.5-3.5
v Kempshott won 3.5-1.5	v Eltham College lost 1.5-3.5
v Twickenham Prep won 4.5-0.5	v Yateley Manor B won 5-0
1st out of 6 teams (Gold medals)	4th out of 9 teams
E.Ghent 4½, R.Hewett 5½, J.Whitton 4.5½, W.Tucker 4½, A.Hatrick 5½, F.Wooding 3½	R.Cavet 2.5½, H.Thomas 2.5½, C.Craven 3.5½, R.Govan 3½, T.Govan 2½, A.Rallis 4½

Boarders Tour Twickenham



The Boarders continue to keep the right balance between work, rest and play this term. Rugby has been a dominant theme, with a trip to Twickenham a couple of weekends ago, the excitement of our Six Nations prediction competition and the trip to London Irish v Wasps coming up later in the term.



We have also been taking advantage of the dark evenings with a new game called "Searchlight" where the boys have to creep from one end of the grounds to the other without being caught in the beam of Mr Bligh's and Mr Tiu's torches. The Form Six trial boarding week is coming up soon, and as ever, if you are interested in your son boarding, please speak to Mr MacIntosh at any time.



Pictures From Previous Weeks



Click on picture to enlarge



Roland Young 8D



Tom MacKinnon 8H



Charlie Eaton 8R



James Aston 8H



Ollie Matthews 8R

Aldro Visits Alton

Where Art and History Come to Life

Just after chapel, armed with sketchbooks, pencils and curiosity, we bundled into the minibus and headed for Alton.

Mr Swan's talent for story telling brought to life a small but significant battle of the civil war which took place in Alton on 13th December 1643, and it was thrilling to be standing in St Lawrence's churchyard, on the very ground where the battle took place. We were able to visualise the events unfolding as Mr Swan described them, aided in no small way by the evidence of musket fire still visible in the old church door. We were somewhat surprised to find that recent refurbishment of the interior of the church has obliterated evidence of the battle which could be seen inside the church.

Following this, we split into two groups. One group went with Mr Swan to the Curtis Museum, which contains the Gallery of Childhood, displaying a variety of old toys. The museum also tells the story of the development of Alton in a very interesting way, through Anglo-Saxon, Roman and Medieval Alton including the brewing industry and coach houses that put Alton on the map.

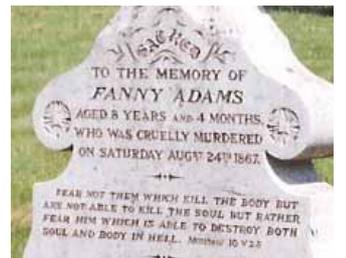


The other group went to the Allen Gallery with Mrs Fenwick, where we were treated to a temporary



exhibition of work from local artists as well as the vast permanent exhibition of ceramics dating from 1250 to contemporary times. There was so much to see that we could have spent days instead of hours. We were flabbergasted by the enormous collection of coffee and teacups including one that stood on tiny legs in its saucer and one with a snake as a handle. We spent some time collecting inspiration for our own work, sketching details of shapes and lids and handles as well as different styles of decorating.

At half time, we enjoyed refreshments in the garden and then Mr Swan took us to the local cemetery to see the grave of Fanny Adams, a young girl whose brutal murder in Alton, in 1847, is the origin of the well known phrase "sweet Fanny Adams". Along the way we passed a very old Quaker house.



Money spent on souvenirs, curiosity satisfied and legs weary, we all piled back into the minibus and arrived back at school just in time for a welcome lunch.

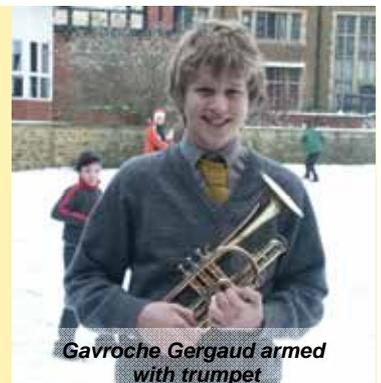
Nick Swan

Music Success

Many congratulations to Sandy May and Gavroche Gergaud who have both received music awards to their senior schools. Sandy has been awarded a full music scholarship to Sherborne and Gavroche a music exhibition to Charterhouse. Music scholarship auditions are arduous affairs; in addition to interviews, scales and sight-reading, Gavroche performed on voice, cornet and piano and Sandy on violin, piano recorder, voice and organ.

