



# 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*

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

As I write, we have eight full days of School to go before we embark upon the Christmas holidays.

AGSB has been in the news of late. In November, The Manchester Evening News reported that AGSB has the best record for sending students to Oxford or Cambridge University of any state-run Secondary School in Greater Manchester. Last weekend, the School was announced as The Times & Sunday Times North West School of the Year 2024 for Academic Performance. Although I am not the greatest advocate of School League tables, it is welcoming to receive such accolades and I would like to thank our hardworking students, their families, our incredible teaching and support staff and the dedicated team of Governors and Trustees.

The final week in November belonged to the AGSB production of 'West Side Story', a musical inspired by William Shakespeare's play, Romeo and Juliet. The cast consisted of AGSB students from Years 8 to 13 and was complemented by a number of students from AGGS, Sale GS and Loreto GS. It was a production that would have been well received in any professional Theatre. The show was directed by Ms Clark and Mrs Jarrett. Mrs Hildage provided the choreography with Musical Direction led by our Director of Music, Mr Monument.

The cast, crew and band of 'West Side Story' have been working hard since auditions were held in May to prepare for three nights of incredible music, drama and dancing! We are extremely proud of everyone involved in this project and their incredible professionalism throughout rehearsals and during show week.

Congratulations also go to our musicians. The AGSB Concert Band and Big Band enjoyed a very successful day at the National Concert Band Festival (NCBF) Regionals last Sunday which took place at Warwick School. The Concert Band were awarded a Platinum Award, the highest possible award and the Big Band were awarded a Gold. We are extremely proud of them.

In sport, the Senior Indoor Hockey Squad face the best seven schools in the country when they travel to London this week for the National Finals. Good luck also to the 1<sup>st</sup> XI football squad who take on Wilmslow High School in their bid to make to the last sixteen schools in the country. There have also been fantastic victories this week for the Under 14 and 16 Badminton squads who have reached the Regional Final and to the Under 14 and 16 Basketball squads who both defeated BTH on Wednesday.

Over the past two weeks, the School has welcomed back two Old Alt's who are making a name for themselves in Politics. Leader of Trafford Council, Tom Ross, delivered an enlightening talk about local Government politics and Oliver Carroll, who is the Conservative Candidate to replace Sir Graham Brady as MP, gave a fascinating talk about his journey to being a prospective MP and issues affecting our constituency. Thank you to the AGSB History and Politics Society for organising.

I would like to offer a huge thank you to the fabulous AGSB PFA who organised and ran another amazing Christmas Fair. Thanks also to everyone who came and made the day so special.

Tomorrow morning, we look forward to the final weekend fixtures of 2023 with rugby and football matches against Wilmslow High and Stockport Grammar.



# 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*

I wish you and your families well for the weekend ahead.

Yours faithfully

Mr G A Wright  
Head Master

## The Sunday Times North West School of the Year



I am very proud to announce that Parent Power, The Times & Sunday Times Schools' Guide 2024, has ranked Altrincham Grammar School for Boys the top State Secondary School in the North West for Academic Performance. The guide, which is now available online has considered Schools' Public Exam results from the Summer of 2023.

This year, 28% of AGSB A Level grades were at A\*, 64% were A\*-A and 85% of passes were at A\*- B, a higher proportion than in any year before 2020. The average grade awarded was an A, and 19 Altrincham Grammar School for Boys students achieved A\* for all their A level subjects.

This is all testament to the impressive focus, resilience and ambition of our students alongside the pastoral and academic support of our expert teachers.

Click on this [LINK](#) to read the full story on our website.

**Mr G A Wright**  
**Head Master**



# 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*

## Mock Trials Competition



Well done to all the AGSB students who represented the School in the Mock Trials Competition at Manchester Crown Court last week. The team were commended for their quick thinking and ability to work off script.

## Year 8 Public Speaking House Competition



It was a packed event for the final Public Speaking competition of 2023 yesterday lunchtime.

Year 8 were debating "*Sport is only about winning.*" Excellent responses from both teams. The judges in particular praised how the best speakers projected their voices, so that the points landed with them. The quality of comments and research was evident, especially the range of quotes used.

The winning team was the Proposition - Massey and Stamford. Star performer was Ritvik N in his role as Secunder for the originality of his ideas and confidence. Star Performer for the Opposition was Adam B in his role as Questioner with his thought-provoking questions asked in response to the other side's arguments.

Results today: 1<sup>st</sup> Massey; 2<sup>nd</sup> Stamford; 3<sup>rd</sup> Bradbury; 4<sup>th</sup> Tatton. Many thanks to Ms Clark, Vishakh and Reyansh for judging; Jacob R for chairing, Mrs Marson for hosting and Seb W for being an excellent stagehand organising the library.



