



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

25th March 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

The weather has certainly been a great supporter of all that we have been doing this week. The Whole School Photo only gets taken once every seven years and gives every student the opportunity to appear once during their time at AGSB. All the students looked extremely smart and co-operated exceptionally well in what is a huge logistical exercise. I am confident that the final photo will look brilliant and will be a fantastic reminder and keepsake for students, parents, carers and staff. Information will be sent out at a later date regarding the details for ordering photographs.

Last week's assemblies focused on LGBTQ+ History Month. The assemblies included some poignant stories of the past which served as an important reminder of the progress that has been made in recent decades, but also an indication that there remains much to be done. At AGSB, through events such as these as well as our PSHE programme, we seek to ensure that our School community is a place where all are treated with respect and kindness.

The Music Department's Concert series continued at pace this week; last weekend a number of ensembles, bands and choirs, travelled to Hull, and then Huddersfield for the Music for Youth festival. On Wednesday, the Spring Concert featured a diverse range of musical and vocal performances, with the standard once again set very high. It is sad to think that for many of our great musicians in Year 13, the Spring Concert 2022 is another stage of the 'final act', as they come to the end of their time at AGSB. Special mention to Alex V, Daniel L and Miss Chapman for organising the very popular raffle for Ukraine during the interval.

Commiserations go to Jacob R, Jamie L-B and Yusuf N (from Y11) who performed brilliantly in the National final of the ESU Public Speaking competition on Tuesday night. This is the furthest any AGSB team has been in this competition, but unfortunately, they lost out to Balshaw's C of E High School.

In the academic side of School life, departments are busy preparing Years 11 and 13 for their public exams and I am very grateful for all the extra revision sessions that are being offered to the students. On the subject of exams, I wish all the very best to Y10 who begin their Trial Exams on Tuesday. I enjoyed watching the Y8 Spelling Bee on Wednesday and a special mention to Valentine, Jamie, Yaseen, Aadith, Taha and Sumedh who won our School competition and made it through to the regional finals.

The two highlights of the sporting week involved the Y8 Football XI who beat BTH in a very exciting penalty shootout (after the game ended up 0-0) – they demonstrated enormous composure under a good deal of pressure! They now go on to the semi-final of the Trafford Cup vs Wellington School. Unfortunately, the 1st XI Hockey were knocked out of the National Cup after a 2-1 semi-final defeat by an impressive Bradfield College.

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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AGSB Altrincham vs Cancer



Thank you to Haider, Yaser, Taiyyib and Sammy who raised the fantastic sum of £2,586.03 taking the total raised to £6,570.70 for The Christie during the Altrincham vs Cancer fundraising campaign. Fantastic achievement and well done to all who took part.

AGSB Ant-Racism

A big thank you to the AGBS Anti-Racism Ambassadors, we now have a plaque on the front of our School declaring our commitment to being an anti-racist School.



ESU Public Speaking



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
discovering voices

The ESU is the largest public speaking competition for schools in England & Wales and three of our students, Jacob R (11CO), Jamie L-B (11CO) and Yusuf N (11CE) performed brilliantly in the National Final last week. This is the furthest any AGBS team has been in this competition, but unfortunately, they lost out to Balshaw's CofE High School. Commiserations but very well done boys.

Mrs E Chapman
Head of Year 11



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AGSB Trip to Manchester Chinatown



Last week AGSB students taking GCSE Chinese visited Manchester Chinatown. The students used their knowledge of Chinese characters to spot many items in the Chinese supermarket very quickly! We also had a traditional Chinese Hot Pot meal. Our students from the Food and Nutrition GCSE course could definitely tell you all about the fresh ingredients we tasted!



Mrs J Ding
MFL Department

Old Altrinchamian – Guest Speakers

It was great to welcome Old Alt, Joe Busby (right) back to AGSB this week. Joe delivered an excellent talk on careers in and around Politics.



It was a pleasure to see the return of Old Alt, Michael Eyley (left) who delivered a fascinating talk this week. Upon graduating, Michael joined the Civil Service. This year he was promoted to his current role as Director of Trade & Investment based at the British Embassy in Muscat, Oman.



