



Headlines

It has been an exciting, wet and windy few weeks since the last Aldro Link appeared! The switch from football to rugby at the senior end of the school has gone very well: the 1st XI won their final football fixture of the season in fine style with a convincing victory over Danes Hill – usually one of our strongest opponents. Then the 1st XV have had an outstanding start to their season with victory at the Hall Grove 10-a-side competition backed up by a convincing win over the hosts when they returned there on Wednesday with the full team. The results from other rugby teams have also been extremely pleasing, so let's hope the season continues in a similar vein.

Looking ahead, we have a busy and exciting last couple of weeks of this term. For the boarders, I am sure that the Christmas Feast will be one of the highlights; for junior boys, the Junior Play will be up amongst the top moments; and for the musicians, the concerts and the carol services will be major events. I hope that we will be able to enjoy a really good time and that parents will be able to come to many of the events that are coming up. In the meantime, I'm sure we all deserve a good break this weekend!

David Ark

**Boarders go skating...
...more inside**



Sherborne Rugby Tour October 2009



From the very start of the tour excitement and enthusiasm were circulating. Every tourist was given an Aldro hat and tour t-shirt. As the bus was loaded with so many large bags there was barely room for any tourists and everybody had to get out and re-organise everything all over again.

As soon as we arrived at Sherborne and had unpacked we got straight down to training before having a swim and eating dinner. Everyone then piled into the vans again and knocked over some pins at the Bowlplex and we all had a great time competing to get the first strike.

On Saturday we were given some ruck training from Mr Miles (Head of Sport, Sherborne School), who taught us many brilliant ways in which to clear away the opposition. His con-

finer space games made us get into the habit of applying all we knew into a real game situation. The day was finished off with some crazy games such as Benchball and Pandemonium with Mr Margesson. We all took it very seriously.

Despite the fact that it had been raining hard, the matches on the last day turned out to be very successful and proved to be a great start to the season. The A team won their game, with great tries scored. The B's defended well but in the end it was King's House who came out on top.

It is great that Mr Kalin, Monsieur Lomdardot, Mr Margesson and Mr Hudson were prepared to give up part of their holiday to take us on the tour. It was an extremely successful trip.

By Bill Freeman

Inside this issue:

- Sports Talk ♦ Hall Grove Rugby Tournament ♦ Boarders on Ice ♦ Singing a Song ♦ 30 Years of Success ♦ Cubs Investing ♦ Fossil Finds ♦ Form 4 Science ♦ Squad Music Results ♦ Diary Dates



The PE Department

This half of term the boys are currently doing a Unit of Basketball in PE. The core skills we have focussed on are dribbling, passing and defending. The boys have responded very well and thoroughly enjoy the game.

We would like to remind all parents to please try and ensure the

now played their first two matches against Highfield and Hall Grove so the season is well under way. The 1st XV Squad and the U11A Squad travel to Wellington College next week for the prestigious Prep Schools Tournament. There will be 27 schools participating in the U13 Festival and 22 in the U11 Festival. Good luck to all involved!

A reminder that the Form 3&4 will start their Rugby season on Monday 7th December, with the Form 4's being introduced to contact Rugby and the Form 3's to TAG Rugby.

Please see the article by Bill Freeman reporting on the Sherborne Rugby Tour during half term. It is a fantastic read.

1st XV Rugby Win at Hall Grove!!

The 10 a side tournament was dominated by Aldro. The overall winners but not before a hard fought final match against King's House winning 5-0.

Edward Rees picked up player of the tournament.

Aldro Barbarians' (3rd XV) 43-0

victory over Highfield, Wednesday 18th November.

Well Done Aldro!



Football

We were delighted with the Football season this year on a number of fronts; the increase in the amount of matches, the progress and improvement in the boys skills, understanding and awareness and the enjoyment had by all concerned from boys and staff through to parents.

A process of review will now take place to see how we can continue to improve the football season.

U8/ 9 Squad Matches

The matches took place on Thursday 26th November in cold and windy conditions. The spirit from all squads was great with a large cheer before the final matches taking place.

The final standings were: 1 s t

=: India / West Indies

3rd : Australia

4th : Canada

5th : Africa

6th : New Zealand

boys do have the appropriate kit for PE, in particular the footwear required for use in the CHC. The boys are constantly reminded of what they should be wearing, but we have noticed that many of them do not have the appropriate clothing and footwear. Please remember that Green flash shoes can be purchased from the second hand shop. Plimsolls are also acceptable for PE.



