



Aldenham Today

Issue 47 - SUMMER 2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER



Throughout the year we welcome many visitors to the School including prospective parents and children, visiting speakers and members of the local community. They often come with a very positive impression of the School and its reputation. The School is certainly the happy place which they hear about and where the wellbeing of our children can be assured. Wellbeing is a key part of the curriculum here as we look for a happy child above all else. Indeed, I think that it is this approach above all else to which I can ascribe the extraordinary growth in applications to join the School over recent years. Only two years ago we saw 200 applicants to join Year 7, last year it rose to 250 and this January we had 332 candidates sitting the tests.

You can keep abreast of the latest individual success stories and achievements celebrated by the Aldenham community in this issue of Aldenham Today, including the vast range and diversity of the opportunities that our pupils can enjoy. These include some spectacular and memorable drama productions from *The Jungle Book*, *House Drama*, GCSE and A Level performances, to remarkable choreography and highly athletic performances in the Dance Show as students continue to display some exceptionally creative work.

Our sportsmen and women have again excelled, not least **Dillon Chana** who won a national championship for swimming, **Tom Francis** who was selected to play for England in the indoor cricket World Cup, **Ellie Hall McAteer** who is part of the GB show jumping team and both **Milly Gall** and **Alina Cofie** who competed at the National Athletics Championships in the hurdles with great success. In football our U14 team won the ISFA league title for the South East, but our U15 team surpassed all expectations. They not only won the Hertfordshire County Cup, but were able to repeat the remarkable success of last year's squad in winning the ISFA National Cup for the second year in a row. Their Captain, **Charlie Patino**, is also the England U16 Captain.

It was very pleasing that of the 900 GCSE examinations taken this summer 31% were graded at the top level 7-9, 76% were graded at level 5 or above and 92% at level 4-9. There were some exceptional top performers each of whom gained grade 7-9 in every one of their GCSEs: **Viola Alishah** (8x9; 3x8); **Oliver Cowles** (8x9;2x8;1x7); **Atahan Diamond** (1x9;6x8;1x7); **Zoe Freedman**(1x9;5x8;4x7); **Bob He** (6x9;4x8;1x7); **Alex Webber**(3x9;3x8;5x7). They can move onto the next stage of their education with great confidence and excellent prospects.

Aldenham's excellent results in the number of students gaining the top A Level grades belied the national statistics, with 21% graded at A*/A, over 50% at A*-B and over three quarters either an A*, A, B or C. Top performers were Head Boy, **Michael Li** (A*AAA) who goes to UCL to read Economics, **Elliot Stein** (A*A*A) who has a place to read Law at Warwick, **Patrick Duggan** (A*AA) will be at New College, Oxford to read French, **Abbasali Merali** (A*AA) will be reading PPE at KCL, **Dan Travers** (A*AA) at Loughborough for Sports Science, **Tom Wright** (A*AA) who will be taking a course in Economics and Maths at Bath, **Imogen Wilson** (A*, A, B) will be reading Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic at Cambridge, and **James Crawley** (AAA) who goes to St Andrews to read Biochemistry.

There has been substantial investment over the summer break in the refurbishment of two of our Boarding Houses. The main School kitchens and servery have also been completely upgraded along with many other areas across the site. This has meant that pupils have once again returned to greatly enhanced facilities.

I thank everyone for their continued support and look forward to another successful year.

James Fowler

NEW HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL



Welcome to our new Head Girl **Jemima Wax** and Head Boy **Nicholas Davis** all set for a challenging and exciting year ahead. Jemima is a very talented musician, something she wishes to pursue when she leaves school. Nick is the leader of the Debating Society and Chairman of the Student Council. His big passion is for history and politics which he plans to continue studying at university.

TENTH ANNUAL TRIP TO MALAWI



This year the charity *Ripple Africa* in Malawi which was founded by Old Aldenhamian Geoff Furber and his wife Liz some 16 years ago. Accompanied by four staff members, 20 students travelled to *Ripple Africa's* base camp in Lowani where they joined in many of the projects ranging from the Tree Conservation project, the Disability Home Help project and helping with a research project about girls staying in school whilst menstruating.

There were many opportunities to engage with the locals of all ages including numerous sports matches, reading, painting the walls and teaching nursery rhymes to the children at the local primary schools. Experiencing an average day with a local pupil made everyone realise how fortunate they are. Happiness doesn't come from what you have but from what you make of it.

At the end of a brilliant two weeks at Lowani beach, everyone moved on to rest and recuperate at South Luangwa National Park where they spotted four out of five of the Big Five on safari.