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AGSB Mathematics



Alan Turing Cryptography Competition

Over the past two months, codebreakers from Years 7 to 11 have been solving ciphers as part of the University of Manchester's Alan Turing Cryptography Competition. Some pupils formed teams (and therefore came up with some quirky team names) and some entered as individuals (arguably more impressive when they cracked the code) with all five year groups represented.

The winning team this year was mainly from Year 11, with one Year 7 pupil, who proved to be a very valuable member.

Congratulations go to *The Revengers*. Team Captain Ibrahim J, Alex V, Gautham R and Yusef J. Not only did they win the internal competition here at AGSB but they also got the quickest solution to the final week's code in the whole country... only 3 teams managed to crack the final code here at AGSB, which makes their speed even more impressive!

The future is bright, with a second placed team from Y8 and third place from Y10. If you are interested in taking part in the future, you can visit their website to check out all this year's codes and solutions which are available from 21st March. Congratulations go to everyone who took part this year!

Mrs S Chancellor
Maths Department

ARTiculate

Year 13 student, Lewis Mc, travelled to London last week to attend the National Grand Final of Articulate at the National Gallery. The standards were incredibly high but Lewis was awarded 3rd prize. The judges commented on the multi-sensory performance and how his presentation played with the audience as much as the artwork he was discussing. Well done Lewis.

Miss K Lee
Art Department



ARTiculation

AGSB Islamic Society Charity Fundraising

After weeks of hard work & three incredible days of the Asian Food sale, we are happy to announce that we have raised a total of just over **£7,000!** This is the highest amount we've ever raised as part of our Unity Through Charity Campaign and it's only been made possible thanks to the amazing work of both student volunteers and staff!

Thank you to anyone who bought food or donated! Your support has been invaluable and I'm hopeful the funds raised will make significant impacts on the livelihoods of many in need.



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The money raised will be split between building several water wells in Pakistan and providing cardiac surgeries to those who can't afford them. Salam Charity will be on the ground this Ramadan (April/May) delivering aid thanks to our donations.

On behalf of the Islamic Society, many thanks for all your support.

Sohail Sheikh
13WK

MFL National Spelling Bee Competition



Many congratulations and well done to the fantastic Year 8 linguists Valentine, Jamie, Yaseen, Aadith, Taha and Sumedh who won our School competition and made it through to the regional stage of the Routes into Languages Translation Bee. They had one minute to translate as many sentences as possible from English to French, German or Spanish, ensuring correct grammar and pronunciation. They delivered high standard performances, fruit of their hard work and dedication. We wish them all the best for the next stage.

Mrs F Blakeley
MFL Department

Congratulations

Well done to some of our Y13 students who decided that everyone would give up two coffees and treats per day in aid of the DEC for Ukrainian refugees. The amount raised was £180.02.

Congratulations to Jacob Y (10LS) who recently passed his Grade 5 Music Theory exam with a clear Distinction.

Sporting Achievements



Congratulations to Valentine F in Year 8 who has recently taken part in two tournaments – the English Junior Wrestling Championship and the Rugby Fives National U13 Championship.

This was freestyle wrestling and he won the competition without losing a single bout, taking a gold medal in the under 58.2kg class for the Under 13s age bracket.



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Valentine, during the Rugby final, fought back valiantly even when the score was 14-4 and the team managed to claw back to 14-8 before finally succumbing and becoming the runner up at 15-8, earning him the silver medal for that day. He showed great spirit, determination and sportsmanship, by not giving up even when all hope for a win seemed lost.



Well done to Alex V (11CO) as despite having Covid and missing training, he came 1st in the 1500m Freestyle swimming competition in the open age group, what a great achievement and well done Alex!

Barcelona International Youth Science Challenge



Barcelona International Youth Science Challenge

After a round of interviews last week we learned that three of our students were successful in being selected onto the BIYSC which will take place in Barcelona in July 2022.

Manujeeth M (12GH) has been selected to participate in the research project: *Cosmic rays' detection: astrophysics at your fingertips*

Alexander V (11CO) has been selected to participate in the research project: *Quantum physics: a tool for new upcoming technologies*, and Gautham R (11CC) has been selected to participate in the research project: *Quantum physics: a tool for new upcoming technologies*.

