ALDROINK ALA Aday and school for the school for the



Newsletter from Aldro

"Bringing out the best in boys'

28th October 2019

The Headmaster writes:



Nicky and I moved to Aldro only a little over seven weeks ago. The past half of term has flown by, and thank you all for your very warm welcome during that time. Many of you have asked how we are settling in and, as I have sought to answer that question, I have found myself repeating the same word over

and over: 'privilege'. It is an enormous privilege to have assumed the helm of a school where the staff are so dedicated, professional and committed to bringing out the best in the boys. It is a privilege to have got to know the boys, and to see all their enthusiasm, energy and vitality. It is a privilege to have moved into the welcoming communities of both Shackleford and the school, and it is a privilege to have moved into this stunning location, and to be able to appreciate daily the beauty of the Surrey hills as the backdrop to all that we do.

At the start of term we welcomed 35 new boys to the school, and we congratulate them all on a fine start. Our Form 3s in particular have settled quickly, and it seems hard to imagine Aldro life without them already. Well done to them all.

There have been numerous highlights to the first half of term. The French trip to 'La Grand' Ferme' saw 40 Form 7s head off to Normandy for a week of French language and culture, including trips to Avranches, Mont Saint Michel and the Bayeux Tapestry Museum,



and activities included breadmaking Sand and Yachting. At home, author Tom Palmer met with the boys and spoke about reading, research and writing, whilst our budding

Form 5 and 6 Mathematicians came away winners of the LWC Logic Cup. Our Harvest festival services were a real highlight of the Chapel calendar with some really uplifting choral music in support of our worship, meanwhile the Macmillan coffee morning raised over

It seems hard to believe that £1000 for charity. The Big Boarding weekends continue to feature as regular highlights in the school calendar, and this term the school was separately transformed into a venue for both combat archery and laser tag, as well as activities such as bowling, dodgeball and make-your-own-



With the arrival of half term, the senior boys move from the football to the rugby season, the boys hopefully inspired for the by England's successes in the Rugby World Cup. It won't be the end of the football, however, as both our U13 and U11 football sides have won their respective regional 7-a-

side competitions and progress to the national IAPS finals, whilst the school 1st XI continue their successful run of victories in the ISFA competition - a

terrific effort overall! With all the exciting activities on offer for the boys at school, I have challenged them to invite me to share some of their personal favourites



by making suggestions for my #AldroBucketList. Amongst their suggestions todate they have suggested walking the rope bridge to the island, firing a rifle in the range and taking part in the Aldro pallet challenge. I am sure there will be more challenges to come over the year ahead!

My first half of term at Aldro has certainly been thoroughly enjoyable. It has been an immense privilege for Nicky and me to join the Aldro community, and we look forward to all that is to follow in the months and years ahead.

Mapte Ch'

Chris Carlier Headmaster

Harvest Festivals

On Friday 4th and Saturday 5th October, we saw the Aldro chapel superbly decorated for Harvest Festival by our wonderful Form 6 parents. On both days it was full of our boys and their parents singing the traditional hymns we associate with the annual Harvest Festival. All the Junior boys sang for their parents – it was a stunning sound and there were many tears in the eyes spotted! Following the Junior Harvest Festival was the turn of the Senior boys to mark this very important date in the calendar. A huge thank you to Mr Phill Walsh from Eton College for giving us the address and the Aldro choir who were fabulous.

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. This year's Harvest Festival Services were wonderful and it is fantastic that we raised £427.20 for this charity.



Lord Wandsworth College Logic Challenge

On Tuesday October 8th Albie, Augustus, Leo and Toby set out for Lord Wandsworth College to participate in the Logic Challenge 2019. Thirteen Prep Schools took part with teams made up from Form 5 and 6 pupils. On arrival the boys were shown to their table where they attempted some warm up questions. Once everyone had arrived, the first round began. This was a quiz in which the children had to guess the number from given clues. They had to judge when to make their guess, if they got it wrong, they were out of the round, but guess too late and they would be awarded less points. They also had some ditloids (a ditloid is a type of word puzzle in which a well known fact must be deduced from a set of numbers and letters in a clue). This round ended with a tense game of Countdown.

