

The Headmaster writes:

No one could have imagined just six weeks ago, even in their wildest dreams, that the second half of the Lent term 2020 would have been coloured quite as it has been.

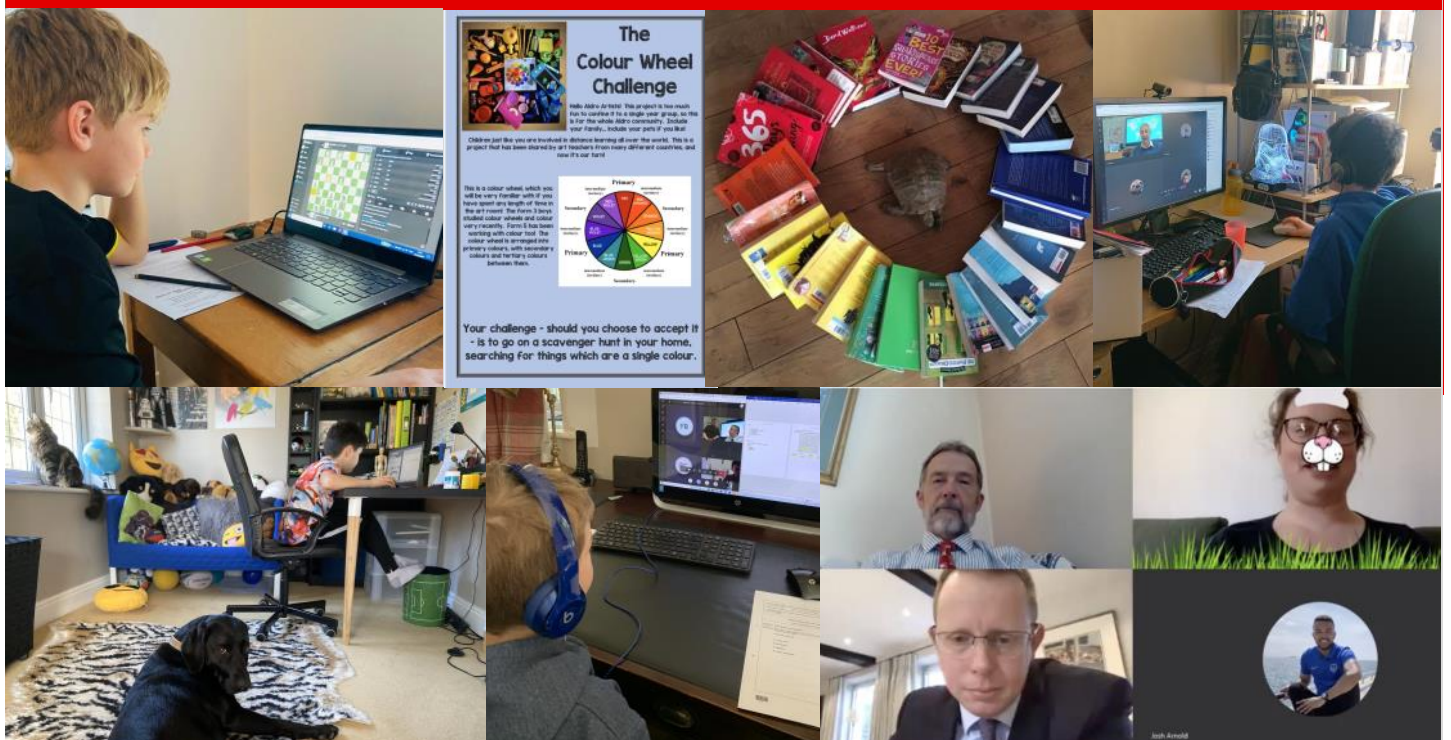
In the final week of term, arguably the most radical reform to curriculum delivery in the school's history was thrust upon us by the arrival in the UK of the Coronavirus and the ensuing closure of all schools nationwide. We had spent the weeks immediately prior to this preparing hard for the anticipated, imminent closure, and when the school was eventually obliged to close, we were as ready as we felt we could have been. During the final week of term we rolled out an ambitious and unprecedented plan of Distance Learning that included real time online lessons for all the boys, a host of co-curricular challenges in Sport, Art, DT and Drama, a new Mentoring programme with personal daily contact between the boys and a member of staff, and all the while in the background our individual music lessons, LAMDA lessons and Learning Support lessons continuing as before only now via video

conferencing. Fortunately this radical change was necessitated by circumstance, for few if any would have been bold enough otherwise to bring about so much change for so many in such a short space of time. The by-product, however, has been a wonderful unity of purpose within our community, and a very real sense of the need for us all as teachers to live out personally all those key skills that we seek to nurture in the boys; resilience, perseverance, innovation, commitment and teamwork. In every crisis there are hidden opportunities that only the bold will look for and grasp. Aldro has been bold in recent weeks, and despite the challenging circumstances, has embraced the imperatives and emerged the stronger for them. *Suivez raison*, indeed!