U9 Final Football Game

The sun shone, parents turned up in force and the Under 9 footballers, photo above, ended their season with a super set of results against Parkside.

The Rugby Season

The rugby season has started with a flourish. Both the boys and staff are extremely excited and already thoroughly entrenched in all that is Rugby! Many teams have



Hall Grove 10-a-side Rugby Tournament

written by Elliott Ghent

After an early start, we arrived at Hall Grove with plenty of time to warm up. It was a nice day, slightly windy and grey, but otherwise quite mild. In our pool were Bishopsgate and the home side, Hall Grove A team. Our first match was against Bishopsgate.

We started well and the first try came from Theo Knottenbelt, his pace no match for the opposition. Maxim Smith was very unlucky with the conversion attempt, hitting the post and going wide. Our second try came soon after courtesy of the captain, Charlie Tarn. Edward Loftus was now given the conversion attempt but he too failed to hit the target, drilling the ball low and wide. Our forwards were rampant winning almost all of the line outs and scrums and if it weren't for a handling error from Charlie Tarn there would've been another try in that first half. After the interval we had a surge of pressure with the opposition pinned to their try line. We eventually turned the ball over in a ruck and waiting on the wing was Edward Rees who charged to the line. But again Maxim missed the conversion and the score line was now 15-0. Although he didn't score any conversions Maxim had a nice up-and-under which was chased down and the opposition full-back had to hack the ball away. That didn't really help though because from the lineout the ball went through the hands to Matthew Konadu-Yiadom to score our fourth try. Again Maxim missed the conversion, but it was on the touch line so it was quite hard. The forwards were often turning over the ball and we should've scored more, but then, a good bit of awareness by Maxim to do a long pass to Tarn, who ran the rest of the pitch to score under the posts. The kick was successfully converted by Theo, at last. We showed what damage we could do with that great performance.

Final Score: Aldro 27-0 Bishopsgate
Half-time score: 10-0 Tries.) Tarn 2,
Knottenbelt, Rees, Konadu-Yiadom
Conversions.) Knottenbelt

Our second match was against the hosts Hall Grove. I wasn't too confident after we beat Bishopsgate 38-0. Nor was I when we didn't so much as feel the ball in the first couple of minutes. But I was confident when Edward

Rees ripped the ball out of the maul



and ran over half the pitch to score. And even more so when he passed the ball, ran through three tackles and almost 2/3 of the pitch to score again. And then, when Edward Rees, ran through a few more players to score his hat-trick in the first half. The conversions were all straightforward and so the half-time score was 21-0. In the second half Luke Coghlan, who had been playing well, got injured and didn't play again. The opponents nearly scored twice, but for tackles from Knottenbelt and a combo of a few players we didn't concede. Then, when we did get the ball, Knottenbelt made a break and passed to Rees. At this moment I would've bet anything that he was going to score, but no. Instead he passed to Angus Hatrick to score our fourth try. Knottenbelt however scuffed the conversion attempt and the score line remained 26-0. Knottenbelt recovered though with another excellent try-saving tackle. Eventually Hall Grove scored after a mistake from Konadu -Yiadom to try and intercept the ball. Then after a nice move from Knottenbelt who looped round Konadu-Yiadom finished a well executed try. Mallin now took the conversion but the ball stopped a bit short. Then after a spell of pressure we had ourselves on our opponent's line, shortly followed by some quick thinking and aggression by Ben Gasson to score a sixth try and end the match.

Final Score: Aldro 36-7 Hall Grove,
Half-time score: 21-0 Tries.) Rees
3, Hatrick, Knottenbelt, Gasson
Conversions.) Loftus 3

We were out of the group stages, and in the quarter-final against Eagle House. My camera was charged up.

We started well, our forwards showing their dominance in pretty much everything. Then after a ball out to Knottenbelt on the wing and a

change of pace, Theo zoomed to the try line to score. Then another brilliant try, running more than half the pitch again, you guessed it - Edward Rees. Then another brilliant try, the forwards winning clean ball at the ruck, from Edwards Loftus, showing his power and his speed.

Loftus made an astonishing run, going more than 3/4 of the pitch to score and then converting. A brilliant solo effort to make the score 26-0 at half-time. James Whitton made a very good tackle and then won the ball, which was passed down the line to Loftus again. He then cut through Eagle House's defence and with one of the best hand-offs I have ever seen scored under the posts. The final score 31-0.