There was time for a short break before the boys took part in a maths trail around the grounds. Mathematical clues and problems had to be solved in order to locate the next clue using the map provided. By lunchtime, the boys were in first place which made the final round very tense. The final round consisted of a relay; the boys were split into pairs. Each pair took it in turns to run and get a clue from a member of staff, solve it and then run and get the clue for the other pair to solve. This was an exciting round with some very tough questions.

The boys showed real determination throughout the day and were thrilled to be presented with their trophies for first place. This was a thoroughly enjoyable day and an excellent result. Well done!



Author Tom Palmer visits Aldro

To coincide with the Rugby World Cup, we were thrilled to welcome Tom Palmer to Aldro. There was a buzz around the school leading up to Tom's visit and the boys were not disappointed. Tom talked about being an author and the advantages of research and writing about the subjects you know best. He also explained how writing and re-writing improves creativity.

The boys took part in Tom's reading quiz. Those who answered questions correctly took part in a shoot-out. The winner from each session received a trophy. At the end of the morning, Tom was presented with a mini Aldro rugby ball by way of a thank you from the boys at Aldro.



National Poetry Day

Aldro boys from all years had a fantastic time celebrating National Poetry Day in their English lessons. They read poems on this year's theme – Truth and then spent time playing with words to create their own poems on the subject. The variety and originality of their poetry was truly inspiring!



Godalming Chess Club Open Junior Tournament

We had a good turn out of Aldro players for this tournament with three U10s and six U9s.

They all gained valuable experience for the year ahead and I was pleased to see how well they all battled for their points.

In the U10 age group Jack, Harry and Jacob played well with Jacob in excellent form winning 4 out of 5 games to come 2^{nd} in the age group.

In the U9 age group Ben, Ben, George, Alfie, Seb and Xavier all battled hard with Seb achieving the top score against strong opposition from the other schools.

Many thanks to all the Aldro parents who helped with supervision and refreshments we raised just over £90 for the Aldro charity. A great effort.

Well done to all the boys who played.



Aldro Mini Tournament and Training

Seventeen boys took part on the Friday before the tournament and it was good to see a couple of the new form 3 boys taking part. These mini tournaments give the boys the experience needed to compete for the school and a bit of much needed training in the dark arts of chess.

The U9\U8 section was won by Seb and Xavier with Seb winning the 5 minute play off.

In the U10 section the top three players tied for first place winning two out of three games each. Well done to Harry, Jack and Jacob.

Well done to all the boys.

DJA

Aldro Dad's Football Tournament 2019

On Saturday 19th October we held the 8th edition of the Aldro Dad's Football Tournament. This event was first held in 2012 and we are delighted to see it continuing as strong as ever.

Once again, the weather was extremely kind to us and playing conditions were ideal. And once again the Dads were out in force fully supported by all the families! This year we had 8 teams; Man Chest Hair United, Three Wee Kings, Oldman Asthmatic, Expected Toulouse, AC a little silhouette of Milan, The Pink Panthers, Hardly Athletic & The Aldro Barbarians.

In another keenly fought tournament 4 teams played their way, some on goal difference to the Semi-Finals. In these games Man Chest Hair United overcame AC a little silhouette of Milan 1-0, and The Three Wee Kings overcame the reigning Champions the Pink Panthers 1-0!

The final was indeed keenly fought and it required extra time to separate the 2 teams. Congratulations to Man Chest Hair United who finally beat our new comers The Three Wee Kings with the final kick of the afternoon.

I would like to thank all the Dads who took part and made it such a fun and entertaining event! We are delighted to announce that we have raised nearly £900 which will go towards providing a water proof covering for our high jump matts in the summer.