Congratulations to all three, very well done.

Mr S Squire
Head of Science

AGSB Philosophy Society

Last week saw the Philosophy Society tackle one of the big questions, "What is History?". The session led by Tom discussed the major theoretical understandings of history, traversed through Hegel, the positivists and Marx even venturing onto the somewhat obscure post-structuralists.

Questions raised during the discussion included a proposed escape of theoretic understandings of history, the post-modern disillusionment with meta-narratives and whether we have reached the end of history with capitalism.

This group was as engaging as ever with wide participation despite the levity of the topic.

Adhav Chidambaram (12DV)





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AGSB Geography



What great weather our Year 11 Geographers had this week for their trip to Ancoats to assess the sustainability of the regeneration. Many thanks to the Geography Department for organising.

Spring Concert



What a fabulous evening we had on Wednesday this week which featured almost every ensemble the Music Department runs – from Jazz, Wind, Concert Band to Choirs and lots of musical theatre numbers. Fabulous performances from everyone, what a night!



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AGSB Food & Nutrition

This week is the end of rotation two for Food and Nutrition and Design and Technology. The pupils marked the occasion with some sweet treats; Year 7 pupils made homemade custard pots, using egg yolks and milk (no custard powder in sight) and the Year 8s made seeded granola tray bake. The Year 9 pupils made profiteroles and swiss rolls.



Miss E King
Food & Nutrition

AGSB Sports Report



Hockey

Following on from the last sports report our U16s reached the last 8 in the National Knockout. They travelled down to

Abingdon School in the quarter finals. The match was tight for the most part but with a late surge from Abingdon, they came away winning 5-1. The U16s should be very proud of what they have achieved, last 8 in the country is no mean feat.





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Our U18s played in the Tier 2 National Knockout. They were extremely dominant in the fourth round winning 6-1 against QEGS Wakefield. We then went on to face Calday Grange in the quarter finals. This was a very tight match but with a late winner, AGSB went onto the national semis winning 4-3.



We got a home draw in the semi-finals against Bradfield College. It was clear this game was going to be extremely tight. The match was stuck at 1-1 for a large portion of the game. Unfortunately, Bradfield managed to break down our defensive and find a winner. The game finished 2-1.

Again, huge congratulations to all AGSB pupils who represented the School.

Football

Our Year 8 Football team have progressed to the semi-finals of the Trafford Cup beating BTH.

Years 7, 9 and 10 Football teams have all progressed to the quarter finals of the Trafford Cup

Mr S Meakin
Head of PE (Sport)





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AGSB Inclusion

AGSB offers a weekly virtual SEND Clinic on Wednesday 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 to arrange an appointment. If the Clinic hours do not suit, we can of course arrange an alternative time.



Are you entitled?

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

More information can be found [HERE](#)

Ms A Cathcart
Assistant Head Inclusion/SENDco



Forthcoming dates for March and April 2022

29.03.2022 – 08.04.2022	Y10 Exams
04.04.2022	PFA Meeting – 7pm
06.04.2022	1 st XI Football & 1 st XV Rugby v Old Boys
06.04.2022	9 th Annual Senior Sports Celebration Evening 7pm
08.04.2022	School Closes for Easter Holidays
25.04.2022	School Opens (Week A)
25.04.2022 – 28.04.2022	Y9 Exams
29.04.2022 – 10.05.2022	Y12 Exams



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Noticeboard for Parents

Road Safety

Please can parents remind their son(s) (particularly the younger pupils) that they should take care when crossing Marlborough Road at busy times of the day. We received a complaint from a lady driver last week who had to slam on her brakes because boys were just running across the road without looking. The lady was badly shaken up as she said she nearly hit them.

Rubix Cubes

Do you have any unwanted speed cubes? Aaron and Sritan (7PG) have recently started a Rubix Cube Club for Year 7 students which has proved to be really popular. However, we are desperately in need of some more Rubix Cubes to help the Club to grow. If you are able to donate any speed cubes or timers, please ask your son to bring them to Miss Pickering in S6. Many thanks.



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Telephone: 0161 928 0858. Email: agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk

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