Nicky joins me in wishing the Aldro community a very happy Easter weekend.

Chris Carlier
Headmaster

Aldro embracing the Distance Learning Programme



Scholarships Galore!

Many congratulations to the thirteen boys who have recently won awards to Senior Schools. Gabriel has been awarded a Academic and Drama Scholarship to Lancing, Freddie has been awarded a Academic Scholarship to Bradfield and Freddie an Academic Scholarship to Marlborough. Three Music Scholarships have been awarded from Charterhouse to Sahib, Harry and Terry. In Drama alongside Gabriel, Henry has been awarded a Scholarship to Sherborne and Alfie to Charterhouse. In the Sports Department we were delighted when Lucas was awarded a Sports Scholarship to Charterhouse, Jesse to King Edward's Witley and Jago to Lord Wandsworth. Fin has been awarded a Art scholarship to Abingdon and Barney was awarded one to Cranleigh.

Well done to all of them on their outstanding achievements



F Wilson



S Kullar



H Cole



H Wang



G Cardy-Brown



F Wallis



B Hatton



L Dyer



F Bennet



A Smith



J Taylor



J Thompson



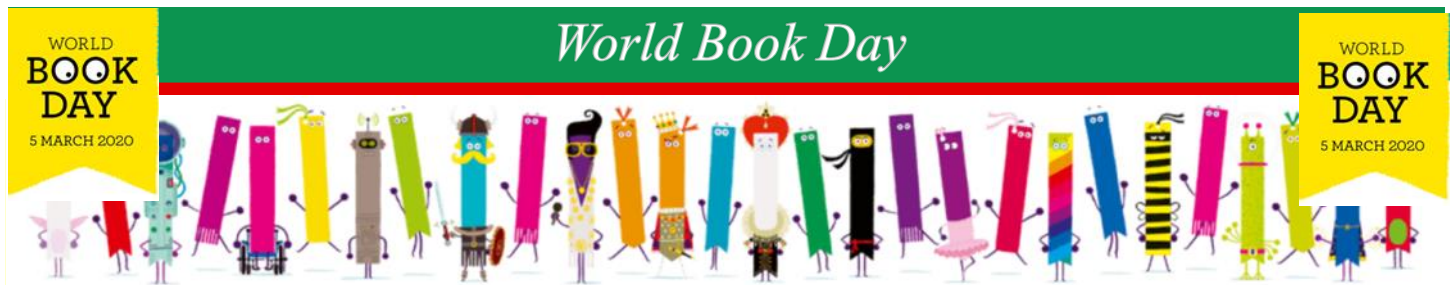
T Zhuang

Aldro Cricket Tour to Cape Town

Fifteen boys and two staff set off to Cape Town for the first Aldro long haul overseas sports tour in 17 years. A cricket tour two years in the planning finally left British shores for what proved to be a wonderful and memorable trip.

We did have a genuinely fabulous time; we were blessed with excellent weather, we played at some super schools and were magnificently hosted. Not to mention some of the sightseeing, the beaches and not least the food! At the heart of the tour was the pleasing cricket and, whilst along the way there were lots of fantastic 'distractions' the boys really stayed on task when it came to the five matches. One thing I do know is that our pre-season training for the cricket season has well and truly been achieved. The boys enjoyed the most incredible experience and we are sure they will prove to be an even better young person for it.