Jemima Wax said "It was a complete culture shock but beautiful to connect with the students there through our similarities." **Toun Thompson** agreed that it was "an amazing opportunity not to be missed."



ART



Congratulations to the Letchmore Trust prize winners: **Karine Zilberman** in the junior section, **Zeb Baker** the intermediate category and **Javier Dalpat** the senior winner. Visitors delighted in a huge display of exceptional work at the Art Exhibition.

LANGUAGES

Spanish students enjoyed stunning weather on their visit to the beautiful northern city of Santander where they saw the outstanding Botín Centre and the Palacio de la Magdalena.



BREWERS' LECTURE

Arranged through our close links with the Brewers' Company, one of the oldest livery companies in the City of London, the Brewers' Lecture reinforces links with the School dating back to its foundation in 1597 by Richard Platt, himself a brewer. Mr Stephen Spencer Jones, Master of the Worshipful Company of Brewers and Senior Sales Leader at the Heineken Brewery, along with other staff from the brewery, explained the many job opportunities there are in the brewing industry.

Following the presentation everyone moved to the Sixth Form Centre for the popular beer tasting to learn more and sample the actual product.



BEER MONEY

Boys and girls in Year 9 each receive a commemorative coin at the annual Beer Money ceremony at Brewers' Hall. This marks the 422-year connection between the Brewers' Company and the School.

DRAMA

Enthusiastic audiences were thrilled at the immersive performance of Aldenham's production of *The Jungle Book*. Set in a world of lace fabric, gothic tombstones and flickering memories, the play aimed to question what it means to be different.



In order to survive, Mowgli, skilfully played by **Ethan Saunders**, has to hunt and kill, and keep himself from being hunted.

Isabella Yeabsley as the leader of the Wolf Pack, Akela, is kind and honourable—unlike most of the other wolves—who betray her and push Mowgli out of the jungle. **Danielle Zilberman** gave a very convincing hypnotic performance as Kaa.



Hannah Cushion as Bagheera, **Ben Reid** as Baloo and not forgetting **Jackson Miller** as the evil and threatening Sheere Khan also gave incredibly humorous performances with equal amounts of darkness. As indeed did the entire cast in this fast paced production, greatly assisted by a strong team of lighting technicians and stage crew. They should all be extremely proud of a very polished production.



SENIOR HOUSE DRAMA COMPETITION

We were delighted to welcome Karen Whyte, recently returned from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, as our judge. Karen praised the dedication, hard work and creativity demonstrated by each of the Houses in devising such imaginative performances at short notice using a stimulus they had been given only a short time before.

The plays all revolved around political and social statements, and included *Brexit* (McGill's) which was voted Best Play for the balance of humour and the sinister touches it conveyed with every performer selling the story. Following some imaginative productions, the award for Best Director went to **Jolie Sharpe** for directing the Paull's performance of *Truth* with its fabulous use of props and strong transitions. **Emma Gillespie** in the Riding's production of *Oblivion* gained her Best Performer for the fire and rage she gave to her performance.

ALDENHAM STUDENTS EXCEL AT THE WATFORD FESTIVAL



Pupils from Aldenham Prep and Aldenham Senior School continued their success at the Watford Festival of Speech and Drama having gained no fewer than 10 top awards in this year's competition. These included acting, prose reading, verse and mime which went to Aldenham pupils from Years 4 to 12. One of our 10 year olds even won the overall festival achievement shield for her mature and moving poetry.

Winners of the Watford Festival include **Ethan Hayes** (overall mime award), **Taylor Johnson, Zalyn Alam, Tom Grigg** and **Jack Vera** (overall acting cup). Our pupils have achieved these top results year after year. Some go on to take part in the North London Festival in Whetstone. This year 18 eleven year olds also entered in a public speaking competition along with the other disciplines.

A CELEBRATION OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

The usual speeches and distribution of prizes were punctuated by musical interludes from **Bob He** on piano and **Toby Freeman** on electric guitar. Andy Williams, Head of the Senior School, congratulated the students who were awarded School Attributes' prizes: **Patrick Duggan** (Aspiration), **Emilie Geissmar-Wagstaff** (Co-operation), **Eleanor Morrow** (Courage), **Imogen Wilson** (Curiosity), **Joon** and **Seul Han** (Independence) and **Jacob Davis** (Respect).

The Headmaster, James Fowler, spoke of the healthy increase in the numbers of families looking to join the School and focused on the value of good preparation. This theme was also taken up by the Guest of Honour, Mr Stephen Spencer-Jones, Master of the Worshipful Company of Brewers, as he encouraged students to take up every opportunity and prepare for all eventualities. Chair of Governors, Mr Trevor Barton, highlighted the determination to consolidate the School's strong reputation.

