



HeadLines

The last week has been marked by some great music. The choir sang beautifully at St Mary's Church in Shackleford on Sunday as we joined the village for Evensong. It was a really lovely service and well supported, too. I know that the Rector, Rev John Fellows is especially pleased that the collection raised £450 for the organ restoration fund and he has asked me to pass on his grateful thanks to the Aldronians (and their families) that were there. Then there was the Junior Concert on Wednesday that was notable both for the number of performers and the extremely high quality of the music in the programme. A great deal of hard work had clearly gone into every one of the performances: very well done to all the musicians involved! These two events have certainly whetted my appetite for the forthcoming concerts and carol services

After the deluge of the first few days of the week, it is good to be able to look forward to a brighter weekend: I hope that all the Aldro families enjoy a relaxing time.

John Ark

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Music Diaries

A glimpse into what the music department has been up to this term.



Music Seminar

Monday 10th September

This is a talk aimed at Form 3 parents as they join Aldro, to try to answer some frequently asked, but often quite complicated questions, which spring to mind when a child starts to learn a musical instrument. What should they play? When should they start to play it? How often should they play it? (Answer: as often as possible!) Etc. etc. It is held annually in the first week or so of the academic year, so if any of you would like to come along in the future, please do feel free.



Bass Metal

Friday 14th September

A very versatile Brass Quartet (consisting of three trombones and a tuba) entertained boarders and visitors for an hour, playing a selection of short works and illuminating various instruments which were played, including the didgeridoo, a mediaeval serpent and a medium sized carrot (which was eventually donated to George Matthews [8R].) Bass Metal are all regular orchestral

players, one of whom used to teach brass at Aldro and a couple more who are acquainted with our new Brass Tutor, Mr Philip Pickering. Consequently their delivery was superbly professional, not to say amusing, on several different levels. The success of the evening was made manifest by the many questions which boys were keen to ask of the musicians, at the evening's conclusion.



Wellington College Orchestra Day

Friday 5th October

Following a successful String Day this time last year, Wellington invited some of our more able musicians to take part in a day of music making, involving full and sectional rehearsals, a quiz and much food, culminating in an early evening concert. The standard of playing was high and the orchestra (led by our very own James Warrington [8H]) was brilliantly conducted by Hilary Davon-Whetton, a musician of national standing in professional and educational circles. Consequently the results were

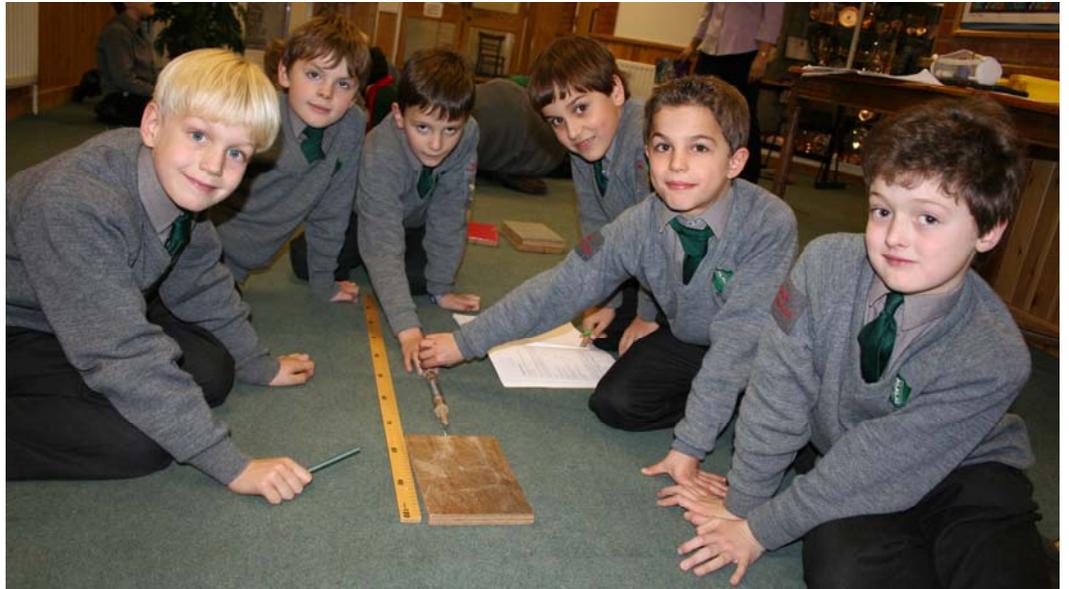
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OUT AND ABOUT WITH SCIENCE

MAY THE FORCE BE WITH 4G

Groups of 4G boys were using force meters to measure the friction when wood, correx, sandpaper and carpet blocks were dragged across the floor. The results were used to find the most grippy and most slippery surfaces.



