



# Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

*A Grammar School with Academy Status*  
Head Master: Mr G. A. Wright MA (Hons) FRSA  
Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, WA14 2RS

4<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

We are delighted to confirm that we have been graded Outstanding by Ofsted following our recent inspection! Huge thanks to all staff for their hard work and dedication. I am very proud of the comment that "students at Altrincham Grammar School for Boys exude kindness towards each other...they relish the challenge to excel and demonstrate a thirst for learning". I am particularly proud that the Report captures the very essence of AGSB. The news story and full Report can be found overleaf.

Before half term we held the House Shout 2022. The event was truly spectacular and once again the competition was fierce with all four Houses competing in a variety of categories to claim the much-coveted Gartside House Music Trophy and valuable points for their House. The House spirit that was on display was quite amazing and it was wonderful to see pupils from all age groups working together to create some memorable musical moments.

The evening fully showcased what a House system can do in breaking down age barriers and instilling positive cohesion across the student body of the entire school. Many thanks to Mr Soulsby and his team for organising and delivering such a memorable event and well done to Stamford House for retaining the trophy. Thank you also to our House Sponsors - Myersons Solicitors, D Wardle (Plant) Ltd, ABC Warranty and Sodexo for their continued support.

Also, before the break it was wonderful to be able to hold our first 'traditional' GCSE Prize Giving for three years. Our Guest of Honour was Roger Johnson – lead presenter from North West Tonight. Mr Johnson delivered an inspiring speech the importance of hard work and on the highs and lows of his broadcasting career.

This week, we held a Parents' evening for Year 11, which I am sure proved worthwhile. Over the course of the two evenings there were a total of 1389 appointments attended, so many thanks to all parents, students and staff who were involved.

We have two exciting evening events to look forward to this term: firstly, we are greatly looking forward to the AGSB Whole School Production of Les Misérables which takes place from 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> November – tickets are on sale now. Also, on 6<sup>th</sup> December we look forward to an evening with AGSB Alumni, Alex Bescoby. Alex is an award-winning filmmaker and presenter, with broadcasts on All4, History, BBC, Discovery and Canal+ International. He recently returned from 'The Last Overland' expedition where he and his team drove 22,000km from Singapore to London, recreating the famous 'Oxford and Cambridge Far Eastern Expedition' of 1955. Alex recently launched a four-part TV series on Channel 4 and a book to accompany the series. This is a community event and tickets can be obtained on Eventbrite.

Finally, our sporting programme kicks in tomorrow with football and rugby matches vs MGS and St Anslem's College and I hope to see many Parents and Carers on the touchline. I wish you and your families well for the weekend ahead.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G.A. Wright', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr G. A. Wright – Head Master



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**IT'S OFFICIAL!**

**Altrincham Grammar School For Boys rated OUTSTANDING by OFSTED**



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys has been judged to be 'outstanding' by inspectors, with the School gaining this highest-possible rating in all five of Ofsted's categories. There is praise for every aspect of the School's work, from the quality of teaching to the behaviour of pupils, and from the huge variety of extra-curricular opportunities through to the work done to prepare pupils for university.

Click here for the [News Story](#).

To read to full report, please click on this link: [Ofsted report 2022](#)



Thank you to Adeniyi, Adi, James, Sheen, Ryan, Stephen, Soham, William, Connor and George for playing in their part in celebrating our success!

## Library Halloween Competition

The Library held a Halloween competition before half-term which was to borrow a horror story book to read with the option to also gain a raffle ticket to be entered into the Spooky Prize Draw.

There was also a bonus raffle ticket and sweetie if one of the horror books with a hidden bat hidden was chosen!

*Mrs C Mahony*  
*Library Co-Ordinator*





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## AGSB Careers



Congratulations to Year 12 student, Ronit V, who headed to London over half-term to take part in the @britinsurance Digital Challenge Semi-Finals. He spent the day learning about the Insurance industry as well as carrying out a number of challenges to hopefully win one of the prizes on offer.

*Mr A Gallamore  
Head of Careers*

## Another Amazing Year for Esports at AGBS

AGSB has always maintained an excellent reputation for sport, however over the past few years, the School has secured a national reputation for Esports. 2021-22 was another amazing year in the history of AGBS Esports and you can read the full story [HERE](#).

*Mr R Cummins  
Maths Department*



## Y12 Trip to Daresbury Laboratories



A group of Year 12 students were invited to Daresbury Laboratories to attend talks about the future of science.

We had the fantastic opportunity of hearing about cutting-edge technologies and developments in a range of subject areas: cancer research, skin science and animal-free product testing. The hosts of the trip – an emerging company named XCellR8 - are strong advocates for a 'vegan' approach in the world of chemical testing, with a strong belief that there are much more ethical and scientifically valid ways of

carrying out these tests using human-based models. Throughout the day, we also had the opportunity to hear about current affairs in the biochemical research sector from several postdoctoral researchers and lecturers from top universities.