The Musketeer's Bench

A new bench has been added to those in Farnham Park on the site of a skirmish in the English Civil War. It is dedicated to *Robert William Leach (1952-2018) – a much loved musketeer.* As well as being one of Farnham's own *Samuel Jones' Greencoats*, a regiment remembered in the Sealed Knot re-enactment group, Robert was an IT teacher at Aldro where Nick Swan, then head of History, and Robert's wife, Sue, Head of French began exactly 30 years ago an activity called History Table where every Friday the Form 8 boys gather to have lunch and, with role play and hands on experience, learn about the period from 1640-1660.

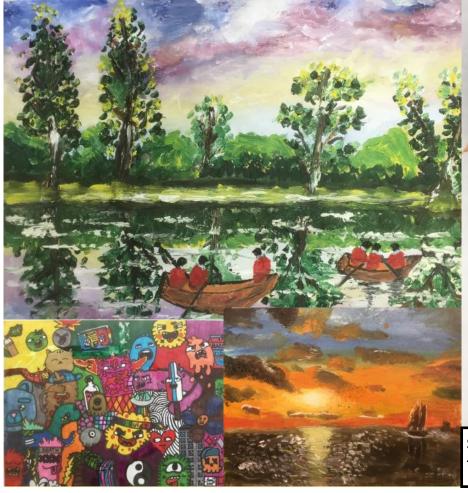
The bench, made from kiln dried English oak by Norbury Park Wood Products, was commissioned by Sue through the Park Ranger, Nick Macfarlane.

Nick Swan, Sue Leach and their friends from the Aldro history table several in period costume, gathered to "christen" the bench with tankards raised to Robert, a much loved and much missed musketeer. Huzzah!





Art of the week



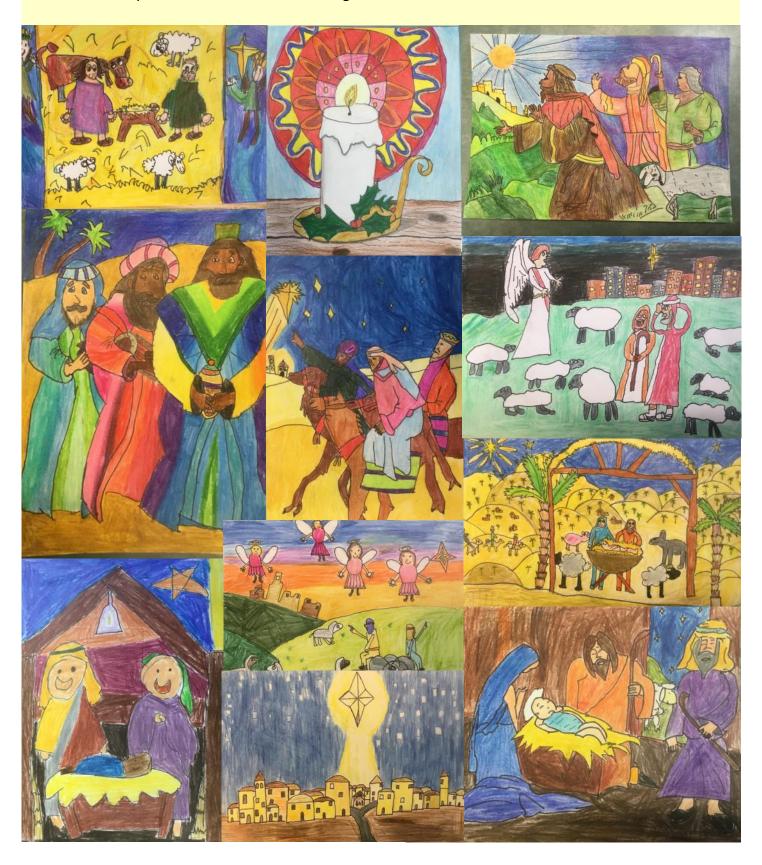


Some examples of our amazing Art of the Week this half term

Christmas cards are coming!

Christmas cards are coming! Every boy at Aldro has been very busy this half term, producing a Christmas card design. This has been a very popular project in past years and judging by the stunning designs that have emerged over the last few weeks, this year is no exception. The printing company has not increased their prices in the two years since we last did this project, which is most pleasing. Your son will come home with a sample Christmas card and an order form early next half term. His design can be printed on cards, mugs and t-shirts in child and adult sizes.