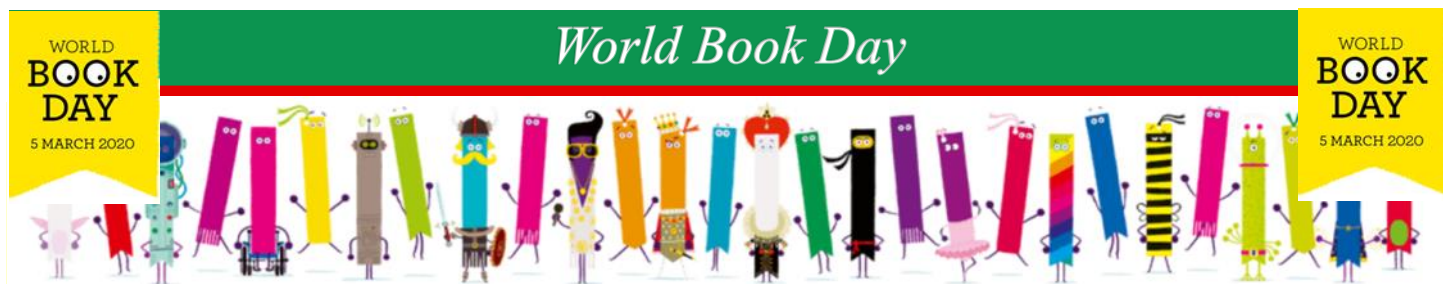




This year, the Library and Science Department collaborated by seamlessly linking WBD & Aldro Science Week. We adopted the Science Week's theme of Our Diverse Planet, making this the topic for the bookmark competition.

There were two options for dress up day, books characters or Our Diverse Planet. I'm thrilled to say that this worked very well. Who would have thought that Harry Potter, Tintin, Alex Rider, Augustus Gloop & Wally would be intermingled with dolphins, donkeys and Greta Thunberg?





More than one mischievous Wally was seen popping up around the School!



Who wouldn't enjoy Mr Twit's Wiggly Worm Spaghetti and KitKat in a Hat Jelly? Our wonderful Catering Team served the following book themed menu...

War and Peas Soup

...

Mr Twit's Wiggly Worm Spaghetti

Quiche 22

Broccoli Boy

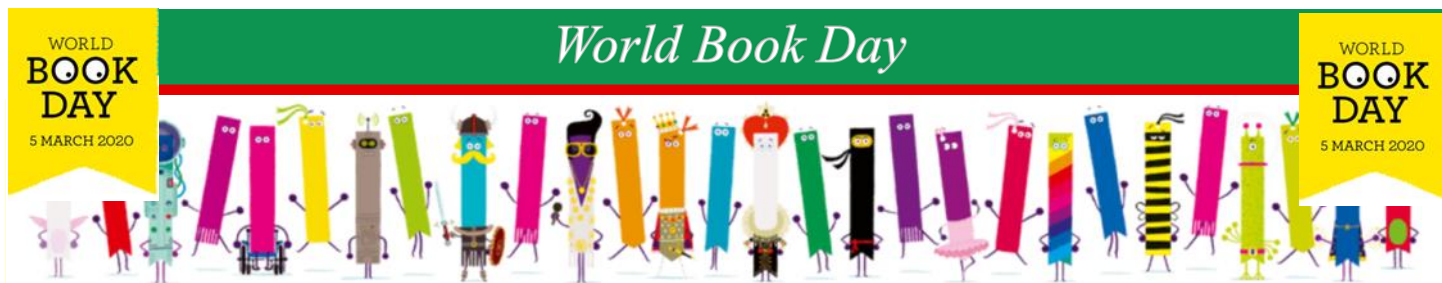
Gryffindor Garlic Bread

...

Game of Scones Dessert

KitKat in a Hat Jelly





Boys exchanged their vouchers in the Library for a free book, all the books were immediately available to quiz on Accelerated Reader.

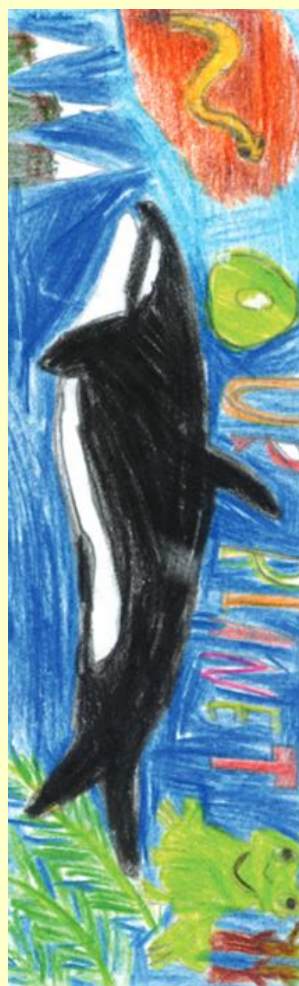
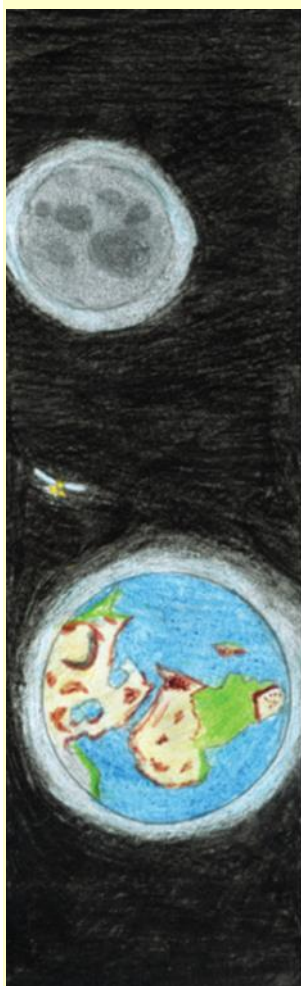
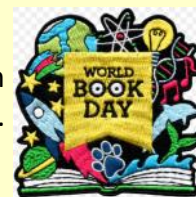