Visitors moved to Top Field for leisurely picnics where they caught up with friends whilst watching the 1st XI vs OA Select XI cricket match, won by the School this year. Our young musicians added greatly to the festive spirit. Along with art and photography exhibitions, drama and sports displays, there was indeed something for everyone.



Andy Williams, Head of the Senior School, congratulated students.



A warm welcome awaited the 1,200+ visitors on Visitation Day - the highlight of the School year. We were delighted to welcome back Rev'd Wealands Bell as the guest preacher at the Chapel service, where we remembered the many School benefactors who through their generosity have helped to make Aldenham the thriving community that it is today.



The House tug of war finals, followed by an excitable staff versus parents tug of war competition, were the perfect conclusion to a splendid day.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE FOR THE LIFE OF FIELD MARSHAL THE LORD VINCENT OF COLESHILL

Aldenham was well represented at a Thanksgiving Service held at St Margaret's Church Westminster for the life of Field Marshal The Lord Vincent of Coleshill. Dick Vincent, who attended Aldenham in 1945-50, will long be remembered for the support he gave his old school and his contribution as a Governor for many years. This national occasion celebrated a family man of immense charm and modesty who rose to be the most senior officer in the British Army and a member of the House of Lords.



Lord Vincent's portrait hangs in our Dining Hall as one of the most distinguished of all OAs, and will continue to do so for future generations.

MATHEMATICS



Our Senior Maths Team – **Luca Buttiger, John Ngoi, Michael Li, Joon Han,** and **Seul Han** took part in Naboj International Mathematics Competition held at Cambridge University where they were placed 10th in the UK. Our Intermediate Maths Team of **Kevin Cheng, Noah Klein, Mihir Mithani** and **Alex Fraser** came an impressive 6th out of a field of 18 in the East Region Maths Fest.



Year 5 and 6 pupils joined us from visiting schools once again to pit their wits against each other as they participated in an afternoon of stimulating maths challenges and competitions. Supported by our own Sixth Form students they quickly got to grips with the theory before battling it out in the three rounds.



Congratulations to **Bob He** who achieved National success in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. After gaining Gold in the first round and qualifying for the British Olympiad, Bob went on to achieve Distinction and become a coveted medallist, being one of the top 100 mathematicians in his age group in the country. An outstanding achievement.



JAMES HARRISON RECITES PI TO 2,500 DECIMAL PLACES

Music teacher, James Harrison, has amazing memory recall. On 14 March (14/3), which is celebrated around the world as Pi Day, he was able to recite the first 2,500 decimal places of Pi entirely from memory!

'WE CAN'T WAIT' AT ALDENHAM



The girls in Riding's House raised £5,000 for the charity 'We Can't Wait' which works hard to improve sanitation by providing toilets and developing an educational programme to rural areas in India. The founder of the charity, Mr Mark Balla, thanked them and described how this amazing donation has been used as leverage to encourage others to get involved and this has already increased to £25,000.

WE DAY AT WEMBLEY ARENA — 6 MARCH 2019



A group of Aldenham students were inspired to tackle some world issues when they joined over 12,000 students at WE Day at Wembley Arena in a celebration of young people making a difference in their local and global communities. They heard some truly inspirational speakers including ex Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard who addressed the need for gender equality to be entrenched within our educational system, and International Children's Peace Prize winner Baruan Ndume who talked about being a child refugee. The Duke of Sussex, Prince Harry, also spoke about two topics close to his heart: mental health and the health of our planet.

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION



The annual Public Speaking competition was at its all-time best this year. Speaking on the topic of 'democracy', each of the six senior Houses presented outstanding speeches and held up well under the pressure of intense questioning from our guest judge, Mr Frank Partridge, a former BBC and Sky journalist and presenter for many years. Whilst it was widely agreed that every House was exceptional, the overall winners were Beevor's House. Well done to **Myles Mcleod** and **Abbasali Merali** and to all the other teams that took part.

PHILOSOPHY



On his visit to Oxford Kieran also received an award and met with Professor A C Grayling, the Master of NCH.

Congratulations to **Kieran Spellward** who received a highly commended certificate in the philosophy category at the New College of the Humanities Essay competition for 2019, putting him in a small group of students chosen out of a field of 4,000 entries across all the categories.