Please don't buy your Christmas cards until you have seen your son's masterpiece. Cards will be produced and delivered to you in time for Christmas mailings.



Design and Technology at Aldro

Over the summer 21 boys took up the **DT PALLET CHALLENGE** set by Mrs Matthews. The final outcomes have really impressed staff, students and parents alike. This was a collaborative project for the boys to work with an adult of their choice to up-cycle the discarded wood from an unwanted pallet and turn it into something new. The range of ideas and outcomes is so varied, and not only shows off their design ideas, but also their practical skills too, not to mention their excellent presentations and photographic diaries showing the work they completed. We are very proud to show here a selection of the work received, but do look in the DT display cabinet just off the vestibule for a closer look at some of their work after half term.



We have got off to another busy start in DT this term. **FORM 3** have been introduced to the workshop and have started making plywood picture frames to display images taken of their first few days at Aldro.









FORM 4 have started work on designing their own fonts and logo's for their changing room locker name plaques. They have been inspired by last years work which is shown here at their unveiling at the start of term.

Design and Technology at Aldro

FORM 5 have been analysing confectionery food packaging, with a view to making some gifts for loved ones at Christmas... but clearly we cannot say too much more about this.....

FORM 6 have started a new project this year, developing their woodworking and creative skills to convey the true meaning of Christmas by manufacturing their very own nativity characters and stable.



FORM 7 are once again constructing their bird huts and working very well to interpret working diagrams in order to mark out and cut the wood accurately to size.



FORM 8 have started this year making mood lights. We hope they will put these to good use when taking well earned breaks from revision to chill out and relax during the more stressful times ahead in this intensive year. We have discussed how important planned down-time is to their mental health and well-being during exams.



Design and Technology at Aldro

The DT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME is thriving and we have a large group of committed and hard working boys all completing many additional pieces of independent DT related tasks. They have taken on many client related projects as requested by various staff members, but the most recent and exciting news is they have commenced work on a collaborative piece to be used in the forthcoming 'High School Musical' production.



Other boys constantly delight Mrs Matthews by showing her items they have been working on in their own free time, as shown here by Felix and his robot and Ben bringing in his model raft. Mrs Matthews was also thrilled to spy Tom C recently using his Form 7 storage and organisation product to transport all his belongings to and from each class!







Squad News

The yearly 'Sorting Hat' Squad assembly took place on the last day of half-term. This is the opportunity for the Form 3 boys to be welcomed into their new squads, and their squad marks so far added to the grand total

Squad Commanders, Captains and vice Captains are as follows:

Africa Miss Donaldson
Australia Mrs Drayton
Canada Mr Jordan
India Mr King
New Zealand Mr Rainer

Miss Donaldson
J Thompson & E Latham
J Drayton & M Money
H von Haniel & M Cater
C Wood & R Bhardwaj
L Dyer, M Viventi & T Harris

West Indies Mr Drayton O Lucas & T Zhuang

In the Africa squad meeting recently boys and staff demonstrated their teamwork skills carrying out this group challenge under the watchful eye of Miss D!



Co-Curricular News

Model Railway Activities

The Model Railway activity has once again drawn a new following of budding engineers, controllers and train drivers, where these young men relive the childhood joy of playing with our amazing train set (and this includes Sir James!)



Valencia Football Tour

On 27th August 25 Aldro boys and 4 staff departed Gatwick Airport destined for Valencia for the annual football tour. We spent five days in Spain, with perfect sunshine for the majority of the trip, with a couple of downpours to cool us all down!

Upon arrival at Valencia Airport we enjoyed lunch before boarding the bus for Benicassim, the location of our hotel. The facilities were excellent with swimming pools and a communal area for the boys, alongside a mountain of buffet food for breakfast, lunch and dinner! On the evening of day 1 we headed to the hotel football pitch where the boys enjoyed an internal tournament and got themselves acclimatised to the conditions.