Final Score: Aldro 31-0 Eagle House
Half-time score: 26-0 Tries.)
Loftus 3, Knottenbelt, Rees
Conversions.) Loftus 3

That got us through to the semi-final where we faced Newlands House. Nothing much was happening; we were just going through our phases when Loftus, as he was being dragged down, off-loaded to a speeding Tarn who ran under the posts for a try. Loftus now was kicking well and scored the conversion easily. Loftus then put in some exceptional tackles and Theo showed his pace again before passing to Rees to score, again going through a few tackles and then running half the pitch to score. 14-0 at half-time. After a successful line out the ball went out to the wing and Knottenbelt sped past Newlands House's last line of defence



to score. Loftus scored the conversion. Then Loftus made a break and as he was being tackled off-loaded the ball which was caught by both Matthew

Continued on page 6



NEWS CLIPS

Boarders On Ice

Although the Boarders' main ice-skating trip is not until the last Sunday of term at Winchester Cathedral, there was a chance to have a quick practice on the temporary ice-rink at St Mary's school in Shackleford last week. It was a lot of fun and a great way to celebrate the end of exams. And with artificial snow and mince-pies, it was almost beginning to feel like Christmas!



Celebrating 30 years of Success



30 years at Aldro for Mr Archer, yet his enthusiasm for everything from geography through to gardening, swimming and chess still abounds. The staff celebrated his success with cake, appropriately decorated as a chess board.



Singing a Song

The Squad music Competition was a great success, with a record number of boys taking part. Considering that participation is on a voluntary basis, this is a real testament to their dedication and enthusiasm for singing.

Well done to every boy who participated. Especially pleasing was the effort of a group of form eight boys (above) who are not in the choir and therefore not regular singers in school. Squad music results are on page 5.

Cub Pack Expansion



14 Aldro boys invested into the Aldro Cub Pack on 24th November 2009.

Sharp Eyes Finds Sharp Teeth



Sample of shark teeth found at Abbey Wood

During the half term holiday we visited Abbey Wood which is located in South London near the Woolwich car ferry. The Blackheath beds lie beneath the ground here and it is from these layers that a variety of 55 million year old fossils can be found.

We took water and sieves and it wasn't long before the first tooth had been found. Tom Gerrard was first to spot one of the distinctive fossils. We all found a variety of different shark's teeth and there were plenty of fossil shells. The smallest finds were possibly the most interesting and these were the tiny spines from the back of a Sting ray (*Hypolophodon sylvestris*). Some of the boys also found the sting ray teeth which are particularly difficult to spot. Wet sieving helps but it can be a rather muddy process.

On the way back we stopped for some lunch. We all enjoyed the trip and had some good finds.

D.J.Archer



Form 4 investigates Streamlining and Water Resistance



SQUAD SINGING COMPETITION RESULTS 2009

Form 8 (Choristers)

1 st Thomas Elliot	
Man In The Mirror	W
2 nd Oliver Maslen	
I Get A Kick Out Of You	C
3 rd Tom Govan	
Yesterday	N

Form 8 (Non-Choristers)

1 st Stefan Sjumarken	
The Miller Of The Dee	Af
2 nd Matts Cozens	
The World's Greatest	C

Form 7

1 st Oliver Sherwood	
A Nightingale Sang In Berkeley Square	Af
2 nd James Walker	
Wake Me Up When September Ends	C
3 rd Adam Carden	
Fear No More The Heat Of The Sun	N

Form 6

1 st Ben Taylor	
What A Wonderful World	I
2 nd Jason Thomas	
Little Boats	Au
3 rd Ben Bradley	
Cuckoo	N

Form 5

1 st Miles Russell-Tracey	
Shine Jesus Shine	Au
2 nd Edward Mair	
I'm Walking In The Air	I
3 rd Tom Adams	
Farmyard Cabaret	Af

Form 4

1 st William Harris	
Postman Pat	N
2 nd Max St John	
Only A Fool	I
3 rd Freddie Williams	
You Raise Me Up	Au

Form 3

1 st Tommy Taylor	
Where Is Love?	C
2 nd Harry Alldritt	
Tick-Tock	Af
3 rd Anthony Gosnell	
Doh A Deer	C

ART GALLERY

ALDRO ART OF THE WEEKS



Alexander Fomin - 7L



Lewis Graham - 8R



Eugene Valetsky - 8H



Lewis Graham - 8R



Justin Humphries - 8H



Jamie Walker - 4A



Hugo Mack - 8H



Hall Grove Tournament...