SKI TRIPS TO CANADA AND ITALY



42 Aldenham pupils journeyed to Italy for a week's skiing, some of whom had never skied before so were a bit nervous. "We needn't have worried as it turned out to be one of the best weeks of our lives so far" explained **Hannah Cushion**. Her personal favourite was going down a hill at an incredible speed in inflatable doughnut rings! **Max Toye** also enjoyed the trip especially when he was able to join the top two groups that travelled to the other side of the mountain to ski at the highest possible point they could. He declared "It was a great trip and I'm looking forward to next year already!"



Students on the senior ski trip to Canada experienced husky sledding and an ice canyon walk as well as some excellent skiing.

PHILOSOPHY LECTURE AT HARROW SCHOOL



Philosophy students attended a lecture at Harrow School given by William Lane Craig, one of the foremost Christian philosophers in the world, who spoke about the Metaphysics of God which forms part of their course.

P.R.E. DEPARTMENT TRIP TO SYNAGOGUE AND ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

Year 7 pupils visited the West London Synagogue and St Paul's Cathedral in June. **James Crum-Ewing** described the visit to the Synagogue, which dates back to the 1800s, as "magical and informative". The visit to St Paul's started in the crypt, moved upstairs to look up at the gigantic dome and the pictures depicting St Paul and old Byzantium mosaics before going into the choir vestry. However, the highlight for James was when they climbed to the top of the dome to see all of London's landmarks - "The day was one of the best trips I've ever been on."



ARTISTS IN BERLIN



A Level artists were able to experience the wealth of culture in Berlin when they visited several renowned art collections including the Hamburger Bahnhof Museum, Berlinische Galerie, Sammlung Boros and the East Side Gallery. The Berlin art scene is known for being avant-garde, and the students challenged themselves by engaging with not only seminal artworks but also the more obscure of the contemporary pieces.

OLD BOYS REMEMBERED 75 YEARS ON



The School paused during Assembly as the Headmaster commemorated two OAs who were in Normandy 75 years ago. One of them was very well known. General Sir Richard Nelson “Windy” Gale (School House 1911-13) was the Commander of the 1st Parachute Regiment and 6th Airborne Division. He landed in Normandy shortly after midnight on 6 June 1944 and was the first General to return to mainland Europe. His meticulous planning contributed heavily to the success of Operation Overlord. He went on to serve with great distinction after the war was over. His commemorative bust stands outside School House today.

The other former pupil commemorated, Lt Trevor JF Tooley OA, was killed on the first day of Operation Overlord when his unit sustained heavy losses on Sword Beach. He died aged just 27, leaving a wife and two year old daughter. He is remembered with honour in La Delivrande War Cemetery, Calvados, just a short distance from where he landed on French soil and is one of 116 OAs who went to fight in the Second World War and who never returned.

LIFE MATTERS

As part of Wellbeing Week, the Life Matters department were pleased to welcome Dick Moore to speak about Mental Health First Aid, GB Boxer Jonathan Kumuteo and representatives from the charity Sexplain. Year 10 and 12 students learned about looking after themselves both physically and emotionally, whilst Year 11 and 13 students had the opportunity to get involved with Mental Health First Aid. A thoroughly fruitful and insightful afternoon for all involved.



Dick Moore also spoke to a packed house of appreciative parents and guardians in the evening on how they can support their young people through the stresses of exams and the teenage years.

STUDENTS VISIT THE BATTLEFIELDS OF YPRES AND THE SOMME



Paying their respects to OAs Major H P Philby DSO and Captain J Shield at their burial sites were just two of the activities undertaken by Year 9 pupils in their three-day trip to the Battlefields of Ypres and the Somme. The theme of the trip was “They walked where we walked” and an emphasis was placed on telling the stories of pupils of the School who had gone to fight in the war. The 87 pupils and 9 staff also visited Talbot House, an oasis of calm behind the front line near Ypres, and Wellington Quarry, the underground garrison for 24,000 troops before the Battle of Arras in 1917.

The trip ended with an Act of Commemoration at the Thiepval Memorial, where nine OAs are remembered, and whose names were read out. This is the 10th year in which the school has taken almost the entire year group over to Flanders, and every trip has proven to be a memorable occasion for all concerned.

Tate Noble and **Rahil Patel** laid wreaths during the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate to commemorate the scores of OAs who gave their lives in the First World War, but who have no known grave.



HISTORIANS VISIT BERLIN

30 History students travelled to Berlin for an action packed visit to complement their iGCSE study of Nazi Germany and the Cold War. They visited the villa at Wannsee, Sachsenhausen concentration camp and the Olympic stadium and even found time to see the Topography of Terror and Check Point Charlie museums as well as go up the TV tower for a great view of Berlin.