Boarders visit Ice Station Antarctica

On Sunday 18 November Miss. MacDonald-Watson and Mr West took the boarders to London by train for a heart chilling experience. The Natural History Museum [with the British Antarctic Survey] have a temporary exhibition on life at the poles. You start by being locked into a cold room at minus



10° c with only a large block of ice for company. The contrast hits when you are let out into the warm air again. We then learnt what to wear and how to live under these conditions. The simulated skidoo driving was probably the most popular. Here you supposedly drive around looking for meteorites on the ice surface, but it was more fun knocking over the penguins! With free time after lunch to explore the museum and shop, it made a great day out for all.

Aldro Exclusive: Sir Isaac Newton Confesses All

8H attended a lecture by the great Sir Isaac Newton himself [Peter Joyce] at K.E.S. He explained that he never had a father, how his method of calculation was stolen from him, explained his telescope design without lenses, the forces keeping the moon in orbit, Newton's cradle and much more.



The man with the grey hair is Sir Isaac Newton



ART GALLERY

ALDRO ART FROM PAST WEEKS

Click on picture to enlarge



Four Boys—7T
Oil Pastels



Giles Tyler—8R
Charcoal



Alex Godber—3CW
Pastel

Jungle Book
December 6th and 7th
7:30pm



Performed by boys in the Middle School. Don't miss this Disney classic!

Reserve your tickets through reception.

Music Diaries continued...

most tuneful, Offenbach's "Can-Can" from *Orpheus In The Underworld* perhaps being the highlight. The journey home was frightful and so heavy was the traffic, some parents failed to get to the concert at all. Note to Bursar: Please can we buy a helicopter?

Linden Wind Orchestra

Saturday 6th October

It was a great pity that more people were not able to attend this splendid concert which included a huge variety of repertoire -from Dukas' "Sorcerer's Apprentice" to a selection of numbers from "Fiddler On The Roof." The LWO are a band of about thirty players, plus some extremely athletic percussionists, conducted by Roger Phillips, who directs our own Wind Band and teaches clarinet and saxophone at Aldro. Roger introduced each item, describing its historical and musical context and the thick texture of sound which the orchestra created sounded stunning in the acoustic of our hall. This was not their first visit to Aldro and we hope they will return again in the future.

Charterhouse Wind Day

Sunday 7th October

This is an annual event open to a wide standard of players. Rehearsals were punctuated by an excellent lunch and tea and the short concert at the end of the day is always performed to a packed audience. The band always rely heavily on the trumpet section, which was led this year by Anthony Parker [8H]. The event is organised and conducted by David Wright, Head of Brass at Charterhouse, who is a

very funny, not to say, very Scottish Man. He can never resist telling various stories and jokes as the concert progresses, which ensures it goes with a zing!

Chapel Choir at Harvest

Saturday 13th October

The two Harvest Festivals are always enjoyable, family occasions, given in our own chapel, beautifully decorated especially for the occasion. They also give chance for the Chapel Choir to give their first public performance of the school year. They sang two anthems:- "Thou Visitest The Earth" by the 18th Century English composer Dr Maurice Greene (a good name for Harvest!) and "All Things Bright And Beautiful" by the famed composer of



Christmas carols, John Rutter. It has been good to welcome twelve new boys from Form 7 into the choir this term and to welcome back Casper Bayliss [8H], whose voice was greatly missed last term, whilst he was in France.

Form 7 Concert

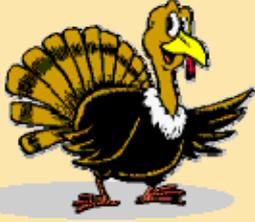
Thursday 18th October

This was the first of our year-group concerts, giving boys who learn an instrument the all important opportunity to stand up and play. In addition to the twenty-five solo items, Adam Skantze [7M] on guitar, Harrison Charles [7M] on vocals and Vincent Richardson [7T] on drums performed a couple of songs. The whole year group sang Gershwin's "I've Got Plenty Of Nothing" (surely not true.....) and each class performed a successful instrumental item:- 7T the ballad "Autumn Leaves" and 7M the theme from "Raiders Of The Lost Ark." Special mention should be made of Raunaq Cavet's fine French Horn playing: Raunaq is the only boy to play French Horn at Aldro at present.





