



HeadLines

Amongst the many highlights of the past few weeks is the excellent concert with Charterhouse last Wednesday: the quality of the performance of both the Aldronians and the Carthusians was remarkably high and it was a great celebration of the musical talents of both schools. If you were unable to be there, you can find a flavour of the evening at www.aldro.org where there is an excerpt from Mozart's "Ave Verum Corpus".

Looking ahead, good luck to the boys taking Common Entrance after half term. I hope that they will pay close attention to Mr Haggart's letter that will be in the Friday mailing.

David Aston

Cricket Update

The weather has been kind, and as a result there has been plenty of cricket played resulting in some excellent matches. The 1st XI started with a flourish, winning 6 and drawing 1 of their first 7 matches, before a slight blip with narrow defeats at the hands of both Lanesborough and Eagle House. Captain Elliott Charles led from the front with some fine innings. After a miserable start against Papplewick, the 2nd XI have since recorded 3 fine victories and are developing into a formidable side. Fergus Shires took a hatrick to finish off the Eagle House innings, equalling a feat produced by another left-arm medium pacer, Dominic Dawson, for the 1st XI earlier in the season. The 3rd and 4th XI's have both played some



Our 1st XI Team

Scholarship Successes



Congratulations to the following boys who have been successful in winning awards to their senior schools:

(back row left to right)

Thomas MacKinnon – Wellington (Academic and Art)

James Aston—Shrewsbury (Academic)

Gavroche Gergaud – Charterhouse (Music)

Charlie Eaton – Charterhouse (Art)

(front row left to right)

Sandy May – Sherborne (Academic and Music)

William Mallin – Charterhouse (Academic and Music)

Rowley Young – Shiplake (Art)

William Travers – Radley (Academic)

Ollie Matthews – Sherborne (Art)



Brilliant Bayley Bowling

for motivation when it comes to cricket with Aldro boys, and it is a game that the vast majority enjoy and play whenever and wherever the opportunity arises. This enthusiasm is very evident in games times, as it is in matches. Long may this last!

Malcolm Cronshaw

entertaining cricket and had more than a fair share of success. The Under 11's in contrast have had a tough time coming up against some talented sides. There are some promising cricketers in the Under 10's and they started off the season well, as have the strong Under 9 squad. The Under 8's have also been in action winning 2 and losing only 1 match. There is no need

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Aldro will remember them

Year 7 visit to Ypres, Belgium



By the time we reached France, the boys back at Aldro were sitting down for their first lesson and by break time we were in Ypres, Belgium.

After an early lunch we went to the Menin Gate, a huge war memorial with the names of 54,900 British soldiers who died in the area. The lads scanned the wall and I am sure they were moved by the loss it represents. It was here that we paid our respects

to an Old Aldronian, Cecil A Spayer, who died not far away and had no known grave. We laid a poppy wreath close to his name and bowed our heads in a moment's silence.

At the Flanders Fields Museum each boy was given a ticket with the name of someone that was involved with the Great War in or around Ypres. As the boys made their way around the museum they relived moments of the War by scanning their ticket at terminals and finding out what happened to the named person. It was an opportunity for each boy to spend some time in thought about why we were visiting and it made the learning experience more involved and personal.

After our invasion of a local chocolate shop, we



Laying a Wreath at Menin Gate



Looking through artefacts at Hill 62

made our way to Hill 62. Through artefacts and photographs, this museum recreated the awful experiences that our forces and allied troops must have experienced.

Our last stop was the Tyne Cot Cemetery, the resting place of soldiers of the Commonwealth Forces. The panels that surround the site contain 13,000 names. Among them is Stanley Tucker, another OA. As a boy laid the wreath at the Menin Gate, it was decided that a member of staff should lay a second wreath to signify that all the OA dead are remembered by staff as well as boys.

Philip Donaghy

Form 3 Visit to Intech



Form 3 visited Intech Science Centre on Monday 21st May. We had a workshop on paper planes and launched them at 80mph into the auditorium. We also investigated a variety of 'hands on' exhibits where we learnt about viscosity, streamlining, gravity and density.



