



## HeadLines



It's been a pretty frustrating fortnight for our games players as the pitches have resembled something rather more like a peat bog than a well-drained sport surface! However, in spite of a lack of much practice for the boys, the hockey season has got under way with some tough fixtures but much valuable experience gained. The sporting highlight so far, though, has been the success of the rugby sevens squad who were victorious in the Eagle House Sevens tournament last weekend. Good luck to the two teams as they head west to take part in one of the most competitive events of the season at The Downs School near Bristol.

At the time of writing, a number of boys await the results of scholarship exams; in the meantime, well done to Ollie Matthews for securing an Art Award at Sherborne and Rowley Young for receiving an Art Exhibition at Shiplake. Good luck to a number of boys who face various scholarships at Radley, Shrewsbury and Wellington in the coming weeks

Finally, thank you to all those involved with Confirmation: it was a moving service last week for the eight candidates and their families and I am grateful not only to the Bishop of Guildford, but also to Mr MacIntosh who prepared the boys for the service and to Mr Carr and the choir for their important contribution to the service.

*David Aston*

## Fossil trip to Barton on Sea at Half term Yields Spectacular Find!

We had an excellent day for our trip to Barton on sea. Our group consisted of 11 boys and 4 adults and everybody contributed to the success of the outing.

The boys soon started finding sharks teeth in the shingle and one or two of the boys found some interesting gastropods. Tom Gudgeon found a rare specimen, which was in remarkable condition.

This magnificent specimen is a *Hippochrenes amplus* fossil, a wonderful example of a Gastropod from the Eocene or Oligocene era. Although plenty of other finds were made by the party of boys and parents, this was judged by Mr Archer and Mr Gardiner to be not just the best find of the day, but one of the most spectacular for



many years: well done, Tom!

All the fossils date back to about 40 million years ago when this part of England was under a shallow sub tropical sea.

We had our usual find of the day competition which was won by Tom with Adam Bagley 2<sup>nd</sup> and Cameron Jones 3<sup>rd</sup>. They were presented with prizes by Mr Gardiner before we left.

Many thanks to Mr Barry Gardiner, Mrs Heather Wahl and Mr Peter Bagley for their help.

*D.J.Archer*

## Highfield Tournament Champions



The soccer season at Aldro finished in fantastic style as the 1st XI squad won the Highfield Seven-a-side tournament just before half term. With a couple of the squad absent, the boys' performance demonstrated both the strength in depth that has built up in the course of the past few months and the tenacity of the players.

The final against Ditcham Park ended in a 1-1 draw and a penalty shoot-out. Luckily the Aldro keeper made a couple of crucial saves and the penalty takers kept their wits about them to win the match 4-3 on penalties and bring home the trophy: there couldn't be a better way to round off Mr Cronshaw's time as 1st XI coach!

### Inside this issue:

Confirmation Congratulations,  
Year 6 Trial Boarding Success,  
World Book Day,  
The Junior Department,  
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and Diary Dates

## Congratulations on your Confirmation



Congratulations to all the boys who were confirmed on Thursday, 22nd February. From left to right-Back row: Colin McIntosh, The Bishop of Guildford, David Aston. Middle row: Henry Boyle, Oliver Wynne-Griffith, Harley Button, James Aston, Will Osborne. Front row: Nick Tauwhare, Tim Folland, Tom Smith

This term eight boys were confirmed, and two also baptised, in the school chapel by the Bishop of Guildford. It was a wonderful occasion and the chapel was filled with the boys' families, friends and god-parents. The boys being confirmed had all taken part in a course run by Mr MacIntosh to help them to prepare to take this step and all wanted to make a public commitment of their desire to serve Jesus Christ.

As well as confirming the boys, the Bishop reminded us all of our own baptisms by sprinkling the baptistery water all over the congregation. He also said that he wanted to remind us that we can be solemn and joyful at the same time! It was certainly a memorable evening for all who were there.