Thanksgiving USA Trivia



On Thursday 22nd November Americans all over the world celebrated Thanksgiving. The fourth Thursday in November is reserved for this American public holiday, but it wasn't always this way.

The first US Thanksgiving was held between 21 September and 11 November 1621 in Massachusetts by 50 Plymouth Pilgrims and their 90 Wampanoag neighbours. After that, Thanksgiving was held fairly randomly. Thanksgiving days were proclaimed annually by the US Congress from 1777 to 1783 which, except for 1782, were all celebrated in December. George Washington declared Thanksgiving in 1789 and 1795, and John Adams in 1798 and 1799. James Madison declared Thanksgiving twice in 1815. None of these were celebrated in the autumn.

The next national Thanksgiving was declared only in April 1862, by Abraham Lincoln. In 1863, he declared Thanksgiving for 6 August, and for the *last* Thursday in November. He went on to declare a similar Thanksgiving observance in 1864, establishing a precedent that was followed by Andrew Johnson in 1865 and by every subsequent president.

After a few deviations of the day of celebration - Thanksgiving was held on 7 December in 1865, and 18 November in 1869 - the last Thursday in November was proclaimed as the national Thanksgiving day, but still not a officially holiday. Thanksgiving remained a custom unsanctified by law until President Roosevelt signed a bill on 26 November 1941 that established the fourth Thursday in November as the national Thanksgiving public holiday.

Turkey is the traditional dish for the Thanksgiving feast. In the US, about 280 million turkeys are sold for the Thanksgiving celebrations. There is no official reason or declaration for the use of turkey. They just happened to be the most plentiful meat available at the time of the first Thanksgiving in 1621, starting the tradition.

AUTUMN TERM DIARY DATES

Nov	Day	Time	Event
23-25	Fri—Sun		Weekend Leave
25	Sun	7:15pm	Ski Trip Meeting
26	Mon	8:30am	Return from Weekend Leave
30	Fri	7:15pm	Senior Autumn Concert, CHC
Dec	Day	Time	Event
1	Sat	6:30pm	Boarders Outing: Ice Skating at Winchester Cathedral
2	Sun	7:00pm	Chapel
3	Mon	7:30pm	Boarders' Quiz
4	Tues	1:30pm 2:00pm	Choir Carol Concert at Milford Day Centre Jungle Book Dress Rehearsal
5	Wed	5:30pm	Monkton Holiday Presentation Forms 6, 7, 8
6	Thurs	6:45 pm 7:30pm	Choir Party Jungle Book Performance
7	Fri	7:30pm	Jungle Book Performance
8	Sat	6:30pm	Boarders' Feast No Leave Out
9	Sun	2:00pm 7:00pm	Boarders' Murder Mystery Chapel: Candlelit Carol Service
10	Mon	1:00pm	Squad Marks Treat
11	Tues	2:30pm	Carol Service—Charterhouse Term Ends on conclusion of service
Jan	Day	Time	Event
10	Thurs	8:30am	Lent Term Begins



The A Factor Results

This year's Squad Singing Competition attracted 118 solo entries and was held over the 16th and 17th November. The adjudicator was my esteemed predecessor at Aldro, Mr Deryck Wareing, a violinist and singer in his own right. Competition was stiff, particularly at the top of the school, but this year the lucky winners were:

Form 8			Form 6			Form 4		
1st	Jamie Jones	1st	Oliver Maslen	1st	Oliver Newcombe			
2nd	James Warrington	2nd	Adam Bagley	2nd	Kristian Sjumarken			
3rd	George Gilligan-Court	3rd	Alexander Turner	3rd	Nicholas Tansley			
Form 7			Form 5			Form 3		
1st	Jack Bolton	1st	Oliver Sherwood	1st	Edward Mair			
2nd	James Long	1st	Adam Carden	2nd	John Lord			
2nd	Harrison Charles	3rd	Freddie Wooding	2nd	Robbie Sinclair			

Africa 44 Australia 30 Canada 34 India 35 New Zealand 32 West Indies 34

Congratulations to all the boys who participated!