

The Headmaster writes:

It is often said that Aldro looks at its best during the bright Summer sunshine, when the fields glisten and the sound of bat on ball is only punctured by watching boys in boats glide by on the lake. However Autumn is just as wonderful here for the rich colours around the grounds, the sight of boys chasing around for conkers or throwing footballs up the trees to dislodge the last of the would-be windfalls. It is also a time when we have celebrated some lovely Harvest festival services, where the chapel has been beautifully decorated by our Form 6 mums and FoAA reps. We have just finished a spectacular football season, culminating with the visit of the Oscar foundation team, OA football (and shooting), the Dads' team competition and of course squad matches and the opening rounds of the Argyle Cup. Whether Red or Green, boys have that instinctive spirit for adventure and competition – but above all pride to compete for their teams. This half-term has been so full of adventure for the boys as we immersed our younger years into Spanish and Outdoor

learning as part of the curriculum and for older boys the new activities such as Ancient Greek, coding with Lego mindstorms and orienteering. Form 7 boys departed for France for a week and many boys are off to Sherborne for the annual pre-season rugby training. Whether they have been busy preparing for informal music concerts, taking on interview preparation and pre-test practice for senior school admissions, working to build up scholarship portfolios, taking part in chess competitions or exploring classics at Charterhouse, above all else, they have been loving learning. Jenny and I wish you all a very happy half-term with your family – we have been delighted to see you all at the many events this term already, and can't wait for more after half-term.

Mr James Hanson
Headmaster

Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival Services were wonderful and a huge thank you must go to the Form 6 parents for decorating our chapel so beautifully. Aldro has been supporting Starfish Malawi for a number of years and we are directly linked with a school in Malawi, in a village called Simiwaya and it is fantastic that we raised £449.06 for this charity.



Oscar Foundation

The Oscar boys arrived in the UK on Saturday 30th September for fourteen days.

Aldro has worked really hard with fundraising events to support this amazing charity and ensure this trip provided the OSCAR children with a life changing experience. The Oscar Foundation (Organisation for Social Change, Awareness and Responsibility) is a non-profit organisation that, through football instils the value of education and empowers underprivileged children and youth with life skills to take responsibility of their community development.

The money raised from our school along with four other prep schools and goodwill of donors enabled fourteen children to fly from Mumbai to the UK for a mix of sport and education. The tour enriched the children, who have returned to Mumbai with experience and knowledge to pass on to their friends and siblings and proved that an education really does pay off.

On Thursday 5th October our full time boarders went up to London to meet the OSCAR boys and accompanied by Elaine Paige, were treated to a visit to the Lion King. Having slept in our boarding house the following morning saw the OSCAR boys attend the Friday assembly where their captain spoke to the boys about his living conditions, a house 3m x 2m, having no electricity, sharing a toilet with 60,000 people and having 3 rats living with them and all said with the biggest smile on his face. We were very grateful to Charterhouse Sports department who hosted the boys, aged 12 to 14, in the morning with a morning's masterclass of football coaching and enjoyment led by Mr Wyciechowski, who described it was one of the most enjoyable and humbling experiences in his coaching career.



Oscar Foundation

After lunch the whole school went out to watch a very exciting football match between the OSCAR boys and our game 1 boys and the result was an excellent 2-2. Their coach Maruti celebrated his 21st birthday with us and was delighted with his chocolate birthday cake and balloon! In the evening Mr & Mrs Drayton took the boys to the Spectrum to play ten pin bowling, something they had never done before and then pizzas back at school finished off their time at Aldro.



When the boys arrived it was very obvious that they were suffering with being cold having left temperatures of 35-40 degrees. The gift of a Aldro fleece was very much welcomed and apparently were worn throughout their visit to the UK!



Aldro Dads Football Tournament

The 2017 Dads Football Tournament proved once again to be one of the most enjoyable and well attended events in the School Calendar. Condition yet again were perfect and as such the skill levels were noticeably better! The best news of all was all dads walked or limped off the pitches but were not carried off! The afternoon dovetailed beautifully with the Old Aldronian day with both Shooting and Football matches taking place. Many old boys enjoyed the great atmosphere and buzz around the place.

On the pitch the surprise package was the Aldro Barbarians; a group of dads thrown together aided by 2 young but very willing Student Masters! They reached the semi –finals only to be narrowly beaten this year by Substandard Liege. In the other semi-final last year's winners 10 Left Feet narrowly defeated the newcomers Call me Al in a penalty shootout! The final as expected was a tense affair with few chances arising and as such also went to penalties. 10 Left Feet proved immaculate in their penalty taking and retained The Old Codgers Trophy. Well done to them and we hope to see them return next year to defend the title for a 3rd year.