SIXTH FORM STUDENTS HELP OUT AT LOCAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Chris Page and **Claudia Greenway** have been assisting in the Year 3 class at Parkside Primary School in Borehamwood for more than a year. Bidding our students a sad farewell, their Year 3 teacher said that they had been incredibly helpful and wonderful ambassadors for Aldenham School. Well done to both of them.



MUSIC

BECK MUSIC COMPETITION

The finals of the Beck Music competition were adjudicated by Richard Osmond, Director of Music at Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School. Still only in Year 11 **Bob He** was awarded the Beck Cup for his outstanding performance on piano of Chopin's Waltz in E minor in the senior section of the competition. This was a double for Bob, as he also won the solo performance section of the House Music competition earlier in the year.

Congratulations to all competitors for an excellent evening of music making, in particular the winners of each section: **Hannah Cushion** in the juniors for her beautiful soft tone with lots of light and shade on the flute, **Eddie Sunman** the intermediate winner and **Toby Freeman** for his excellent performance on guitar which showed beautiful control.



14 year old **Eddie Sunman** is this year's winner of the Intermediate section of the Beck competition for music soloists. Her amazing clean sound and spot on articulation of Sonata in C, 1st movement – Haydn on the piano proved a winner. Eddie also enjoys football and was part of the winning team in the Under 14 ISFA Elgin League Cup who were crowned 2019 champions.

SPRING CONCERT



The end of term Spring Concert was a great celebration of music. The audience were treated to a variety of musical styles including an Aldenham Guitar Ensemble, rousing performances by the Aldenham Jazz Band, and two powerful numbers from the Aldenham Brass Band: Battle Hymn of the Republic and a James Bond theme. Solo performances included **Seul Han** on the violin and **Misha Behr** playing a clarinet Concerto. **Geoffrey Beresford** was the guest vocalist in a selection of numbers by the magnificent Senior Rock Band which also showcased the talents of **Benjamin Brick** and **Hannah Goates** (guitars and vocals) and **Toby Freeman** (lead guitar).

TOP MARKS FOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC



Assistant Director of Music, Samuel Austin, was recently examined for the diploma of Associate of the Royal College of Organists. Not only did he pass, but he also claimed a gamut of prizes for the highest marks in organ playing, written papers and highest aggregate mark overall. Congratulations Mr Austin! He received his certificate at a conferment ceremony at Southwark Cathedral.

PHAB RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND



38 Aldenham School students along with teaching and support staff, took on the responsibility of caring for 13 boys and girls with special needs at the residential Phab weekend which is held each year at the School. Phab is a charity that provides opportunities for young people with disabilities to spend time doing fun activities with able-bodied teenagers.

The busy programme of events included making superhero masks and picture frames, baking and decorating cookies, a visit to Aldenham Country Park, swimming at St Hilda's Prep School and a big fancy dress party to round it all off on Sunday. The Aldenham Year 12 students showed what wonderful hosts, caring friends and brilliant students they all are. They did themselves, their parents and the School very proud.



The School was also delighted to welcome back Electric Umbrella for a great interactive session of music and dance that ensured that everyone had a wonderful time.

COMPUTER SCIENTISTS VISIT TO JAPAN



Computer Science students were treated to a unique, tailor-made educational tour to Tokyo, one of the world's most famous innovative and high-tech capitals. A busy itinerary included the Sony Explora Science, Miraikan National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation and the Toshiba Science Museum. Definitely a big learning experience for everyone and a thoroughly enjoyable one too.



SCIENCE

Cameron Steel, Luca Buttinger and Danyal Nasir competed against 18 other schools from across the region at the annual Chemistry Competition at Hertfordshire University in which team work was critical. Danyal writes "I learnt from this experience how important accuracy is with our measurements, as your final results can be massively affected." Luca writes "Unfortunately we did not place in the top three schools. However we did return with experience of new methods of analysis and have definitely improved our practical skills which will help our journey through our A Levels".



In a collaboration between the Biology and Psychology departments, Sixth Form psychologists, **Tara Lawton, Jolie Slater and Edvards Trumpe** carried out brain dissection on sheep's brains for Year 7 and 8 pupils in Biology Club. It was a fascinating activity which gave the Martineau's students an excellent insight into an A Level lesson. These Sixth Formers are some of the winners of the Bott Prize for Experimental Psychology for their skill in brain dissection, as well as reading EEGs (brain scans).

DANCE SHOW

Another superb Dance Show performed to full houses over three shows. Fifty girls and boys from Years 7 to 13 performed a number of dance genres including contemporary, musical theatre, tap, commercial and street, along with a number of pupils who helped on the technical side and back stage. The standard of dance was particularly high especially as almost everyone only dances in school. It was a spectacular, uplifting event with a well-deserved standing ovation on the last night.