# 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*

Congratulations to all those who have taken part this term. This round of Public Speaking will be completed with Year 7 in January. Certificates for the winners will be awarded in assemblies soon.

**Mrs C Mahony**  
**Teacher of English and Library Co-Ordinator**

## AGSB Gardening Club

Now that winter is upon us, the Gardening Club has been preparing the eco garden for hibernation. Cardboard has been spread and rotted down leaves have been put over it to allow the soil to recover over winter. If any parents have good gardening equipment that they are happy to donate to the Gardening Club, please bring it to the School Reception. Many thanks!



**Mrs R Chapman**  
**On behalf of the**  
**Gardening Club**



## AGSB Art Department

A dedicated group of Year 7 students have been making stars over the last few weeks to hang in St Mary's Church, Bowdon.

They made a grand total of 90 stars, each made of two parts, so it felt like 180!

The students worked tirelessly through lunchtimes and some nights after school to meet the deadline. We can't wait to see them hung up in the Church when we come together as a school on the last day of term up at St Mary's.



Thank you to all the students who came and helped but special thanks goes to this dedicated bunch; Noah, Harry, Ethan, Leo James, Sai and James.

**Ms K Lee**  
**Art Department**



# 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*

## West Side Story November 2023



The cast, crew and band of West Side Story worked incredibly hard from when the auditions were held back in May to prepare for three nights of incredible music, drama and dancing!

Our wonderful cast was augmented by talented girls from AGGS, Loreto and Sale Grammar, who rehearsed alongside our boys every week to bring the show together. The orchestra did an amazing job of playing the score and our backstage team helped create the magic on stage with careful use of lighting and sound.

We are extremely proud of everyone involved in this project and their incredible professionalism throughout rehearsals and during show week.



# 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*



There were standing ovations at every performance!

Many thanks to our fantastic staff who worked so hard to put this all together, Mrs Jarratt, Ms Clark, Ms Hildage and Mr Monument and his brilliant orchestra. Thanks also to those members of staff who helped each evening.

## English Speaking Union Competition



Last week, we had two teams take part in round one of the English Speaking Union Public Speaking Competition. Both teams made it through to Round 2. They beat two teams from Loreto and a team from Fallibroome Academy. Well done to Leo B (11JM); Yuvan V (11CX); Vishakh S (10CM); Aadith M (10WL); Panchu N (10CM) and Sumed D (10CM).

**Miss E Chapman**  
**English Department/Head of Year 11**



# 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*

## Islamic Society Charity Week



The AGSB Islamic Society raised a fantastic £14,500 during the recent Charity Week, helping orphans around the world as well as various other emergency crises. They also attend the Islamic Relief Northern Dinner in Bradford where they won the 'Stars of the Future' Award.

Well done to everyone involved.

## POLECONUK

Last Monday, 12 of our Year 12 and 13 Politics students travelled to London to attend a series of political talks in Westminster.

After a 6.45am start at Piccadilly train station, the day commenced in London with an hour of sightseeing including Downing Street, the Palace of Westminster and Big Ben.

Speeches were given by some very well-known politicians with a wide range of political allegiances, including:



- the former Leader of the Labour Party, Jeremy Corbyn;
- the former Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, David Davis;
- Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg who received the loudest (if not the friendliest) welcome;
- Jess Philips, who until very recently was a member of the Shadow Cabinet - she got the vote as the most impressive speaker;
- Sajid Javid, the former Home Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer; and
- Chris Bryant, a current member of the Shadow Cabinet.

Each of the speakers took part in a question-and-answer session and the six hours of speeches provided some great insights into the life of an MP.

There remained the opportunity for some more sightseeing and dinner in London before returning home. A long and very interesting day.

**Tom Rimmer**  
**13CT**



# 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*

## National Concert Band Festival



Last weekend, the AGSB Concert Band travelled to Warwick School to take part in the National Concert Band Festival.

Mr Monument and the students were thrilled to receive a Platinum award for the Concert Band, and a Gold award for the Big Band. This achievement is particularly impressive given the fact that many of the pupils who featured in our school production of West Side story had to be able to play to such a high standard just one week later.

Special praise should go to the brass section of the Concert band, whose oldest members are only in Year 10.





# 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*

## Oxbridge Success



Fantastic to read in the Manchester Evening News that Altrincham Grammar School for Boys has the best record for sending students to Oxford or Cambridge University of any state-run Secondary School in Greater Manchester.

In 2022, AGSB also had the best record in terms of the proportion of its A Level students who went to Oxbridge. The 18 successful students worked out at just over one in 10 pupils (10.1%), which is a larger percentage than at any other state-funded Secondary School or College in our region.

## AGSB PFA Christmas Fair



A huge thank you to the fabulous PFA who organised and ran another amazing Christmas Fair last Sunday.

Thanks also to all parents and carers who kindly donated bottles and chocolate to the popular tombola and to everyone who attended and made the day so special.

