



Headlines

I imagine that plenty of paper gliders have been test flown across many Aldro families' homes over the past couple of weeks: there have certainly been no end of gliders taking to the skies across the school! I am delighted that so many boys have responded to the challenge of aeronautical design with such enthusiasm – and that this competition has given them the chance to put a bit of their own pocket money towards Cherry Trees – such an important local charity. So, whether the boys featured among the prize winners or not, they all deserve a big “Well done!”

I am also glad that we have had the opportunity to support a couple of other charities over the past few weeks: the boys were very keen to contribute towards the Macmillan cake fund (I wonder why?!), as were staff and parents (although they may also have been interested in coffee); and I am also so glad that we had another opportunity to support Starfish Malawi and our linked school at Simaewa with our collection at the Harvest Festival. Thank you to all the members of the Aldro community that have given so generously to these important causes.

Janet Ark

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Gliders for Cherry Trees!



The long-awaited Aldro Glider competition took place just before half term. Many boys had been busy designing and testing plenty of prototypes and over one hundred aircraft took part. The official test flight took place from the edge of the “green carpet” and the winning gliders were Matthew Edmondes (Senior Competition) whose plane flew 15.9 metres; and Gabriel Byrne in the Junior Competition, whose glider flew 15.7 metres. Strictly speaking, the furthest flight of all was an Anglo-French design following in the footsteps (or should that be “turbulence”?) of Concorde from M.

Lombardot, which flew 20.5 metres; however, because he had a crucial height advantage, he was controversially disqualified.

There was also a competition for the most interesting and extravagant design of glider. Many serious scientists and others were consulted in reaching a difficult decision but, in the end, after looking at over 30 excellent special designs (and awarding squad marks to a good number of deserving “runners-up”) the judges reached their final verdict. The winning senior plane was produced

by Alexander Weir, whilst in the junior division, the judges could not decide between the designs of Archie Heilpern and Jamie Walker, so they both received a prize.

As well as providing plenty of excitement and enjoyment for the boys, the competition was also to raise money for Cherry Trees, our charity for the year. It cost £1.00 per glider and altogether the sum of £136 was raised for this important local charity that does such a great work as a respite centre for children with serious disabilities. Well done to all the competitors!



Harvest Festival



Many thanks to all the boys and parents who contributed to the collection for Starfish Malawi at the Harvest Festival services. We have raised a total of £757.97 which will go towards the school in Simaewa with which we are developing links. Mr Chris Knott, the director of the charity, is heading over there in a few weeks and will be able to give us an up-date on how things are going in the village before the end of term. Also many thanks to the Chapel Choir who sang beautifully in the service and to the group of Form 7 mothers who ensured that the chapel was looking lovely!





SPORTS TALK

Football

What a season of football it has been so far with some notable performances for the 1st XI; a convincing win over Shrewsbury House, a credible draw against an all winning Parkside team and the narrow penalty shoot-out against Chinthurst in the Surrey Cup.

Every boy in the school has had the opportunity to represent the school during what has been an extremely busy and exciting sporting half of term. A total of 113 matches have been played ranging from 1st XI to the 7th XI and right down to the U8 Typhoons and Tornados!

The PE Department.

The boys have been working hard in developing speed, agility and quickness as well as small sided ball games. The aim of this is to develop the boys' movement, spatial awareness, hand-eye coordination and team work in order to transfer these skills onto the playing fields.

Sherborne Rugby Tour.

34 boys and 4 staff are embarking

on a three day Rugby Tour to Dorset during the final weekend of half-term. This is a great opportunity for the boys to develop not only their rugby skills, but also their life skills. We are extremely fortunate to have the use of some top class facilities and the wisdom and direction of some outstanding coaches from Sherborne. The boys complete the tour with matches against King's House, Richmond on the Sunday. We would like to express our sincere thanks to the Staff members who are giving up their time during half-term to give the boys this wonderful opportunity.

The Rugby Season

The rugby season is fast approaching with many fixtures on the calendar. All boys will need to have a Mouth Guard and two rugby jerseys for games sessions. The Rugby season officially begins on Monday 9th November with the first fixtures on the 18th November. Forms 3 and 4 will start their Rugby season on Monday 7th December.

Key items for the Rugby Season:

- Mouth Guard
- Legal Studs
- IRB approved Head Gear/ Shoulder Pads
- Passion!!!

Rucks N Mauls- Tackle rugby clinic at Aldro Wednesday 28th October- details at www.rucksnmauls.co.uk

FORM 3 TOOTHBRUSHING INVESTIGATIONS!!



Tommy Taylor

As part of their Science Topic 'Teeth and eating', Form 3 boys used Plaque disclosing tablets to show where



Archie Woodhouse

Plaque builds up. Half of the boys used the tablets before brushing and the other half after brushing. The results



Justin Vance

were very revealing! (Justin Vance lost one of his front milk teeth in Games the following lesson!) Mrs Connolly

Under 10's Football Half Term Review

The Under 10's have had a fun filled, busy and exciting first half of term on the Games field! The Football has been nonstop, the action brilliant and the eagerness outstanding. What a tremendous group of boys they are! They have worked very hard on the whole with the occasional day off and they have shown endless enthusiasm and a genuine willingness to have a go. We now need to ensure they are prepared to listen, learn and put it all into action on a consistent basis. However, the results speak for themselves!