Junior School Play - Robin Hood's Sherwood Shenanigans

Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th July at 7.30pm

An original and amusing rendition of the legendary antics of Robin Hood and his Merry Men, starring all boys in Forms Three and Four. An extravaganza of dramatic action, dazzling dance and sensational singing. There is something here for everyone...even a dancing bear!



Pictures From Previous Weeks



Click on picture to enlarge



Ben Ashworth 6T



James Bradley 5L



Josef Moore 4A



James Taylor 5S



Guy Solan 3C

Boarder Outings: Thorpe Park and Windsurfing



There are many weekend outings for Boarders throughout the year. Here are some snapshots from our most recent trips: Thorpe Park and Windsurfing.

Rockwatch trip to Studley Grange

At the weekend we joined in a Rockwatch event at Studley Grange near Swindon. A large number of families had made the trip and they all seemed to have a successful day looking for fossils in the Kimmeridge clay, which is about 145 million years old.

Our small group consisted of Mr Barry Gardiner, Matthew Bagley, Alexander Turner, Harry Moore and his grandfather Ashley. We all managed to find some of the fossil oysters and a few ammonites but it is the reptile finds that make this site particularly interesting and I was pleased to find an Ichthyosaur vertebra.

Finds from some of the other groups included an incredible Plesiosaur tooth,

several pieces of Ichthyosaur rib, a large fish tooth and a variety of bivalves and gastropods.

Mr Gardiner kindly judged the fossil of the day competition and gave all 3 of the boys a prize.

We had a successful afternoon out and I can recommend Rockwatch to all our boys. The web site is interesting and membership is good value.

<http://www.rockwatch.org.uk/index.html>

David Archer



An Ichthyosaur vertebra, similar to the one found



Réunion Visitors

On Monday 21st May the school eagerly awaited the arrival of a party of boys and girls from the other side of the world!

45 children and 8 adults were spending the day at Aldro, far from their beautiful volcanic island in the Indian ocean, la Réunion (an overseas department of France.) Small groups joined in lessons or went on a tour of the school (all in French) before joining us for lunch – which they really enjoyed!

A concert in the afternoon began with choir and ensemble items from our boys before moving to a compelling drum beat for traditional Réunionais song and dance – the girls in vibrant,

flowing costumes. Owing to cold, wet weather it wasn't possible for swimming or la pétanque but there was plenty of energetic football in the CGA.

Gifts were exchanged and promises made to keep contacts between the schools. A happy group of children left at about 4.30 – one was overheard to say this was the best day of their visit to Europe!

Un mot en français pour nos visiteurs qui liront ceci sur notre site web: nous avons beaucoup aimé passer la journée avec vous. Bon retour à l'île et nous espérons que vous garderez un bon souvenir de votre visite.

Sue Leach



Aldro serves up a great start to the season

close-fought and extremely tight match at Aldro. Their last encounter at Hall Grove proved even closer still with the second pair losing out on the tie-break in the deciding rubber, turning what might have been a 4 – 2 win into a 3 sets each loss (Hall Grove winning 26 – 23 on games). Henry Charatan was our outstanding performer.

After an encouraging 4 – 2 win over St. George's, the Under 12's then suffered a whitewash against a very good Reed's side and now await their final League game at Downsend, which had to be rearranged due to the weather. The same applies with the Under 13 squad who are favourites to come second in their group if they win at Downsend.

Big wins over Cranmore (7 – 2), Tiffin (8 – 1) and Shrewsbury House (9 – 0) were excellent results, but a 2 – 7 defeat at the hands of an outstanding Reed's knocked us off our pedestal. To be fair to our senior team, we had had several absences due to injury, boys taking scholarships etc, and have therefore had an unsettled side. However, the Jack Hall/Ben Munns and Tom Smith/Tim McIlroy partnerships, in particular, have served us well. Congratulations to all boys who have taken part and contributed so much.