Konadu-Yiadom and the opponent's last defender. Matthew though used his strength to rip the ball and run to the try line and score. Loftus again scored the conversion but after a glimpse of attacking play from Newlands House they scored making the final score 28-7.

Final Score: Aldro 28-7 Newlands House Half-time score: 14-0 Tries.) Tarn, Rees, Knottenbelt, Konadu-Yiadom Conversions.) Loftus 4

The Final. We'd be playing Kings House. The team that we played on the Sherbourne tour and the current champions since 2007.

The match started and we scored after a good line out which went to the wing where Ben Harris rolled out of a tackle and scored. The rest of the game was mostly forward play with lots of rucks and mauls. Kings House came very close to scoring but our defence proved strong. A Harris interception would've been a try if it hadn't of been for an earlier infringement. They had a very quick winger and so kicked a lot of possession but Theo was alert and showed good skill. Everyone played well and when the final whistle went we were all really happy to have won.

Final Score: Aldro 5-0 Kings House Half-time score: 5-0 Tries.)Harris

We all received our gold medals and the cup and also Edward Rees picked up player of the tournament.

Results Summary

Aldro 27 – 0 Bishop's Gate (HT 10-0)
Tries: Tarn 2, Knottenbelt, Rees, Yiadom.
Conversion: Smith.

Aldro 36 – 7 Hall Grove (HT 21-0)
Tries: Rees 3, Hatrick, Knottenbelt, Gasson.
Conversions: Loftus 3.

Quarter-final:

Aldro 31 – 0 Eagle House (HT 12-0)
Tries: Loftus 3, Knottenbelt, Rees.
Conversions: Loftus 3.

Semi-final:

Aldro 28 – 7 Newlands (HT 14-0)
Tries: Tarn, Rees, Knottenbelt, Yiadom.
Conversions: Loftus 4.

Final:

Aldro 5 – 0 King's House (HT 5-0) Try: Harris.

Tournament stats: played 5, won 5, for 127, against 14. Scorers: Loftus 35 (3T, 10C), Rees 30 (6T), Knottenbelt 20 (4T), Tarn 15 (3T), Yiadom 10 (2T), Gasson, Harris 5 (1T), Smith 2 (1C). Edward Rees Referees' Best Player of the Tournament Award.



18th Aldro Inter Schools Chess Tournament October 2009

There was an excellent entry again this year with 33 teams from schools all over the south of England. I would like to thank all the boys who played for the school at the end of half term. There were some tough matches and all our 16 players gained valuable experience for the tournaments to come.



Our most successful team was the U11B team who won the U11 Minor section. The winning team consisted of Harry Wood (capt), Ali Nathan, Seb Gunner and Guy Woodhouse. They won all three of their matches to take the gold medals.

The U11A team won one match, drew one and lost one with Alexander Weir on board 3 top scoring with 2.5 points for the team. The U9A team played well to win their first two matches but found Homefield too strong for them in round 3. The U9B team found the going rather tough but good experience and great fun.

Results:

Aldro U11A team 7th out of 10 teams
Aldro U11B team 1st in the Minor section out of 8 teams Gold medals
Aldro U9A team 3rd out of 6 teams Bronze medals
Aldro U9B team 4th in the Minor section out of 4 teams

Thanks to the parents who helped with the refreshments and as team managers and also to all the parents who contributed to the refreshments, we have raised £138.70 for the Surrey Care Trust.

Many thanks once again to Mr Tuddenham who helped to set up and run the tournament.



D.J.Archer

Diary Dates

NOVEMBER

30 Mon	8.30am	Return from Half Term (or Sunday between 8.00pm and 8.30pm)
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DECEMBER

1 Tues	7.15pm	Junior Christmas Concert, CHC
4 Fri	7:15PM	Football: Argyle Cup Forms 3 & 4 Senior Christmas Concert, CHC
6 Sun	7:00pm	Chapel: Informal Service
7 Mon	7:30pm	Boarders' Quiz
9 Wed		LAMDA Exams
10 Thur	1:20pm 6:45pm	LAMDA Exams Choir Carol Concert at Milford Day Centre Choir Party
11 Fri	2:30pm	Junior Christmas Play for whole school
12 Sat	11:30am 6:30pm	Junior Christmas Play, CHC Boarders' Feast - No Leave Out
13 Sun	7:00pm	Chapel: Candlelit Carol Service
14 Mon	5:00pm	Dayboys' departure
15 Tues	9:00am 2:30pm	Choir rehearsal at Charterhouse Carol Service, Charterhouse - James Stileman Esq Term ends on conclusion of the Carol Service