The whole school made a tremendous effort and I wish to express my gratitude to all the parents and guardians for supporting this wonderful event.

Bookmark competition, and the winners are...

Freddie E Form 3, **Leo B** Form 4, **Aidan M-S** Form 5, **Harry W** Form 7

All winning entries have now been printed and will be available in the Library when we return to School. Each winner will receive a special World Book Day Badge for their school jumper. The entries were of a very high standard this year, well done to everyone who entered.



Aldro Science Week 2020

This year's Science Week was like no other before and Aldro was a hive of scientific activity throughout the week. After the theme of 'Our Diverse Planet' was introduced by some wonderful outfits to join those of characters on world book day, the boys in all years enjoyed workshops and talks from a number of our parents whose work relies on using science.

On Monday our Form 7 and 8K boys were invited to a brilliant talk by Mr Templeton-Ward on his work as an orthopedic surgeon. He carried out a fascinating exothermic reaction to produce bone cement and had a really good insight into how science fits into all areas of an operating theatre and his work on reconstructing knees.



On Tuesday our Forms 7 and 8 were treated to a fascinating talk by Lt Col Davies on his work using science as an anesthetist both in the NHS and the army. He really intrigued the boys with how to use the science differently between the two areas of medical need and made it crucial to understand that the boys themselves have the ability to do these sorts of jobs in the future.



The Form 6 boys were treated to a super talk and workshop on how Mrs Jones and Mrs Carlier work on nutrition and digestion in the medical world. It was intriguing and inspiring to see how their work and food plays such an important role in peoples' lives.

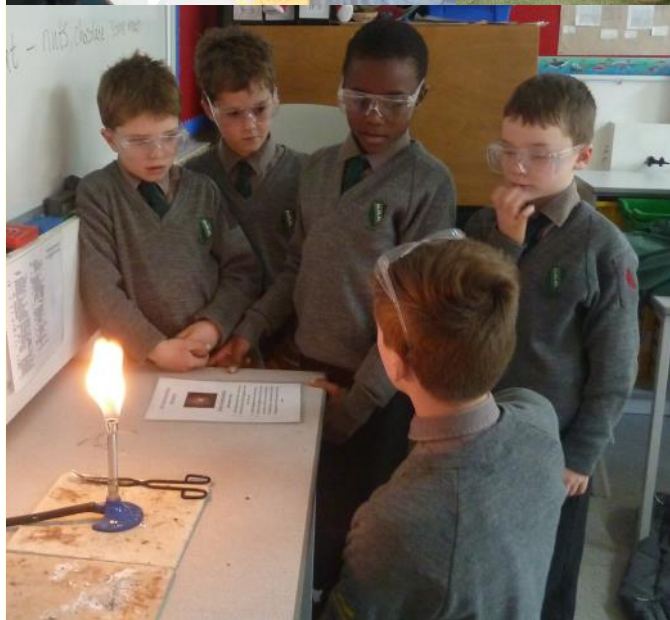


Aldro Science Week 2020

On Wednesday Mr Latham wowed us with his work as a precious metals and materials mining engineer. The boys were taken on a journey through the earth to recognise the importance of the materials around us on the future of our planet. It was amazing to see how so much can be done underground without us noticing.



On Thursday morning the Forms 3,4,5 boys were off timetable on a carousel of whacky activities. Mrs Corfield led their rocket launching and there were some corksers apparently. Mrs Eves and her team of 8K boys created a WOW Chemistry experience where fire was made and wizards realms and Miss D took the boys on a journey of how to protect our Turtles.