Malcolm Cronshaw



After a very good start to the term with initial victories for each of the Under 11, 12 and 13 teams, it has been a mixed bag since. The Under 11's comfortably beat Amesbury 5 – 1, but then lost out to The Hawthorns 2 – 4 in a



Poetry Quiz Results

I am sure that many of you have been anxiously awaiting news of the results of the fiendish poetry quiz in Aldro Link Issue 6: the answers are:

1. *Who lived in Xanadu, "Where Alph, the sacred river, ran Through caverns measureless to man Down to a sunless sea."?*

Kubla Khan lived in Xanadu

2. *Which famous nineteenth century poet wrote the poem?*

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

3. *How did "the man from Porlock" allegedly have a great impact on the poem?*

Coleridge is alleged to have been writing the poem in an opium-induced trance but he was interrupted by a man from Porlock; when his friend left, Coleridge could not remember what else he was going to write. As a result, today's "Kubla Khan" is only a part of what should have been an epic poem.

4. *In which Somerset village does the National Trust own a property where this poet lived for a number of years?*

Nether Stowey is the Somerset village where the National Trust look after Coleridge's cottage.

Congratulations to the winner, Mr John Boyle, who may collect a prize after half term!

SUMMER TERM DIARY DATES

May	Day	Time	Event
24	Thursday		Athletics: Meeting at Spectrum 2nd Industry Grades
25	Friday	1:00pm 4:00pm 4:30pm 5:05pm	Cricket Tour to Ireland Junior Choir Concert Forms 3, 4 and 5 Half Term Forms 6, 7 and 8 Half Term
27	Sunday		Cricket Tour Returns
June	Day	Time	Event
3	Sunday	2:00pm 8-8:30pm	Chess: Grand Prix Tournament -Wellington College Borders Return from Half Term
4	Monday	8:30am	Return from Half Term Welsh History Trip Departs Common Entrance
5	Tuesday		Common Entrance
6	Wednesday	3:30pm	Common Entrance Welsh History Trip Returns
9	Saturday	2:00pm	Sports Day
11	Monday		School Exams
12	Tuesday	9:30am	Form 8 First Aid Course
14	Thursday	2:15pm 7:00pm	Leavers and Team Photographs Squad Music Competition Final
15	Friday	4:00pm	Form 3 Concert
16	Saturday		Open Morning
18	Monday		Scout Camp Begins
20	Wednesday		Scout Camp Ends
21	Thursday	4:30pm 5:05pm	Forms 3, 4 and 5 Weekend Leave Forms 6, 7 and 8 Weekend Leave
23	Saturday		FoAA Ball
25	Monday		Return from Weekend Leave

Half Term ideas:

Reptiles and Amphibians Week - 26/05/2007—03/06/2007

Explore the world of these amazing creatures through trails, guided walks, arts and craft activities and much more. Where: WWT London Wetland Centre, Queen's Elizabeth's Walk

Website: <http://www.wwt.org.uk>

Write like an Egyptian—30/05/2007

Workshop with hieroglyphics to create your very own cartoosh. Drop-in free family learning event from 10am to 1pm. Sorry no unaccompanied children.

Red House Museum, New Forest and Christchurch, 10:00 Telephone: 01202 482860

Theatrical Masks—31/05/2007

SCAT theatre company will help you make your own Greek theatre mask. 10 - 12noon & 1 - 3pm—Suitable for age 7yrs+ Gosport Discovery Centre, Fareham and Gosport area, 10:00 Reserve a space: Telephone: 02392 523431

Cirque Surreal Voyages—25/05/2007 – 03/06/2007

For the first time, the leading circus stars from 10 countries have been gathered together in the UK to perform death-defying aerial acts, astounding acrobatics, gravity defying balancing, incredible juggling & hilarious comedy in a spectacular show a world apart from any circus you may have seen. A dynamic fusion of traditional circus skills, modern dance, drama and humour. Oaklands Park, Chichester area, 14:30—Dial a Seat - 08712240033

Caption Competition



Send your suggested Captions to walpn@aldro.org. They will be published in the next issue of AldroLink.