## All Aboard For Year 6 Trial Boarding Week!

Eight boys in form 6 spent a week as boarders. They were asked what the best things were about being a boarder. These are some of the responses.



**"I really like the breakfast. It's better than at home."**

**"I like the fact that the matrons are so kind."**

**"Having fruit at breakfast makes it easier to get your five a day!"**

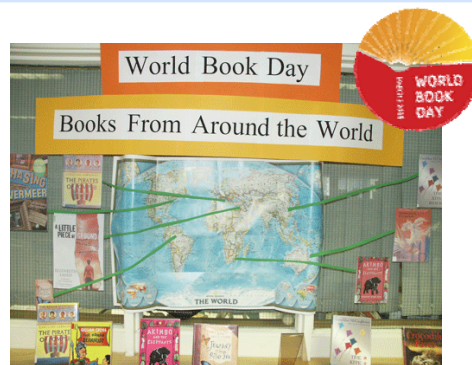
**"I loved playing Colditz."**

**"You can make better friends because you're with people for longer."**



**"Being in the dorms in the evenings chilling out with your friends."**

As always, if you are interested in hearing more about the Aldro Boarding experience, contact Mr MacIntosh at any time.



World Book Day was designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. The origins of the day we now celebrate in the UK and Ireland come from Catalonia, where roses and books were given as gifts to loved ones on St. George's Day – a tradition started over 80 years ago.

World Book Day 2007 in the UK and Ireland will take place on Thursday 1st March and is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday. It is a partnership of publishers, booksellers and interested parties who work together to promote books and reading for the personal enrichment and enjoyment of all.

A main aim of World Book Day is to encourage children to explore the pleasures of books and reading by providing them with the opportunity to have a book of their own. Thanks to the generosity of National Book Tokens Ltd and numerous participating booksellers, school children are entitled to receive a World Book Day £1 Book Token redeemable against any book or audio-book of their choice at a participating bookshop or book club. For more information on World Book Day visit: <http://www.worldbookday.com>.



## Spotlight on the Junior Department

### - Knights and Castles - Year 4's legendary tales

### Form 4 Concert

In their English lessons Year 4 boys have been captivated by the legendary world of knights and castles. Each boy has written his own book - with titles ranging from 'The Sea Dragon' to 'The Legend of the Lost King'. Not only were the boys the authors, but also the illustrators. Here are some samples to whet your appetite. If you would like to read more, please visit 4G and 4A form rooms where they are on display.



Left to right- back row: Hugo Tucker 4G, James Whitton 4A, Ben Harris 4A. Middle row: William Dewar 4G, James Cherryman 4A, Morgan Davies 4G, James Smith 4G. Front row: Edward Hellyar 4G, Theo Payen 4A, William Gudgean 4G

**"The castle loomed out of the darkness and was lit up by a flash of lightning. At the bottom the walls curved out for defence. The walls were twenty five feet wide! There was another strike of lightning. There was no one to be seen....."**

*James Cherryman 4A*

**"The castle was on a high hill, covered in snow. The portcullis was up and the sound of merry laughter and feasting could be heard..."**

*Theo Payne 4A*

**"The moat was gleaming and glinting with the stars shining in the calm peace of the night. The great hall had a feast for the knights and noblemen.... In a cave a dragon was waiting to be challenged."**

*Freddie Russell Jones 4G*

**"The castle was an imposing figure. I always felt quite nervous when I approached it because if they didn't recognise me I would be killed in seconds and stripped to the bone by scavengers."**

*Matthew Bagley 4G*

**"Towering over the countryside, stood a magnificent castle. It had a curtain wall forty feet thick. The keep had two catapults that launched balls of molten tar. There were twelve zodiac statues made out of gold."**

*Rory Fisk 4A*

**"They appeared, the great mass of the enemy's army, like a giant monster, crouching on the crest of a hill. From the top of the castle I saw a great emerald, diamond patterned tail rise out of the sea."**

*Charlie Kidd 4G*



Adam Carden 4G – Recorder  
Samuel Turner 4G – Violin  
Harry Moore 4G – Guitar

Leading up to the concert it was nerve wracking. We had to have courage to stand up and play in front of an audience. Some people were advanced and had challenging pieces to play, other people had only just started learning their instruments.