Aldro Science Week 2020

On Thursday Afternoon Author and Astronomer Colin Stuart came to talk to the boys about the potential of going to Mars and living there. It was a great atmosphere in the CHC with the infrared lighting and he really made the boys realise that they are the people in this world who may be some of the first Mars explorers.



The week was finished off with super workshops from Mrs Davies (who is a dentist) for the Form 3,4,5 boys. She had the boys making fillings and looking at the anatomy of the mouth and it really was a great hands on way to end the week.



A massive thank you must go out to all these very busy parents and staff who took so much of their time up to enrich and entice the boys with the world of science.

DT at Aldro



Form 3 boys were delighted to complete their plywood photo frames this term. They have not only learnt about working safely in the workshop but have been introduced to a whole range of hand tools and machinery, including pillar drills, scroll saws, electric drills and bandfacers which they have loved using.

Forms 4 and 5 have recently had the company of Mr Livermore, a playground designer, visiting our Saturday morning lessons. He has been helping the Form 4 boys with their 3D drawings as shown here, as well as assisting the Form 5 boys with their Megastructures project. This project first ran in 2017 when we made a large dome from A4 paper which could fit about 2-3 boys inside. In 2019 we used A3 paper and made larger domes to fit 4-5 boys in. This year we supersized it and used A2 paper. We were all really excited when we managed to fit the whole class inside!



DT at Aldro

Form 6 have started their Autumn project a little ahead of schedule to make use of the fallen silver birch to gather material we will be using for our Aldro Enterprise project in the next academic year. Although it was very sad to have lost this beautiful tree, we are pleased that we will be putting it to good use. We have asked the boys to now think of ideas for what seasonal items we could make from the material whilst they are learning from home.



Form 8 have been working hard to combine Electronics, Resistant Materials and CAD/CAM Graphic Products to create a colour changing LED bulb circuit, a finger jointed plywood frame and a CNC cut card shade. As you can see by this night time shot the outcomes are simply stunning!



With this rather unusual house bound holiday, Mrs Matthews, Miss Allen and Mrs Fenwick have put together a selection of 24 different creative challenges (look in vestibule Team, Ideas for the holidays) to fill the boys days with. George in Form 4 has already completed this magnificent planter as part of the Pallet Challenge II !

Performing Arts

Matilda

Form 6 worked hard over the last few weeks putting together the finishing touches to their production of Matilda and we're just sorry we couldn't share it with everyone. But as Miss Trunchbull would say, 'A rule, is a rule'!



We also missed out on our Spring Concert, but were treated to some wonderful solo performances during our informal concert series. Well done boys!



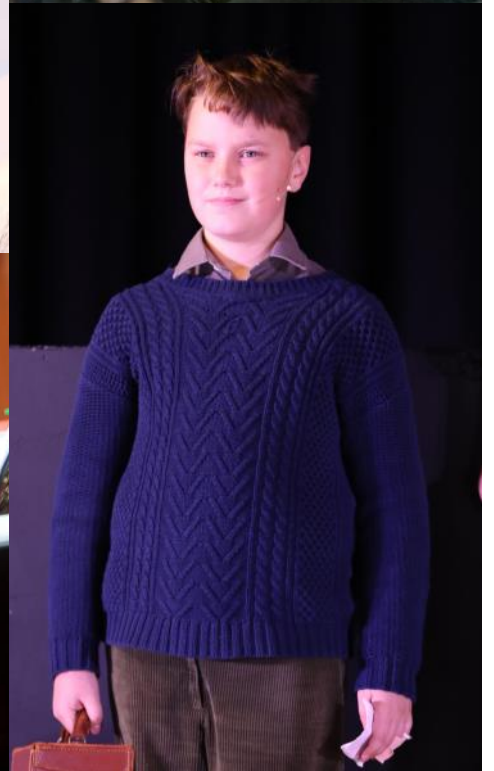
Performing Arts

Scholarships Won

We are delighted to announce that six of our boys have achieved Performing Arts Scholarships to Senior Schools this term. Harry W was awarded a Music Scholarship and Terry Z and Sahib K Music Exhibitions to Charterhouse.

Alfie S was awarded a Drama Scholarship to Charterhouse, Gabriel C- B Drama Scholarship to Lancing and Henry C Drama scholarship to Sherborne.

Bravo Boys!