CROSS COUNTRY



496 students took part in this year's House Cross Country competition in perfect running conditions. **Marcus Tulio Ribeiro-Dias** and **Isabella Yeablesey** were first boy and girl home for Martineau's. In a fantastic junior race the first student to cross the line was **Lily Zentner** for Riding's House, closely followed by **Romey Eccles-Meoded** for Beevor's House.



Congratulations also to **Myles Mcleod**, an outstanding athlete and winner of the senior race for the third year. He was challenged right to the line by **Milly Rees** who finished just one second behind in a thrilling race.



EROS RUN

Former Prep School Head Paul Cheetham continued his total dominance of the annual Eros-to-Eros Run with his ninth win in as many years, even managing to shave a further 21 seconds off his own course record which was last broken in 2014. On an excellent day for distance running, several other runners also recorded personal best times. Second place went again to Ross Murray (parent), who was almost five minutes faster than his debut run last year. Marcus Craven (parent) also managed to achieve a very impressive time of 1.36.04 on his first attempt.

The biggest improvement, however, was seen by **Alex Fraser** (Year 10) who was almost 11 minutes faster than last year's time. Fraser finished just over a minute after **Harvey Dodd** (Year 12) who took the shield for fastest pupil for the third year in a row. First of the two girls home was **Lily Zentner** (Year 10) who was just 31 seconds slower than her amazing time of 2.12.55 last year. All 36 runners who started off from Piccadilly Circus made it home under their own steam – a record number of finishers in recent years.

It was good to see that three of the Aldenham Parkrun core team were also able to join the run, thus cementing the excellent links the School has forged with the local branch of the biggest running movement in history.



The biggest achievement, arguably came from Housemasters Mike Yeabsley (McGill's) and Richard Pineo (Kennedy's) who had elected to seek sponsorship for the Junior Diabetes Research Foundation. They ran every step of their debut race together and, along with sponsorship from the other runners, managed to raise an astonishing £3,000 for the charity. A further £500 came from other participants which will make a huge difference to research into diabetes.

CCF



The RAF section of the CCF were pushed to their limits when they visited the XC Centre for some adventurous training which included indoor caving and wall climbing.



The U15 football team completed an extraordinary season by winning the Hertfordshire County Cup with a comfortable 2-0 win over Sir John Lawes School. Goals from **Charlie Patino** (also given the man of the match award) and **Serhat Kurt** ensured the 24th win in their 28th game of the season.

FOOTBALL

An excellent game against Royal Russell School in the final at the Burton Albion ground resulted in a 2-1 win for Aldenham to be crowned this year's ISFA U15 champions for the second time. Aldenham School Football Club was founded around 1825 which would quite possibly make it one of the oldest football clubs in the world. There is no doubt that the School ranks as one of the oldest and most established football schools in the country but despite this long history, it was only last year that the first ISFA national title was won by Aldenham.

In an exciting and competitive game both teams had numerous opportunities in the first half but failed to

capitalise due to the fantastic goalkeeping displayed by both sides. In the final minute of the first half **Romey Eccles-Meoded** managed to get around three defenders but the Royal Russell goalkeeper was quick off his line to collect the ball. It was Aldenham who broke the deadlock after 45 minutes through a great goal by **Osereme Ufuah**. This was soon followed by **Romey Eccles-Meoded** who calmly finished a low shot from inside the 18 yard box, to make the score 2-0. Aldenham started to dominate possession from this point but Royal Russell continued to be positive and were rewarded with a goal. In what was a very tense final few minutes Aldenham managed to hold on to retain the title, much to the great delight of the many fans in the stadium.



Aldenham retained the national ISFA U15 title – there are now two ISFA cups proudly on display in reception!

ALDENHAM U14 FOOTBALLERS BRING HOME THE SILVER

Our football success continued with another ISFA cup win, this time it was the U14s who beat Bradfield College 3-1 in the Elgin Capital League Final. A great result for our younger players which bodes well for the future.

The final was held at Bromley Town FC when both teams had multiple opportunities to take the lead but no one was able to find the back of the net until the 28th minute when **Aaron Benn** converted a penalty following a foul in the box. A break from Aldenham saw **Jack Grieves** take on a long effort which was parried by the Bradfield goalkeeper but **Aaron Benn** was there to knock the ball into the Bradfield net. Aldenham had one last break away down the right hand side with **Craig Jules**. The ball was played across to **Aaron Benn** who turned inside the box and slotted the ball away, making him the unquestionable man of the match.