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Although this experience was weighted towards students of Biology and Chemistry, the inciting presentations encouraged us to consider problems relevant to modern science as a whole, and how other disciplines could use a similar approach to improve the world from an ethical standpoint. To conclude our day, we were shown around one of the many practical laboratories within the campus – where we were offered an insight into the everyday workspace where the frontiers of science are continuously being pushed forward.



*Tim K & Alex V (12SM)*

## AGSB Electronics



Well done to Alex B (1<sup>st</sup>), Clark D (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Bhavdeep K (3<sup>rd</sup>). The Head Master judged the Year 11 GCSE Electronics Circuit Competition before half-term and concluded that the standard was exceptionally high!

*Mr D Smith*  
*Teacher of Electronics & Comp Science*

## PFA Staff Appreciation Day



Many thanks to the wonderful AGSB PFA who laid on a Staff Appreciation morning during break before half-term. The cakes and treats were amazing and just what the staff needed to get through the last two days of term! Thanks also to Staff PFA Rep, Ms Drake for all her hard work also.





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## Year 9 Rugby Tour to Holland



We have once again relaunched the year 9 Rugby tour to Holland. The tour commenced with a training session from Sale Sharks from where we travelled to Hull. Before we boarded the ferry we went to 'The Deep'.

Whilst in Holland we had three rugby fixtures against Haagsche RC, The Oysters and Gouda RC. The team won two of the three fixtures and played some superb rugby in the process.



Off the pitch the group also enjoyed bowling, go karting, a traditional Dutch pancake meal, a presentation meal and they enjoyed several hours at a Water Park.

It was great to get the tour back up and running following Covid and I hope the current Year 8s are looking forward to their opportunity to tour next year.

*Mr S Meakin*  
*Head of PE (Sport)*





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## 2022 House Shout



What a fantastic evening at the 2022 House Shout which took place before half-term. The instrumental bands and the vocal harmonies were brilliant. Well done to Stamford House who were the winners on the night (below).



## GCSE 2022 Annual Prizegiving



It was fantastic to be able to hold our first “traditional” GCSE Prize Giving for three years before half-term.

Many thanks to our Guest of Honour, Mr Roger Johnson from the BBC, for delivering an inspirational speech.

Well done to all the Year 12 students for their amazing achievements.



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## Y11 House Public Speaking Competition

The Year 11 House Public Speaking Competition was held yesterday and the motion was *'The personal morality of candidates should be a key consideration when voters go to the ballot box'*. It was a good competition in front of an audience of students from across the school in the New Library. The contest was won by the opposition, consisting of Areeb A & Piyush K (Massey) and Ben C & Dominic H (Bradbury). Ben and Dominic both performed to a very high standard and the judges selected Ben as star performer, which gave Bradbury first place. The defeated proposition team consisted of Daniel A & Isaac J (Stamford) and Alfie B & Manthan D (Tatton). Isaac was a great communicator as Responder and so Stamford was awarded third place.

Many thanks to Ms Clark, Mr Keaney & Ben B-J (Y13) for judging the competition, Ms Mahony and Ms Marson for hosting and to all other staff who came along to support the students. The Year 10 House Public Speaking competition is next on Thursday 10 November and the motion is *'THBT: With a growing housing crisis in the UK, owning second homes should be banned'*.

Mr N Croxton  
Head of History & Politics

## AGSB Electronics

Well done to Alex B (1<sup>st</sup>), Clark D (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Bhavdeep K (3rd). The Head Master judged the Year 11 GCSE Electronics Circuit Competition before half-term and concluded that the standard was exceptionally high!

Mr D Smith  
Teacher of Electronics & Comp Science

## AGSB Sports For All Campaign

The poster features a large golden trophy on the right with a red bar indicating the fundraising progress. The bar is currently at the 500K mark, with the goal of 1 MILLION. The trophy has a scale on its stem with values: 950K, 900K, 850K, 800K, 750K, 700K, 650K, 600K, 550K, 500K, 450K, 400K, 350K, 300K, 250K, 200K, 150K, 100K, 50K, and 0K. On the left, there is a 'GUIDE TO THE NEW SPORTS FACILITIES' with an aerial view of the school grounds. The guide lists: Artificial Grass Pitch for football and rugby, Two cricket pitches with three new wickets, Six new cricket nets, and Tennis courts bubble. At the bottom, it says 'WE NEED YOUR HELP! FIND OUT MORE AT AGSB.CO.UK/SPORTFORALL'. The school crest is also visible in the bottom center.