Sports Talk

U11 Churchers Rugby Sevens Tournament

Our U11s travelled to Churcher's Junior School for the first of their Rugby 7s Tournaments. The mood was buoyant and spirits high and this was clearly reflected as the boys took to the field and begun with a dominant 25—10 point win. From then on the boys cantered through their group matches winning all 5; scoring 130 points and conceding only 15. Things turned just slightly when we were hit by a vast drop in temperature and a hail/sleet storm in our final group games. This seemed to impact badly on a number of our players who certainly got very cold very quickly. Moving into the Final as favorites we were clearly out of sorts and finished up Runners-Up following a wonderful performance by Churchers' A team and a lack lustre performance by Aldro. None the less a great day out and a super start to the 7s season for the U11s.



Congratulations

Many congratulations to Ted and Lucas who both received invitations to the Harlequins development player programme.



Sports Talk

U13 A Rugby Season

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points For	Points Against	Points Difference
11	6	0	5	196	152	44

**The Under 13 A's
Aldro Rugby 2020**

**Captain: Monty Money
Vice Captain: Ted Harris**

A total of 21 boys represented the school's U13 A rugby team this year, showing just how much strength in depth is required to compete on our circuit.

This year was more of a challenge off the pitch than it was on the pitch. The boys were a very capable set of sportsmen, with an unenviable mix of power, pace, size, guile, agility and skill. The only thing lacking was self-belief. We tried to instil this, confident but not arrogant attitude. We know that everyone wants to beat Aldo and as such, we have to be at 100%, every game. This was evident most in the Highfield game, a cup final for them. Liverpool v Shrewsbury Town on paper, but in reality, a day where nothing clicked for us and everything fell their way. Everyone is beatable. That's the beauty of sport.

We had some astonishingly good performances along the way. The first half against Caldicott was arguably the best I have seen an Aldro side play. We were physically commanding, vocally dominant, and mentally assertive. Our decision making was on point, execution was to the millimetre and we went in to half time 5-0 up away from home. Unfortunately, the wind was knocked out of our sails, and eventually taken down by Caldicott who showed the self-belief and confidence that we would long for.

A great run ensued, winning 3 matches on the bounce including a home and away victory against Westbourne House. Danes Hill were next, and we knew they were going to be strong. They always are, but so are we. On this occasion Danes Hill ran out winners, you could argue that the score line didn't reflect the closeness of the match. However, I don't particularly like excuses, at the end of the day they took their chances, scored more points and played better.



Sports Talk

U13 A Rugby Season cont'd

Two comfortable wins against Edgeborough and Amesbury were to follow, games that we were too quick, too strong and too clever for our opposition. These are important matches though, lessons can still be learned and I'm pleased that we didn't become too 'individual' in our play.

Moulsford away, Saturday afternoon, a fixture we in the sports department can't wait for. Wales were playing Italy in the six nations opener, followed by Ireland against Scotland. Guildford were playing Sidcup in a vitally important game too, but I didn't want to be anywhere other than Moulsford. I love watching the boys play, try new things, back up their mates, and ultimately put everything out on the pitch for their school and their team. This was probably the best game of the season, we were so close, yet so far. Just as we got within arm's reach, a bit of Moulsford magic pinned us back. Credit where credit is due, they were good. Could we have beaten them on another day? Maybe.

Another two losses, before Shrewsbury House came to Aldro for what is always the last game of the season. I said before, we know that everyone wants to beat Aldo and as such, we have to be at 100%, every game. I love it because it means that we get to play in a cup final every single week. Whereas our opposition only get to play in one when they come against Aldro. Lucky us, lets revel in it.

A terrific game of rugby and a great advert for the prep school game. We went ahead, they came back and then we found another gear to get ourselves over the final hurdle. Finally, some glimpses of that confident but not arrogant attitude. It was great to finish on a high, and take some confidence in to the sevens season. The boys were a pleasure to coach, and I hope that they continue playing rugby long past their senior schools.

We have a great reputation for sport, and rugby especially, built over many years of hard work starting in Form 3 and culminating in Form 8. Some of them were lucky enough to be with us for the whole journey, and for the ones that joined late, they chose the best party to be at.

AJ



Sports Talk

Grimston Cup 2020 - Results

On Friday 13th March the entire school was involved in the Grimston Cup Squad Cross Country event. This years Grimston Cup was arguably one of the best held in my time at Aldro. We were blessed by perfect running conditions if a little wet and boggy in the farmer's field, lots of support from our parents and a wonderful attitude from the boys.

There was a wonderful atmosphere created by all present well assisted by the FoAA Cake sale! Always an attractive option to both boys and parents. The atmosphere was further enhanced by each of the year groups supporting one another when they were not running. It was wonderful to see the senior boys genuinely encouraging and supporting the Junior boys once again.