A huge thank you to all involved and I am delighted to say that we raised a fantastic £980 which will go towards acquiring new running vests for our cross country and athletic teams. Thank you also to Mr Margesson, Mr Callaghan, Mr Nixon, Mr Alexander & Mr Tony King for refereeing. GD



DT at Aldro

This term Mrs Matthews has taken inspiration from Lord Sugar's Apprentice series, or more to the point, the Junior Apprentice show. This is where young entrepreneurs are challenged with a business opportunity in order to make a profit. The Form 6 brief was to design and manufacture a range of Christmas items that they would sell later this term during the Aldro Winter Fair. The year group are working incredibly hard to make a range of natural and charming products that we hope you will all enjoy purchasing for your homes or as gifts a few weeks from now. Although Mrs Matthews would like the boys to raise enough funds to purchase a laser cutter for the department (so next years 'businesses' can really go into batch production on a far larger scale), this is probably unrealistic and we expect that the boys will be donating their profits to a charity of their choice! Please do visit their stall in the ASC on 24th November.

In September the Form 5 boys were very excited about the 'Grand Unveiling Ceremony' of their personalised name plaques they had made in DT last term. This Year's Form 5 have already started working on theirs and cannot wait to add them to their lockers in the junior changing room.



Lego Masters Results

On 9th October 2017

37 intrepid Lego Designers put forward their entries in the first
Great DT Lego Masters Challenge
 at Aldro.

Inspired by Channel 4's Lego Masters series at the end of the summer, the boys were challenged to create their own vision of '**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**' from Lego.

The results as you can see are amazing, with entries varying from scuba diving, visiting a film set, safari in Africa, sailing and boat trips, swimming, rock concerts, fairground rides, camping on the beach, visiting Cornwall, Chatham historic dock yard, a tennis stadium, music camp, football, a balloon trip, cricket (Mr Rose's favourite surely?), snorkelling, zip wires, Alpine holidays, solar eclipse, RV road trip, airports, spiders, VW surfing, sitting in the shade, cinema outings, and the Grand Canyon to name but a few!

Congratulations to all the boys who entered

There were so many entries in the middle school we had to split them into Year groups so there are more winners than we had anticipated!

Apologies to Mr David Smith, Retired Head of DT who had the impossible task of judging all the entries, but he finally made his decision and we are delighted to announce the overall winners, who are...

	Juniors	Middle School		Seniors
	(Form 3&4)	Form 5	Form 6	Forms 7&8
1st Prize	At the Beach Tom and Albie Farley	American Road trip Archie Robertson	Robotic Turtle Dominic De Vuyst	Film Set William Groves
Runner up	Airport and big plane Hugo Anselm	Visiting Cornwall Alex and Max Sheridan-Oliver	Snorkelling in Majorca Thomas Bateman	Solar Eclipse Benedict Robertson
Highly commended	Wimbledon Benjy Reed Camping on the Beach Barnaby Everett	Boat Cruise Max Britz Brass Academy Jack Bourne Football Tom Watts	Fairground Ride Callaghan Matthews Rafting in a Canyon Edward Latham Zip Wire Oliver Wolney	Alps Adam Anselm Beach holiday Lindon Wang and Max Dyer

Lego Masters Models



Christmas cards!

Dear Parents and friends,

Aren't these card designs fantastic! This is a small sample of the cards that boys have been designing this year. They will be available in good time for Christmas, even overseas mailings, so please don't buy all your cards yet, as your son will be bringing home a sample of his own design and an order form very soon.



Sports Talk

Football - Holland Trip

Our first overseas sports tour since 2003 proved to be not just a huge success but more importantly a sign of things to come. The 2017 Holland tourists will be remembered as the pioneers who ventured boldly forward and took Aldro purposefully into a new and bright sporting future.

The group of 3 staff; Mr Lawes, Miss Higham & Mr Drayton and 26 Form 7&8 boys left the English shores on Tuesday 22 August for a 4 day trip to Arnhem in Holland. A smooth ferry crossing in very warm conditions was followed by a long and sometimes slow journey to Arnhem where we were received and hosted by Vitesse Arnhem Football Club. The venue and accommodation was outstanding and the hospitality equally impressive.



The morning of day 2 saw the boys introduced to a Mr Lawes 'masters class' of fitness training! All completed in torrential rain. This was followed by some rest, relaxation, recuperation(!) and lunch. The afternoon saw the group experience a tour of the Vitesse training facilities followed by a fantastic training session with the Vitesse Academy coaches on their incredible playing surfaces. This was a real education in football training and a wonderful experience for the boys. An prompt supper meant we were then ready for our early evening kick off for our first match of the tour. This when the fun really started; as we began our warm up drills so began the rain! By kick off Mr Drayton had his pink umbrella up and 20 minutes late the match was abandoned as the monsoon rains arrived along with a healthy dose of lightening!