On day 2 we travelled to the impressive Villarreal training facility where we met our coaches for the week and took to the

pitch for practice ahead of matches against Spanish opposition. The matches turned out to be very tough, with the Spanish boys specialising in football and highly motivated to beat their English opposition!





That afternoon we enjoyed the stadium tour of Villarreal CF, the Estadio De La Ceramica, before purchasing souvenirs in the club shop.

Day 3 took us back to the Villarreal training facilities for a morning football session before lunch and an afternoon at the beach, where the boys enjoyed swimming in the sea, playing games and eating ice cream! This was followed by a trip back to Valencia for our evening matches.

Day 4 was the busiest day with morning training at Villarreal before arriving back to the hotel, eating lunch and taking a trip to the water park for the afternoon! The water park was excellent with many pools, slides and rides that kept the boys entertained for hours! Many sweet treats were consumed before heading back to the hotel football pitch for our final match of the tour, taking on Spanish opposition once again! This time,

though, the football saw every Aldro boy giving every last bit of effort and cheering each other on from the sidelines. They really came together as a team and the performance was one of the highlights of the tour for the boys and staff. A truly outstanding effort.

On to the final day where we enjoyed a final coaching session from the Villarreal staff before saying our thank you's and receiving certificates. The boys chilled by the pool and enjoyed the last of the sunshine before we travelled to Valencia for our flight back to Gatwick. A brilliant tour and we look forward to returning next year -

Watch this space ...



U13 Win the Parkside 7s Tournament

On Saturday 14th September, 16 boys from Aldro were split in to Aldro A and Aldro B teams to compete in the Parkside 7s Football Tournament.

Both teams represented the school magnificently, displaying exemplary teamwork and sportsmanship alongside outstanding creativity and independence on the seven-a-side pitches at Parkside.

The Aldro B team picked up a win, two draws and a loss in the group stages, whilst the A's topped their group with three wins and no goals conceded. The two Aldro teams were then drawn against each other in the quarter finals! The aim from this point onwards was for both teams to win their respective competitions, with the B team entering the Plate and the A's progressing in to the Cup ...

Sadly the B team were beaten in the Semi-Final by a strong Cranmore side. However the Aldro A's overcame Danes Hill for a second time in the day, this time beating them 3-0 with Tom saving a penalty with the scores level, to reach the Cup Final.

In the final they scored three fantastic goals before conceding their only goal of the tournament to end the day as champions. The entire team were outstanding and it was great to see the members of the Aldro B team cheering them on in the final.

The A team ended the day having scored 25 goals and conceding just one; the team was led by Max with Lucas finishing as the tournaments top scorer.

Well done boys!





Charterhouse U13, U11 & U10 Tournaments

The U13 team was made up of a squad of nine 1st XI players who performed magnificently all afternoon. They began with a draw against a strong Downsend team who had knocked us out of the Surrey Cup; it was a close match with Aldro dominating possession but unable to find a winning goal. This was followed by a 1-0 win against Barfield before scoring five first half goals to see off Horris Hill 5-0 in game three! This was the best performance of the day with the boys working as a team in both attack and defence. A 3-0 win in the final group game saw Aldro in to the Quarter Finals where they beat Northcote Lodge 1-0, but it wasn't to be in the semi-final ... Horris Hill took an early lead and prevented Aldro from scoring for the following eight minutes before a last minute header from Lucas Dyer levelled the scores! The game went to 2 minutes extratime before penalties, where Horris Hill went on to win 4-3 before losing to Downsend in the final. An enjoyable afternoon and some excellent individual and team play from the Aldro boys, who were unfortunate not to make the final.