We have continued as a teaching team to promote the important values of determination, resilience, perseverance and team work which are key character traits we wish to develop whilst. The Grimston Cup is such an important part of our boys learning these crucial life skills and when running a cross country race these traits are so relevant.

The Grimston Cup remains a really special Aldro occasion with all parties buying whole heartedly into the experience. All the boys involved continue to give of their best for the cause of their squad and the staff and parents are equally supportive and encouraging. As always there were a range of fine individual performances and it was tremendous to see boys who struggle in this type of event really trying in order to achieve their own little milestones as well as contributing to the overall cause. **Well done** GD

Form 3	1 st :	INDIA	48
	2 nd :	WEST INDIES	39
	3 rd :	CANADA	32
	4 th :	NEW ZEALAND	29
	5 th :	AUSTRALIA	25
	6 th :	AFRICA	17

Form 4	1 st :	WEST INDIES	79
	2 nd :	CANADA	59
	3 rd :	NEW ZEALAND	50
	4 th :	AFRICA	38
	5 th :	INDIA	36
	6 th :	AUSTRALIA	13

Form 5	1 st :	AFRICA	29
	2 nd :	WEST INDIES	28
	3 rd :	INDIA	26
	4 th :	AUSTRALIA	24
	5 th :	NEW ZEALAND	18
	6 th :	CANADA	11

Form 6	1 st :	NEW ZEALAND	72
	2 nd :	WEST INDIES	67
	3 rd :	INDIA	64
	4 th :	CANADA	63
	5 th :	AUSTRALIA	28
	6 th :	AFRICA	6



Sports Talk

Grimston Cup cont'd

Form 7

1 st :	AUSTRALIA	120
2 nd :	NEW ZEALAND	102
3 rd :	WEST INDIES	91
4 th :	CANADA	86
5 th :	INDIA	71
6 th :	AFRICA	62

Form 8

1 st :	AFRICA	159
2 nd :	INDIA	142
3 rd :	NEW ZEALAND	109
4 th :	AUSTRALIA	107
5 th :	WEST INDIES	94
6 th :	CANADA	91



OVERALL SQUAD RESULTS

1 st :	WEST INDIES	398
2 nd :	INDIA	387
3 rd :	NEW ZEALAND	380
4 th :	CANADA	342
5 th :	AUSTRALIA	317
6 th :	AFRICA	311

RACE WINNERS 2014

Form 3:	HUGO W	7mins, 40secs
Form 4:	LEO B	7mins, 80secs
Form 5:	JAMES S	8mins, 57sec
Form 6:	GEORGE H	8mins, 42secs
Form 7:	LUKE J	8mins, 11secs
Form 8:	MONTY M	8mins, 22secs

Sports Talk

Grimston Cup



Sports Talk

Grimston Cup



Sports Talk

Hockey Squad Matches

An excellent afternoon of squad matches at Charterhouse saw all boys competing fiercely for their squad, showing commitment and pride. The matches were just ten minutes in length and therefore every goal was vital, with the majority of matches being decided by just one goal!

The U10 & U11 boys were combined for this year's squad matches. India appeared to dominate their half of the draw whilst New Zealand won all of their matches - therefore a NZ vs India final was set and the match couldn't be decided within the ten minutes. We played a short amount of extra time before going to an Aldro-style penalty shootout! The winning squad would be decided by the fastest goal scored from the half-way line. The winners were New Zealand, assisted by a few members of other squads who kindly ensured the numbers matched up for the final. A great conclusion to the hockey season.

In the U12s & U13s the boys were also combined and this made for slightly larger teams, but also short matches. Staff were impressed with the stick skills of all boys and the teamwork on display was exemplary from all squads. The results of this tournament were completely different to those at U11 levels with India and New Zealand propping up the table. Australia were eventual winners after a close encounter with Canada in the final. An exciting afternoon of hockey played in great spirit and fantastic to see the Rugby Sevens boys getting involved despite minimal practice. Well done!