Aldro Under 7 Football Festival

Day 3 began with yet another excellent training session. It was beginning to dawn on us all why Dutch football is generally so good and why their individual skills are so evident! Worse still was recognising how good their English was!! After another excellent lunch the group headed to the Vitesse stadium in the heart of Arnhem. Here we were treated to a terrific Stadium tour and an opportunity to purchase some Vitesse merchandise! On our return we prepared for our second and final match of the tour. Both matches were played on their exceptional 3G surfaces which was a real treat for the boys!

The tour was completed on day 4 with a finale of training games on the main training pitch before a huge group photo and some fond farewells to the Vitesse coaches who had looked after us so wonderfully!

A tour such as this is immeasurable in terms of experience and life skills. We are determined to ensure we tour annually and offer opportunities to many of our students in the future. My thanks to Mr Lawes and Miss Higham for relinquishing part of their summer holiday to accompany the group to Holland. Your energy and enthusiasm was incredible.

Here's to Holland 2018!

GD



Aldro Under 7 Football Festival

On Friday 19th September Aldro hosted the Under-7 Football Festival. This year we had boys from St Hilary's, Folly Hill, Puttenham and St Mary's Shackleford competing. The emphasis of the afternoon was on participation and fun and this year the festival cup was won jointly by St Hilary's and Folly Hill.



Sports Talk

U10 Football

The U10s enjoyed an incredibly successful football season both in terms of results and progression. Whilst sporting results are not of huge importance to us at Aldro it is a useful tool to track the progress of our pupils and ensure that each individual is developing as we would hope.

We have been absolutely delighted by the effort, commitment and determination of the Form 5s during the course of our short football season. Arguably our biggest pleasure has been witnessing the development of greater team work; the boys learning to work together more effectively in trying to achieve a common goal. We have worked tirelessly to get the message across that team is the key to all success. This combined with a palpable improvement in individual skills and game understanding has resulted in a season full of success. Thank you to Mr Nixon, Mr Kotecha and Mr Howard for all their efforts and encouragement. And good luck to all the Form 5s going forward.

GD

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
28	24	4	0	167	39



Sports Talk

Under 10 Charterhouse 6 a-side Tournament



Group Games

Aldro v Amesbury **Won 2 – 0**
Goals: Elkington, H Watts

Aldro v Danes Hill **Drew 1 – 1**
Goals: H Watts

Aldro v Windlesham **Won 2 – 0**
Goals: H Watts 3, Barnes

Aldro v Downsend **Lost 0 – 1**

Aldro v Hoe Bridge **Won 4 – 0**
Goals: Elkington, H Watts 2, T Watts

Aldro finish 3rd in Group



Plate Semi-Final

Aldro v Arnold House **Won 4 – 0**
Goals: Elkington, L Jones 2,
T Watts

Plate Final

Aldro v Ludgrove **Won 2 – 0**
Goals: Elkington, H Watts



Musical Notes



Every year we wonder how we will fill the boots of those Form 8's boys who have just left us and every year we find ourselves wondering why we asked the question as the next 'batch' of young musicians take up the mantle and this year has proved no exception. The FoAA's drinks evening got the term off to a wonderful start and the entertainment provided by the Form 8's offered us an insight to what an exciting year this will be.

The choirs are up and running with Junior Choir (Forms 3 and 4) and Chapel Choir offering some beautiful singing for the harvest services and we are looking forward to hearing more of them during the year.

The music competition heats has been a delight to listen to and witness and with only the piano heats left to conclude we are in for a wonderful competition final and Christmas concert at the end of the term.



Christmas Concert & Competition Final

Thursday 7th December - 6.45pm

Crispin Hill Centre



One of the outstanding highlights of the term and possibly the year ahead was the visit of Stephen Beus, the internationally acclaimed concert pianist. Aldro and Charterhouse co-hosted Stephen for a masterclass and evening recital and pupils, parents, staff and guests were spell bound as Stephen gave us a fabulous concert with some of the most astounding playing many of us have ever heard live. As one of the boys commented afterwards 'I will certainly work harder having heard that!'.



Junior Department

The Junior boys have had a terrific start to the Christmas Term. Boys, both 'old' and 'new', have settled quickly into the routines and are showing more and more of what they are capable of. Despite being a smaller choir than in previous years, their singing at the Harvest Festival service was sensational and gives us much to look forward to for their Christmas and drama performances.

The final morning of half-term saw our traditional 'sorting hat' squad assembly, with the whole school watching as the Form 3 boys were welcomed into their squad by their Squad Commander and Squad Captain.



**WEST
INDIES!**



AUSTRALIA!