Well done boys. Bring on the next half of term!



The conker cup was awarded by Mr Aston last Friday to the Cub Champions Miles Russell-Stracey and William Gudgeon.



Junior Form Half Term News

"Three cheers for Mrs Tennant and Aldro's shoppers at Sainsbury's and Tesco's!"



Last year the FOAA organised the collection of Sainsbury's and Tesco's vouchers for schools. By the end of last term the total was an impressive 11,000 Sainsbury's vouchers and just over 3,000 Tesco vouchers. Angela Tennent painstakingly counted all the vouchers and very kindly organised ordering of equipment.

The vouchers were spent on a fantastic array of outdoor equipment ranging from hoops, beanbags and gi-

ant size Jenga, through to rugby balls, footballs, basketball hoops, cones and a Unihoc set. The equipment was launched in style with Angela Tennent bravely standing in the centre and it has been much used and greatly appreciated ever since.

Huge thanks goes to everyone who contributed vouchers and to Mrs Tennent for all her time, effort and organisation.

IG

Masterchef or Chess Master?



Cooking is alive and kicking in the Junior Department. Mrs Cooke and Mrs Rush have been teaching the boys how to make old favourites such as Rocky Road and M & M cookies as well as Herby Cheese Savouries.

'Dangerous Activity for Boys' has had the Juniors busy creating catapults, paper aeroplanes, treasure maps (complete with 'burnt' edge) and learning the art of marbles.

Chess continues to thrive and the Form 4 chess ladder is now up. Who will be the next Under 9 champion? After half-term, chess boards will be set up each morning from 8am!



Off To Warmer Climes...

Forms 4A and 4G have been learning about Tropical Rainforests in Geography. To link with this topic Mr Archer arranged for Form 4, Mr West and Mrs Gunner to leave the grey skies of Surrey behind and spend the day exploring The Living Rainforest – near Newbury.



The Living Rainforest is home to 700 species of plants and animals. The boys were fascinated to see exotic birds roaming free in the tropical glasshouses. Everyone was captivated by a creature whether it was the dwarf crocodile, Goeldi monkeys with their high pitched screech, or the snakes. The boys were intrigued to learn that the python doesn't strangle its prey, but wraps itself around the chest of its victim, tightening its grip with every exhaled breath, resulting



in suffocation. The boys also sniffed cocoa beans, saw banana plants and ended the day searching for mementoes in the gift shop – snakes were a popular choice, but these were of the cuddly variety!

IG



Form 7 Concert



Form 7 singing Penny Lane

On Tuesday evening, Form 7 treated us to the first form concert of the year. The concert began with the whole Form singing Bright Eyes. This was followed by a rich and varied programme, including performances by some very accomplished and experienced musicians as well as

excellent performances by some boys who have only been learning their instrument for a short time. Each of the forms had the opportunity to demonstrate their skills as an orchestra and Les Chanteurs de 7T sang A La Claire Fontaine, a beautiful French song. The evening's entertainment

ended with the whole Form singing Penny Lane. Congratulations must go to every boy who performed, and especially to Mr Carr and his fine team of peripatetic teachers who have managed to inspire the boys to such a fine level of performance so early in the year.

LF

Barry Gardiner Memorial Service



Barry Gardiner pictured on last year's history trip to Brookwood Cemetery.

The Chapel was packed with Old Aldronians for Barry Gardiner's Memorial Service on Sunday October 11th. It was a remarkable service with tributes from Mr Humphrey Davis – who had both been taught by Barry and had been his teaching colleague – and Barry's godson, Mr Simon Robinson.

The choir sang beautifully and the hymn to the tune of the "Dambusters' March" was much appreciated given Barry's love of aircraft. After the service there were plenty of other informal tributes to Barry that made his remarkable dedication to Aldro and Aldronians abundantly clear to all.

It was a truly memorable day and it was especially heart warming to welcome back to Aldro a number of old boys who had not been back for many years.

ROME 2010

Form 7 have been given forms about the Art trip to Rome next Summer. These forms should be handed in to the office or Mrs Fenwick along with a £100 deposit cheque made out to Aldro School and a photocopy of the back page of your son's passport. Places are very limited and the cheques will not be banked until you have been assured of your son's place on the trip. If your son is interested and he does not bring a form home, you can still submit a deposit and passport details as indication of his interest.

Don't delay, places will fill VERY quickly!

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

2 Mon	8.30am	Return from Half Term (or Sunday between 8.00pm and 8.30pm)
		Start of Winter Timetable
	5.00pm	Forres Holidays Presentation
6 Fri		FoAA Winter Fair, CHC: Firework display
7 Sat		FoAA Winter Fair, CHC
8 Sun	7.00pm	Chapel: Informal Service
9 Mon		Rugby season starts Forms 5 - 8
	6.30pm	Form 4 Parents' Evening, Dining Hall
13 Fri	4.30pm	Forms 3, 4 and 5 Weekend Leave
	5.05pm	Forms 6, 7 and 8 Weekend Leave

Christmas cards are coming!!!

Following the success of last year's card project, the boys have been very busy designing cards. They will be available to order soon after half term.