The School is approaching two-thirds of its million-pound target, in its bid to raise funds for much-needed sport facilities as part of its 'Sport for All – Making a Difference' Campaign.

The campaign, led by parents and the School, aims to raise one million pounds to take AGSB sports facilities to a new level and inspire a new generation of school and community athletes, defying the weather and conditions that can be

an obstacle to that goal. The aim is to build a new full-size 4G floodlit football and rugby pitch, new tennis courts, cricket nets and two new cricket squares on the School grounds, all of which can be used by pupils and community alike.



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The benefits of sport are well-documented – teamwork, confidence, benefits to mental health – but too often during the winter months our pitches are waterlogged, and lessons, training and fixtures have to be cancelled. As a state-funded grammar school, we lag behind a number of schools in terms of the annual funding that we receive from the Government, so this campaign is vital for the successful future of sport at our school.

On behalf of the school and the pupils I want to pay tribute to the parents, former pupils, local businesses and others who have already donated. It's now vital that we push even harder to raise the extra amount needed to hit our million-pound target.

G A Wright  
Head Master



## Congratulations

Well done to Victor S (8CC) who has been chosen to perform in *The Last Cowboy in Salford* which is being filmed in November.

## Sporting Successes



On 29<sup>th</sup> October Sami Ammar in 11CK competed in the British National Taekwondo Championships in Stratford Upon Avon. He secured a silver medal in the 15-17 age category - an astounding achievement!





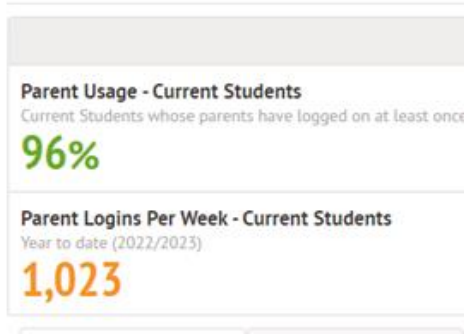
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## Arbor Parent App

Many thanks to all parents who are using the Arbor Parent App.

### Parent Portal Usage



## Sixth Form Open Evening

**ALTRINCHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

Apply for a place in an academic Sixth Form which offers:

- Consistently outstanding A-Level results (42% A\*, 76% A\*/A and 92% A\*/B in 2022)
- An impressive record of successful applications to Arts, Humanities, Medicine and STEM subjects at leading universities
- Experienced guidance and pastoral support
- A wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities
- Purpose built 6th Form Centre
- Excellent sports facilities
- Fee free education
- Close links to bus, rail, metro station and motorway

Sixth Form Open evening in person on the 16th November 2022 from 5pm till 7pm

Apply online now at: [www.agab.co.uk](http://www.agab.co.uk)

Head Master: Mr. G. A. Wright MA (Hons) FRSA, Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2RS. Tel: 0161 928 9559 email: [agab@altrinchamgbs.co.uk](mailto:agab@altrinchamgbs.co.uk) website: [www.agab.co.uk](http://www.agab.co.uk)

A reminder that our Sixth Form Open Evening will take place in School on **Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 5pm.**

## Charity Fundraising

Congratulations to the AGSB Hindu, Sikh & Jain Society for their amazing and selfless work. Through UTSAV 2021, they raised £2,800 which has gone towards the building of a new School Library in Palitana, India.



## Date for your Diary

**AN EVENING WITH ALEX BESCOBY**

COLEMAN HALL • 6TH DECEMBER • 7PM - 9PM

On the 6<sup>th</sup> December we are holding an evening in the Coleman Hall with Old Alt, Alex Bescoby, an award-winning documentary filmmaker, writer and presenter with a love of history, travel and storytelling. This is a community event and is open to all.

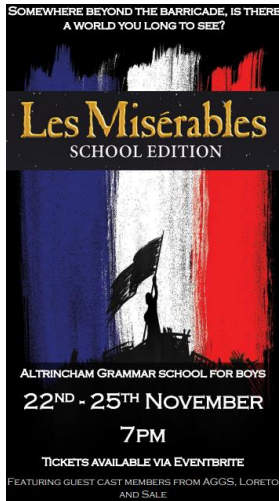
To purchase tickets, please click on this [LINK](#).



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## AGSB Production of Les Miserables



### Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022

We are now less than three weeks away from 'curtain up' of the School Production of Les Miserables taking place on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November through to Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November.

We are expecting to sell out of tickets very fast but there are still some available on Eventbrite at the very reasonable price of £14.

If you want to buy tickets please click on this [LINK](#).

## Sodexo Halloween Fun



## Halloween 2022

This week, our Sodexo Team of staff concocted up some special spooky meals for the students and were visited by some freaky characters!