Junior Department



INDIA!

AFRICA!



**NEW
ZEALAND!**



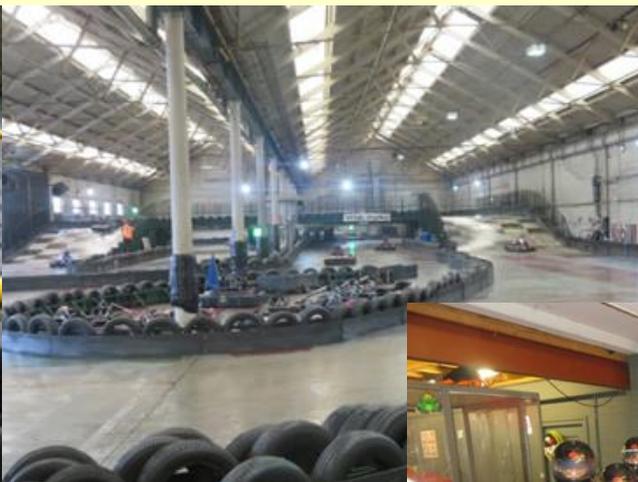
CANADA!



Boarders' News

The start of the new school year has meant lots of fun and a big welcome to 7 new full time boarders. They spent the first weekend testing out a new water park called Liquid Leisure all in the name of fun! The boys got to know each other whilst playing on the largest floating water park in the country.

The following weekend saw the boys challenge Mr Rainer, Mr Streatfield and Mr Gillespie at Go-Karting. The boys thoroughly enjoyed racing around an indoor track in Eastleigh. Alex Hu was the fastest overall with Juan and Eduardo not too far behind.



The boys spent Sunday 1st October at Campaign doing Laser tag. The boarders chased each other around the laser tag forest. Laser tag always goes down well with the boys.

Last weekend saw the first of the big boarding weekends for this term. The boarding house was bursting with many form 5 and 6 boys all excited to spend Saturday playing games and Sunday at Top Golf. The boys had an early start on Sunday to get to Top Golf but they took it in their stride having a fantastic time. Yoyo one of our new year 6 boys was crowned golf champion. The boys returned to school for an amazing Sunday roast and a swim session before going home.

We have had a brilliant first half of the term and cannot wait to start the next half of the term.



Old Aldronians

OA steps up for the men's four at World Rowing Championship



In September Ollie Wynne-Griffith (OA-2007) was called up as a substitute stroke when Olympic champion Will Satch suddenly fell ill. The Four held position in a fast semi-final, successfully fending off the Dutch and Americans to maintain a qualifying second place behind Italy.

Old Aldonians - Football and Shooting

Last Saturday Old Aldronians enjoyed competing for Barry'Bullet and two games of competitive football. Against current Aldro teams the matches ended with scores of 6-6 and 3-3 and finishing off with a well earned Aldro match tea a great afternoon was had by all.



Friends of Aldro

Annual Drinks Party

On Friday 15th September the Friends of Aldro (FoAA) held their annual drinks party. This event gives existing parents a chance to meet new parents and catch up on holiday news. Special thanks goes to the Form 8 reps, Annabel Hewitt, Samantha Hickey, Kate Hume who organised the evening, and to the superb team of Form 8 parents who helped run the all-important bar. Thank you also to Mrs Fenwick who decorated the hall with a wonderful array of art work and Mrs Matthews DT exhibition was much enjoyed.

Form 8 boys provided the music for the evening, organised and ably accompanied by Mr Rainer. Their music was much appreciated and enjoyed. No Aldro event would be complete without superb food from our catering staff. After a quick briefing about the names of the canapés, the Form 8 prefects enthusiastically handed round the food during the evening. In addition to all those mentioned above, thanks must go to all those who worked behind the scenes at Aldro to make this event a success.



Friends of Aldro

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Thank you

A huge thank you to the Friends of Aldro who once again did a fantastic job in organising the Macmillan coffee morning. The staff then arranged for the Aldro staff to have their coffee and cakes in the Drawing Room as the boys were allowed to buy their cakes at break too. Many cakes, cookies and cupcakes were baked by the Aldro community and the total amount raised for Macmillan was a staggering **£1,127.76**

Thank you everyone....

Aldro Fireworks



Friday 3rd November 2017

Gates Open 5.45pm

Fireworks 7.00pm

Don't forget to buy your tickets

Aldro Winter Fair



Friday

25th November 2017

11am - 5pm

Operation Christmas Child - A simple way to create a smile!

Operation Christmas Child is the world's largest children's Christmas project, run by Samaritan's Purse. The charity has been sending gift-filled shoeboxes around the world since 1990, bringing joy into the lives of over 94 million underprivileged children.