Aldro enjoyed a fantastic day at the Charterhouse **U11** Prep School tournament. As always wonderful hosts on wonderful pitches. The U11s won 3 games and lost 3 games which ultimately summed up their day, some good performances and some below par performances. Without doubt there were some fine teams on display and for Aldro to make the semi-finals was a tremendous effort. Well done

Group Games

Aldro v Edgeborough WON 2 - 0 (Lomtadze 2)

Aldro v Kings House LOST 0 - 1

Aldro v Eagle House WON 2 - 0 (Hewitt 2)

Aldro v Longacre LOST 0 - 2

Quarter-Final

Aldro v Northcote Lodge WON 2 - 0 (Richards, Barnes E)

Semi-Final

Aldro v Downsend LOST 2 - 3 (Richards & Hewitt)

A tough rainy afternoon for the **U10** boys against a number of particularly strong sides, but they all showed great perseverance throughout the whole competition and kept fighting right to the very end. Some strong performances from Jack, Zach and Adam to build from going forward.

Group Stages

Aldro 0 - 0 Yateley Manor

Aldro 1 - 1 Downsend

Aldro 1 - 2 Northcote Lodge

Quarter Finals (Third Place Playoff):

Aldro 0 - 3 Cumnor House School

Aldro win regional IAPS football tournament

Aldro won the U13 IAPS football tournament at Danes Hill on Saturday 12th October, playing eight matches and winning six of them. There was one draw and one loss in the group stages before an unbeaten run ensured qualification for the Nationals! We beat Downsend 2-1 in the quarter-finals, beat Brighton College 3-2 in the semi-finals and won 1-0 against Cranleigh in the final!



ISFA Cup

Aldro are in to Round 3 of the ISFA Cup! Round 1 saw Aldro beat Beechwood Park 3-1, coming back from a 1-0 deficit having conceded a penalty early on in the game. Another home game followed in Round 2, beating St. Martins 6-1 in a performance displaying superb finishing and strong attacking play. Next up is Kings College Junior School at home on Tuesday 5th November!



Aldro achieve the double by winning the U11 regional IAPS

The Aldro Form 6 football squad were playing their last games of the season at Westbourne House in the U11 IAPS Qualifying Tournament. Despite drawing the first match of the day 0-0 against Westbourne House, they were never put under pressure defensively and managed to win the four remaining group games against Portsmouth Grammar School, Bedales and Highfield convincingly. The boys then put in their best performance of the afternoon against Bournemouth Collegiate in the Quarter Finals, winning 3-0 and scoring three superb team goals. All afternoon they worked well as a team, combining strong defence with fast attacks, and this worked well again in the semi-finals with a 2-0 win over Twyford. The final was a contest between two teams playing exciting football with quick passing and movement and the game was even throughout. The scores were tied at 0-0 after the eight minutes of regular time but Aldro remained calm in extra-time, despite a hail storm stopping play for a minute or two, to score the golden goal and win the tournament! The boys played in great spirit and showed exemplary sportsmanship all afternoon. They become the second Aldro team in a week to win their tournament and qualify for Nationals!

IAPS Regional U11 7 a-side Tournament Group Games

Aldro v Westbourne House DREW 0-0 Aldro v PGS WON 3-0 (Hewitt, Santaolalla, Ponnle) Aldro v Beadles WON 1-0 (Hewitt) Aldro v Highfield WON 1-0 (Ponnle)

Quarter Finals

Bournemouth Collegiate WON 3-0 (Lomtadze 2, Richards)

Semi Finals

Twyford WON 2-0 ((Lomtadze, Richards)

Final

Dorset House WON 1-0 (Hewitt)





A selection of photographs taken at the squad matches



U8 and U9 Football Festival

Despite rain all morning and evening, the U8 & U9 Football festival was a huge success on a dry and bright Thursday afternoon at Aldro!

We hosted Amesbury, Brookham, Cranleigh Edgeborough, Highfield and Hoe Bridge for an afternoon of football, with eight pitches in action across the school grounds! The focus of the afternoon was for as many boys to participate as possible and for everyone to enjoy the festival. This was achieved with many happy faces from boys, parents and staff!

JA



Boarders' News

Life in the Aldro Boarding House

It's been a fast-paced and fun first half of term up in the Boarding House. We welcomed a large number of new boarders this term and it's been great to see boys integrating so well into the boarding community.