GB FENCING ACE

Keen fencer **Oliver Strange** is certainly making his mark in the world of fencing. Despite being the youngest member of the England Fencing team at the Youth Five Nations competition in Dublin, he won silver in the Men's Foil individual event. Finishing the highest placed individual foilist of England's men, Oliver then went on to help England get the gold in the men's foil team event and so ensure an England win.

Building on this success Oliver went on to represent Maccabi GB in the 15th European Maccabi Games in Budapest. With over 3,000 athletes from over 40 countries participating in 21 sports Oliver stormed through the individual and team fencing events to bring home a haul of fencing medals - 3 golds, 1 silver and 1 bronze. Later he was invited to attend a reception at the British Embassy in Budapest where he met the British Ambassador, Ian Lindsay OBE, to celebrate Maccabi GB's success at the games.



SWIMMING SUCCESS AT ARENA LEAGUE TEAM FINALS

Aldenham Sports Scholars and sisters **Isabella** and **Lexi Yeabsley**, who are members of Hatfield Swimming Club, achieved personal best times in the prestigious Arena League A team finals at Cardiff International Pool. They helped their club to a fourth place finish behind Plymouth Leander, Millfield School and Guildford. A great achievement for such a small club. Only the top 10 clubs in the country are invited to the Finals Competition in Cardiff.



The girls were also delighted and exceptionally lucky to meet Adam Peaty, one of their swimming heroes.

NATIONAL SUCCESS FOR YOUNG GYMNASTS

Many congratulations to **Jaspar Hussain** who, along with his gymnastics partner, gained silver in the Youth Men's Pair at the National Acrobatic Gymnastics Finals run by British Gymnastics. Both boys are now looking forward to continuing their training and hope to qualify for the British Championships next year. We wish them every success.



CRICKET

In spite of the poor weather there have been some excellent performances, not least the U14As who made it through to the semi-final and the U15As who made it to the quarter-final of their respective County Cup competitions and the U17 team who got as far as the second round of the National Cup.

The 1st XI team was led well by **Daniel Travers** and **James Michelin**. **Viren Patel** is an excellent left-arm fast bowler and top-order batsman who represents Middlesex. He played in the Bunbury Festival and then went on to play at the 'Best of Bunbury' match at Loughborough University. He is a very talented and hard-working cricketer that has a bright career ahead of him.

The U15A team had a great season, with many of the players developing their cricket significantly. **Max Delyfer**, **Tom Francis** and **Lewis Lavin** have been excellent with the bat. **Tom Francis** is also a brilliant leg-spin bowler who took a 3-wicket haul in his first match for the 1st XI against New Hall School.

The U14A had a good season with a good core group of cricketers: **Tom Cushion**, **Alex Brook**, **Jack Morris**, **Finnlee Ferguson** and **Dillan Attygalle** who were all selected for the Hertfordshire development team.

Harry Edlar, **Charlie Gurner** and **Danny Francis** are the core cricketers in the U13A team. Martineau's cricketers in particular will benefit from the winter training schedule with our cricket professional, David Goodchild. **Yahya Ashraf**, **Leo Goldschmidt** and **Jack Swales** are good young cricketers to watch out for.

We are looking forward to taking a cricket and Hockey team to Cape Town in February 2020, which will provide an opportunity to experience the cricketing culture of South Africa. The boys are really looking forward to this and will be training and working to improve their fitness ahead of this exciting opportunity.



SPORTS DAY



The House based Sports Day competition was the ideal opportunity for many of our talented athletes to compete in a happy atmosphere which recorded 12 new school records. The Martineau's girls' event was a very tight affair. **Dilara Tekin** won the 100m, long jump and anchored her House to relay victory to gain her the Victrix Ludorum. Two other highly notable performances came from **Isabella Yeabsley** who won the 800m with a new Sports Day record, and the shot. **Tohan Osazee** won the hurdles and the discus. The Martineau's boys' event saw **Myles Lewis-Skelly** the standout performer as he picked up the Victor Ludorum for his wins in the 100m, hurdles and shot (new record).

In the junior girls' event **Alina Cofie** picked up her 3rd Victrix Ludorum in as many years for her four wins in the long jump, hurdles, 100m and relay. The junior boys' event saw a larger spread of individual winners; **Aaron Benn** was the only student to win two individual events (100m & hurdles) as well as anchoring Beevor's to relay success which saw him pick up the Victor Ludorum.