## AGSB Inclusion

AGSB offers a weekly virtual SEND Clinic on Thursday afternoons from 1:30pm to 3:00pm. If you have any concerns about existing or possible special educational needs, please, email me at [acathcart@agsb.co.uk](mailto:acathcart@agsb.co.uk) to arrange an appointment. If the Clinic hours do not suit, we can of course arrange an alternative time.



If you think your son may be eligible for means-tested Free School Meals, you can apply through Trafford





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Council by visiting the following [WEBSITE](#). We will be notified by Trafford if your application is successful and we will also receive additional Pupil Premium funding to support your son's learning.

If your son already receives Pupil Premium and requires any additional support, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Cathcart at [acathcart@agsb.co.uk](mailto:acathcart@agsb.co.uk).

More information can be found [HERE](#)

Ms A Cathcart  
Assistant Head Inclusion/SENDco

## Forthcoming dates for November 2022

Thu 10.11.2022	Y10 Study Skills Parents' Evening @ 7pm
Fri 11.11.2022	School Remembrance Day Services
Mon 14.11.2022	Y8 HPV Immunisations
Wed 16.11.2022	Sixth form Open Evening @ 5pm
Thu 17.11.2022	PFA Curry & Quiz Night @ 7.30pm @ AGSB
Tue 22.11.2022 – 25.11.2022	School Production of Les Miserables @ 7pm
Wed 30.11.2022	Y10 Work Experience Information Evening for Parents

## AGSB PFA



### AGSB PFA Auction Of Promises

A reminder that the AGSB PFA Auction of Promises will start at **4.00pm** on **Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022**, when everyone can start bidding on the Auction lots to try and grab their favourite prizes whilst supporting the School community and Young Minds! The link to the AGSB Auction of Promises will be emailed to everyone prior to the start date and will also be available on AGSB social media. Follow us and see if you have been caught on the AGSB PFA camera, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter at AGSB PFA (@AgsbPfa). Please share with family and friends.

For further information on how to get involved and donate, please contact Irene Tse @ [AGSBauction@gmail.com](mailto:AGSBauction@gmail.com). Please email with a description and a picture of your donation, along with your child's name and form (they will get a bonus House point for each donation). If you are donating the prize on behalf of a company, please also send us your logo so we can promote it on the social media pages. (The 2021 Auction can be viewed on <https://auctionofpromises.com/AGSB2021>).

Entries into the Auction need to reach us by 12pm on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November and will end at 9pm on Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Winners will be contacted within 3 working days. 20% of total proceeds will go to Young Minds Charity. You can have a sneak preview of the Auction Lots by clicking on this link: <https://auctionofpromises.com/AGSB2022>



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## Guest Speaker



**Simon Alexander Ong** is an award winning, personal development entrepreneur, coach and public speaker. His clients are from all walks of life but they share one trait; they all believe that the greatest investment you can make is in yourself. His work has seen him invited onto Sky News, BBC Radio London and LBC Radio to be interviewed, while in 2018, Barclays UK featured him in a nationwide campaign asking him questions on how families could embrace better lifestyle habits. His insights have seen him featured in HuffPost, Forbes, Virgin and the Guardian, LinkedIn and he is regularly hired to speak at national and international conventions.

Through funding raised by the annual AGSB Winter Auction and a lot of persuasion, Irene Tse has managed to arrange for Simon to come and talk to our GCSE and A Level students on the 30<sup>th</sup> November as they make crucial decisions in their studies. Additional mental health workshops have also been planned for all Form Groups to take place early 2023.

Simon will share his personal experience, wisdom and key skills in garnering motivation, energy and focus to achieve your full potential. You can find more information about Simon on: Instagram: [simonalexandero](https://www.instagram.com/simonalexandero) (<https://www.simonalexanderong.com/>)

This event will take place Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> November and at the end of each talk, Simon is happy to personally sign his highly reviewed book, Energise, for any boys from all Year Groups, who purchase the book. You can buy the book through School via ParentPay at the cost of £11.99. This will make a great Christmas present. We have a limited number of books so please pay submit your pre-order through ParentPay by the 16<sup>th</sup> November so that we can ensure that we have enough books to be signed on the day. Information about Simon's book can be found in the link below.

<https://www.waterstones.com/book/energize/simon-alexander-ong/9780241502754>

These talks and workshops are only made possible through the kind and generous support from our families and local businesses that donate and bid in the AGSB Winter Auction for Mental Health.

## Noticeboard for Parents

**School Communications:** If Parents/Carers send an email to the School regarding their child for whatever reason, please remember to include their full name and Form Group to that they can be easily identified.

For full information of all extra-curricular events, these can be found [HERE](#).

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Telephone: 0161 928 0858. Email: [agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk](mailto:agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk)

**HAMBLIN EDUCATION TRUST**