We have done a huge number of activities this term; we have made our own pizzas and ice-cream sundaes. We have enjoyed the school grounds with bbq's, campfires, treasure hunts, laser tag and combat archery. As well as some great trips out to bowling, liquid leisure and Top Golf.



We have also spent many a fun hour upstairs in the boarding house enjoying each others' company, whether that be during a game of connect 4 or uno, watching a sporting fixture or simply chatting and relaxing together.

The boarding house has been a hive of activity this term and it has been brilliant to see so many friendships being formed and memories being made. Some of the boys are even getting quite good at making their own bed!!

PS



Junior Department

Form 3 settle in to Aldro!

Form 3 have taken to Aldro like a duck to water. Whether they are inside or out, the boys have been having some memorable learning experiences in the first six weeks of the Christmas Term! Whether it has been visiting Mr Carlier's office on the first day to tree hunting in Outdoor Education, it has begun one of the most important aspects of school life – forming friendships. I am sure the next six weeks will be just as busy and fun!



Junior Department

Mrs Carlier joins a PSHE lesson

Mrs Carlier, dietician and our Headmasters wife kindly joined the PSHE lesson of Form 4S to talk about Healthy Eating.



CJ working towards his next reading badge!



Junior Department

Form 3 boys Welcomed into their Squads



Friends of Aldro

Annual Drinks Party

On Friday 13th 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. There was a warm welcome from Chris Carlier and Tor Watts (joint chair of FoAA with Sarah Barnes and Georgie Templeton-Ward)

Special thanks goes to the Form 8 reps who organised the evening and the team of Form 8 parents who helped run the all-important bar. Thank you also to Georgina Taylor for organising the beautiful flowers. Mrs Fenwick and Mrs Matthews decorated the CHC with a wonderful array of art work and DT which was much enjoyed.

Aldro boys provided the music for the evening, organised and ably accompanied by Mr Rainer. No Aldro event would be complete without superb food from our catering staff. After a quick briefing about the names of the canapes, 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

Anyone who came to the Macmillan Coffee Morning at Aldro on Friday 27th September would agree that it was a resounding success. We were overwhelmed by the response to the pleas of the Form 3 and 4 reps for cakes, cakes and more cakes. That is exactly what we got! Not only were they numerous but beautiful to look at. We are so grateful to all of you who baked the cakes and also to those of you who supported Macmillan by giving donations and buying the cakes to take home. The staff (some of whom had also been busy in the kitchen) then held their own coffee morning once the parents had vacated the Dining Room. Then, in time for break, the reps transported all the remaining cakes outside, where the boys could hardly believe their luck. We want to say a huge thank you to the Form 3 and 4 reps for organising. Thank you, also, to the kitchen staff, who helped set everything up.



Old Aldronians

Aldro welcomed back OA's



Saturday 19th October saw the annual Football and shooting competition for Old Aldronians. Many old boys returned to Aldro to meet up with their friends and reminisce about the good old days!



Chris Carlier is seen here with Will Stanley-Evans (Chairman of the Old Aldronian Assoc) who presented the school with a new pistol which was kindly donated by the OAs for our shooting range



OA swims into record books again!



William Perry (OA 2013) set a new British Record for the SB6 short course 200m Breaststroke (subject to ratification). Will swam a new personal best time of 3.13.36 to break the previous record by exactly 4 seconds that had stood since 2008. This is Will's 2nd British Record having broken the SB6 short course 50m Breaststroke Record in June 2019.

Dates for your diary

Aldro Fireworks Display



Friday 8th November 2019
Gates Open 5.45pm
Fireworks 7.00pm

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Tuesday 19th November

6.00pm

Wednesday 20th November

7.00pm

MUSIC COMPETITION FINALS

Tuesday 26th November

10.00am

Aldro Winter Fair

Friday 29th November 2019 11am - 5.30pm



The next Aldro Open Morning is on:

Wednesday 20th November 2019 10.00am - 11.30am

Telephone: 01483 810266; Fax: 01483 409010