In the middle boys' event **Tom Barrett** picked up the Victor Ludorum for his wins in the 100m and 300m (new record) plus relay (new record). The senior girls' event saw **Milly Gall** awarded the Victrix Ludorum for her three wins in the 200m, hurdles and shot, breaking the Sports Day record in all three events. There were also records broken at this age group by **Eliza Blayne** (800m) and **Milly Rees** (1500m).



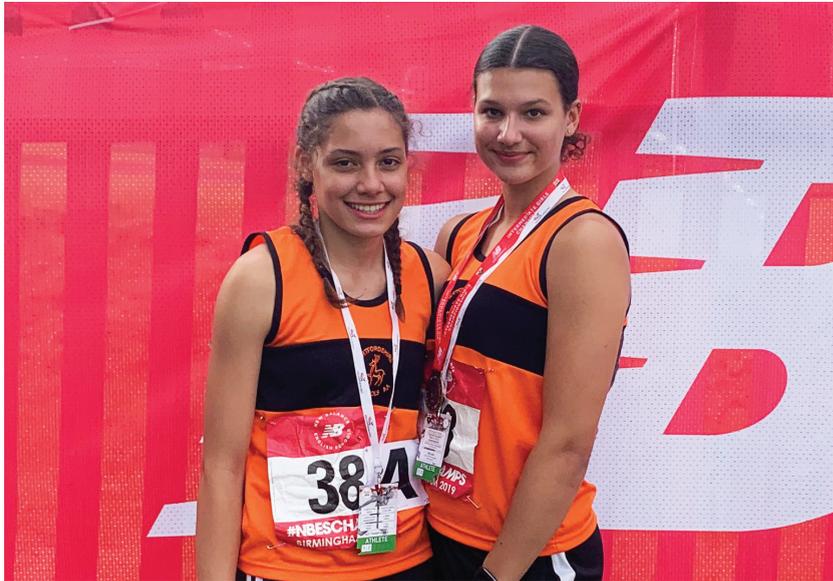
Beevor's were the winners in the senior boys' section. However, it was Kennedy's that won the relay with **Tom Wright** anchoring them home for his fourth gold medal of the day. Not surprisingly Tom won the Victor Ludorum and the Hugh Kelly Memorial Cup for his wins in the 100m, 200m, relay and long jump (new record).

A SEASON OF ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Our athletes had started the season on a high. At the Watford District Senior Athletics Championships **Daniel St John** won the 100m, **Edu Toiny-Pendred** the 400m and both boys were joined by **Theo Vickeridge** and **Tomilade Fajana** to win the relay. **Alina Cofie** finished second in the junior girls' event and **Tom Barrett** also gained a second place finish in the inter-boys' event.

There were some outstanding individual performances at the District Athletics competition: **Myles Lewis-Skelly** – shot put winner plus district record and winner of outstanding Year 7 boy. **Jack Swales** – 100m winner. **Shareef Okoya** – discus winner and new school record. **Isabella Yeabsley** – 800m winner. **Marcus Tulio Ribeiro-Dias** – Year 8 800m winner. There were three wins in the Year 10 section: **Tom Barrett** (hurdles), **Lewis Lavin** (shot put) and **Oliver Blayne, Tom Barrett, Ozzie Ufuah and Nick Kamara** (boys' relay)

Five elite athletes represented the School at the Herts County Championships: **Jack Swales** started the day off in pouring rain by winning the U13 long jump. **Myles Lewis-Skelly** won the U13 shot put whilst breaking the school record but frustratingly finished a close second in the 100m final. Another U13 athlete, **Dilara Tekin**, finished sixth in the 100m in only her third ever competition. **Milly Gall** finished second in the U17 hurdles, being beaten by the number 1 ranked hurdler in the country. **Alina Cofie** also enjoyed a very successful but equally frustrating afternoon. Alina came second in the U15 long jump with a personal best of 4.97m and then finished third in the hurdles.



Congratulations to our young athletes **Milly Gall** and **Alina Cofie** who did themselves proud at the English Schools Athletics National Finals. Milly got a bronze medal in the final with a personal best and is now ranked third in the UK for U17 80m hurdles. She just missed out by 0.02 of a second to be selected to represent England. Alina came second in her heat, then fifth in the final with a personal best and is now ranked 11th in the UK for U15 75m hurdles.

GOLF



Congratulations to our golf team **Lewis Slade, Arran Kanth, and Fletcher Masterton**, who won the regional competition of the ISGA Match Play Tournament. This is the largest independent schools' golf competition in the country, with over 120 schools taking part.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5 October

OPEN MORNING (10.00am-12.30pm)

17 October

House Music Competition

9 November

OA Dinner at Aldenham

14 November

Sixth Form Information Evening

10 December

Carol Service at St Albans Cathedral

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