Junior Department

DT 'Great Aldro Junior Bake Off'

On 13th February we held our DT 'Great Aldro Junior Bake Off'. Forty five boys from the Junior department, that's a staggering 74% of them, designed, baked and created their scrumptious masterpieces. Mr McCoy had the unenviable task of judging all the entries, before the boys tucked into the edible treats at break time. We had so much cake that there was enough to keep all our hungry boys and staff well catered for on both Thursday and Friday! We also managed to raise an incredible £240 for our school charity, Hope and Glory. Monsieur's bank was available for those boys who had forgotten to bring in their 50p's and several boys also learnt about interest too, with one boy paying several £'s for his original 50p loan, having forgotten to repay his debt for several days (NB all proceeds went to the charity!). The winners of the competition are listed below. Now we look forward with great anticipation to revealing the new date for our Senior Bake Off later in the year.



Commended Cakes

Charlie P
Alfred W
James S

Form 3

1st Everett Brothers
2nd Theo M
3rd Rufus S

Form 4

1st Leo B
2nd Seb M
3rd George L

Form 5

1st Benji R
2nd Alex O
3rd Zachary W



Junior Department

Outdoor Education

During an Outdoor Education lesson, the boys in Form 4, were tasked with a Maths Challenge. Pinned to the trees were twenty maths questions. The boys worked in pairs and raced round, excitedly recording their answers before returning to the finishing line.



Form 4 boys have been learning the art of whittling creating their own tent peg.



The Aldro Outdoor Education programme saw the Form 4 boys visiting The Queen Elizabeth Country Park revising their orienteering skills.

Junior Department

Other News...



This is Felix B in 4S with his mobile prison project. Felix is one of the regulars at Lego club and enjoys mixing with the other boys who love Lego. Lego Club takes place on Mondays and Fridays in morning break in Mrs Drayton's classroom. If your son is interested, he should speak to Mrs Drayton. There are many projects on the go, both individually and in pairs. We are hoping to complete a big team project in the future. Why not join in the fun!!



Amazing work from George who has already completed a raised planter for the DT Pallet Challenge!



Boarders' News

Well, the last week of school certainly seemed strange as all our International boarders headed back to their home country. With literally only a handful of boys boarding in the last few days, all the usual routines and activities went out the window! We made the most of the situation and had a brilliant time with lots of fun and games still going on. There is a huge amount planned for next term and we look forward to welcoming all the boarders back to the house as soon as possible after the Easter break.

Forms 7 & 8 Big Boarding Weekend

It was that time once again and the Form 7 and 8 boys descended for the Big Boarding Weekend. We kicked off after lunch on Saturday, those not in matches were taken on a visit to the Stovold Farm by Mrs Stovold, Miss Perry and Mrs Fenwick which proved to be huge fun with a number of boys making their farm debut.

Later on in the afternoon, Mr Rose took charge and the boys were able to let off some steam in the ASC before enjoying the Chinese themed night. This involved a delicious Chinese supper and quiz and upstairs we tasted a number of Chinese delicacies which went down very well! It was then time to settle down to a movie—we had Mission Impossible being shown upstairs and Black Panther downstairs; an excellent night in.

We arose the next morning and headed down for a cooked breakfast before embarking on our main morning activity of Giant Scalextric and Inflatable Obstacle Course. After 2 hours of frantic fun, we all needed a breather and had a few minutes relaxing before enjoying our roast lunch.

For many, one of the highlights of the BBW is making their own ice-cream sundaes which has become a bit of a tradition. The boys were excited to say the least at the prospect of choosing their own flavour of ice-cream, sauce, sprinkles and toppings! We then had a chance to play some board games before taking part in the big treasure hunt with Mr Overton and Mr Court hiding various treasure around the school grounds and the boys used all their cunning skills to track down the concealed bounty.

Time was flying and it was soon time to pack up and get ready for home. My thanks to all the staff who helped make the weekend such fun and for all the boys who were on tremendous form.



Friends of Aldro

Thank you!

During Lent term we held a fantastic Quiz Night which was well-attended and thoroughly enjoyed by all. We raised **£1,012** and our thanks must go to Mr Rose (our superb Quizmaster) and his team, as well as the Form 3&4 reps who did an amazing job organising the evening and making it such a success.



Our thanks also to all parents, pupils and staff who helped us raise a fantastic **£296** at our Grimston Cup Cake Sale!

As always, a huge thank you for your continued support. We wish you a very Happy Easter break and look forward to seeing you all next term.

Tor Watts, Georgie Templeton-Ward and Sarah Barnes (FoAA Joint Chairs)

Leaving staff



At the end of the Easter term we said a sad goodbye to our Bursar Mrs Magdalena Jackson. The staff managed to say their goodbyes in the last week of school and the last meeting of the FoAA saw the committee present her with a gift and flowers to say a huge thank you for everything she had done to make life easier for them.



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