Congratulations also to boys who have been selected to play on IAPS music courses this year:-

Sandy May	Violin	<i>National Chamber Orchestra</i>
James Warrington	Violin	<i>National Chamber Orchestra & National Symphony Orchestra</i>
Anthony Parker	Trumpet	<i>National Symphony Orchestra</i>
Edward Rees	Trumpet	<i>Training Concert Band</i>



Gavroche Gergaud armed with trumpet

Additional congratulations to Anthony Parker who has been given a place with the South West Surrey Youth Orchestra.

David Carr



New Look for Aldro.net

Aldro School Limited (Incorporated in England) 1998-2010



If you have visited Aldro.net this week you will have noticed a change. The site has been redesigned matching the clean look and feel as Aldro.org.

So what's new?

The home page has a "Messageboard" which will be updated with important information, ie: sporting fixtures. The Photo Album page will give parents and pupils the opportunity to view photographs taken by the school at various events. In addition, if you have photographs you would like to share with the school, email them to us and we can post them on this page.

Aldro.net still has the curriculum overviews and important resources for all subjects. Since the site contains material produced by our teachers, a username and password has been put into place to protect the copyright of our teachers' hard work. This security information will be distributed in a letter for the half-term break.

Like all websites, what you see on Aldro.net is only the beginning. Websites are designed to change and be updated frequently. If you have any comments or suggestions about Aldro.net, please email: walpn@aldro.org.

Half Term Ideas:

16-18 Feb Victoria & Albert Museum
Cromwell Road London O20 7942 2000
Chinese New Year **Half Term** Activities for Families.

6-11 Feb New Victoria Theatre Woking
01483 545900 Swan Lake on Ice. **12-14 Feb** The Chinese State Circus.

8-14 Feb Switched on London Pool of London riverside. London's first festival of light which includes special events such as an illuminated bike ride and street lights powered by donkey dung! Switched On London aims to get visitors thinking about the city nightscape.

For more ideas try:
<http://www.parents-news.co.uk/south1.htm>
<http://www.wheracanwego.com>

LENT TERM DIARY DATES

February	Day	Time	Event
9	Friday		2 nd Industry Grades
9 th - 18 th		4:30pm	Forms 3,4 and 5 HALF TERM
9 th - 18 th		5:05pm	Forms 6,7,and 8 HALF TERM
19	Monday	8:30am	Return from Half Term
20	Tuesday	4:00pm	Form 4 Concert
22	Thursday	5:15pm	Chapel: Confirmation Service
26	Monday		Form 8 Exams
27	Tuesday		Form 8 Exams
28	Wednesday		Form 8 Exams
March	Day	Time	Event
1	Thursday		Form 8 Exams
2	Friday		3 rd Industry Grades
		3:30pm	Form 5 Concert
		4:30pm	Forms 3,4 and 5 Weekend Leave
		5:05pm	Forms 6,7,and 8 Weekend Leave
4	Sunday	7:15pm	Ski Trip Meeting CHC
5	Monday	8:30am	Return from Weekend Leave
6	Tuesday	10:30am	Form 7 Parents Coffee Morning
		6:45pm	Form 8 Parents' Meeting
9	Friday	7:15pm	Spring Concert
15	Thursday	7:00pm	School Play
16	Friday	7:00pm	School Play
17	Saturday	7:00pm	School Play and Party
20	Tuesday	5:30pm	Chapel Choir Choral Evensong Holy Trinity, Guildford
21	Wednesday		Term Ends at 12:30pm

Invitation Concert — music to our ears



The first concert of this term took place on January 17th. The Invitation Concert is especially designed for some of our high achievers to show off their talent, and is held early in the new year to help senior musicians prepare for Music Scholarships and IAPS orchestra auditions.



Elliot Charles. William Mallin, Gavroche Gergaud

The varied programme was performed by James Aston (bassoon), Elliot Charles (piano and saxophone), William Mallin (violin and piano), Sandy May (piano, recorder and violin), Nicholas Lee (piano), Anthony Parker (trumpet and recorder), James Warrington (piano and violin) and Matthew Shore (classical guitar).

The audience were equally select and in addition to staff and parents included Directors of Music from Charterhouse and Winchester, as well as Mr. and Mrs Hill who are so supportive of music at Aldro.

The boys performed musically and with confidence and should be congratulated for being able to produce such an entertaining programme so soon after the Christmas vacation.