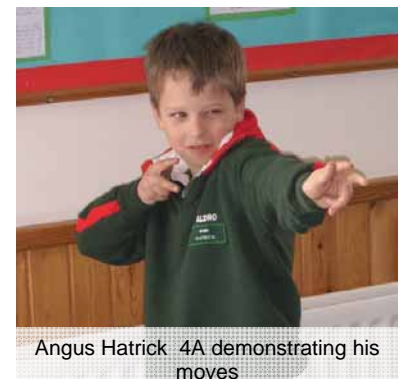
While we were playing we felt nervous, but afterwards we were all relieved and really glad that we had done it.

Singing our class songs and playing in the class orchestra all together was lots of fun!

*Will Maslen 4G & Archie Blair 4A*

### Looking for the 'X' Factor

Auditions for next term's play, for Years 3 and 4, were launched this week. Speech, song and mime filled 3B's form room. Watch this space for further details...



Angus Hatrick 4A demonstrating his moves

## Sports

### Hockey



Both teachers and pupils have been frustrated by the lack of opportunity to practice their hockey due to waterlogged pitches. Despite this, there has been much enthusiasm for the matches. Unfortunately most of the results have been defeats but the boys continue to improve. The U9 Teams have been particularly impressive this term!



### Eagle House Tournament Winners



A second tournament was brilliantly won at Eagle House by our 1st VII, after our triumph at Highfield.

We won all five matches on the programme, so that our count is now: played 19, won 16, lost 3. Our boys were superb from the word go and fully deserved the title. Aldro's 2nd VII took part in the same competition and managed to give a match to all the opposition.

It was the ideal preparation for The Downs Sevens in Bristol next Saturday, where we will face the best schools in the country.

## LENT TERM DIARY DATES

March	Day	Time	Event
1	Thursday		Form 8 Exams
2	Friday		3 <sup>rd</sup> 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

## Special Stories

### \* Malachy Gilchrist \* Receives Certificate of Bravery!



On January 10th 2006, just over a year ago, my parents went out leaving me at home on my own. Half an hour later the front door bell rang, I wasn't expecting any visitors nor was there a parked vehicle to be seen. I did not answer the door. Five minutes later I heard something fall to the floor inside the house near the front door and then the door being opened. I hid under the desk where I was working upstairs and then I heard somebody walking up the stairs. I was thinking fast and I was confused. I decided to check whether it was somebody I knew when I saw a man in my parents' bedroom; I realised he must have been a burglar. I crept downstairs into our kitchen where I picked up the phone and dialled 999. As it was ringing, I looked round the door and saw another burglar! Whispering in the phone I asked for the police who arrived in a very short time.

The two men tried to escape but were caught and arrested.

On Thursday 18th January 2007, Malachy Gilchrist received a Certificate for Bravery at a special ceremony from the Surrey Constabulary at Police Headquarters, Mount Brown. On Thursday 8th February he was invited as a special guest to visit Guildford Police Station where he was shown around and presented with a Police Helmet.

### Mr. T on Countdown!



*Mr. T and a difficult conundrum.*

Mr. Tuddenham became a Countdown champion on Tuesday but was beaten on Wednesday by only two points.

"It was a great experience. I'd never ever been in a TV studio before. The Yorkshire Television staff and the Countdown team were very friendly and helpful, putting the contestants at their ease. Even so, I was very nervous."

Well done Mr. T.

### Special Recognition

Congratulations to Adam Bagley and Luke Coghlan who qualified to swim in the Surrey Swimming Championships at Crystal Palace on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February.