The grand total raised this year was a staggering **£7623** with the Asian food stall raising nearly £2,000 alone.



# 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*

Tatton won the House Competition, raising an amazing £365. Massey raised £175, Stamford raised £166.75 and Bradbury raised £34. Well done to all those students who were involved.



## Ace Lecture Programme

Year 12 welcomed Mr Timothy Cho into school on Monday. Timothy Cho is a North Korean human rights activist and two-time defector. He has been imprisoned four times in North Korea and China.

Since arriving in the UK he has received a BA in International Relations & Politics from the University of Salford and an MA in International Relations and Security from the University of Liverpool. Timothy currently holds the position of co-Secretariat of the UK

All-Party Parliamentary Group on North Korea, in addition to serving as an Open Doors Spokesperson for Korea. He regularly speaks at conferences in the UK and internationally, including the 49th and 52nd





# 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*

United Nations Human Rights Council Sessions, where he addresses human rights, political and religious persecution in North Korea and other nations.

In his talk Timothy shared his harrowing experiences in North Korea and spoke about the power education has given him since coming to the UK. He urged Year 12 to use their excellent education at AGSB to make the world a better place.

Many thanks to Timothy for taking his time to visit our school, and thanks to Mrs. Ding for helping to organise the talk.

**Mr A Sampson**  
**Teacher of Philosophy/ACE Co-Ordinator**

## International Day of Persons with Disabilities



This week we celebrated International Day of Persons with Disabilities with Assemblies focusing on Neurodiversity.

Many thanks to Mrs Short and Mr Ayebare for delivering the Assemblies.



## AGSB Pupil Parliament



The inaugural session of the Pupil Parliament was held in the Coleman Hall this week.

The Pupil Parliament has been created by the Senior Prefect Team to improve pupil voice across the School. It was fantastic to see so many students from all Year Groups attend the session.

## Staff Wreath Making Christmas 2023

The AGSB staff were invited to attend the annual Wreath Making Class this week with Miss Cooke and Mrs Drake.

There was music, mulled wine and mince pies to get everyone into the Christmas spirit.





# 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*

## Well Done



(Left) Well done to Neil Randev (10SU) on passing his Piano Grade 5 Exam last week.

(Right) Year 12 students, Abdul-W H; Amr T; Abdullah K and Ayman A, have been volunteering at The Cedars Care Home in Bowdon over the last few weeks.

They have been doing a great job and are a real credit to the School.



## AGSB Sports

### Football



Some fantastic Saturday mornings of sport over the last few weeks.

We also have to thank Duncan Ross Limited for the brilliant drainage work on the pitches and to all those who supported the Sport For All Campaign. Only one match cancelled so far (due to ice)!

Year 7 are awaiting opponents in GM Plate; Year 8 are through to the Quarter Final of the Greater Manchester Cup to be played vs St Matthew's RC High School; Year 9 are awaiting opponents in the GM Plate; Year 10 are through to third round of the GM Cup - awaiting opponents; 1<sup>st</sup> XI through to the Quarter Final of GM Cup vs Trinity High School.

### Other Sports

In Rugby we enjoyed a competitive block fixture vs Stockport Grammar School . In Basketball, our Under 14 & 16 sides remain unbeaten after victories vs North Cestrian and BTH. Well done also to the Under 14 & 16 Badminton squads who are through to the Regional Finals.

Great results all round!



# 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*

## Cross Country



Well done to the AGSB Senior Cross Country squad who travelled to Woodbridge School in Ipswich to take part in the National Finals last weekend.

The competed admirably in difficult conditions against tough opposition.

Well done to Xander G, Will J, Ben C, Ben S, Ed L & Fin D.

## Sporting Achievements



Congratulations to Sai V (12MG) who was recently awarded his Karate Black Belt 2<sup>nd</sup> Dan.

## Kho-Kho

(Right) On Sunday 19th November, a squad of 11 consisting of AGSB, AGGS and Sale Grammar pupils travelled to the South Nottinghamshire Academy to represent Trafford Hindu Society in the annual North and Central Zone Dharmic games, in the sport: Kho-Kho. This is a University competition, and we were the only Sixth Form team there. The team led by Gautham R (Y13) and Arjun A (Y12) remained unbeaten throughout the group stages with ease, having beaten the likes of Cambridge and Warwick Universities. After defeating a formidable Sheffield side in the semi-finals, we progressed to the final in which we played a well-trained Manchester University team (who had an England player as their captain).



Finally, due to our hard-work and many training sessions, we were victorious and crowned champions of the competition and booked our places for the National competition in February.

If you are interested in learning more about the sport, sessions are held in the Grammar on a Wednesday lunchtime. We are looking forward to seeing as many new faces as possible to build an even stronger team for the upcoming national competition.

**Piyush K (Y12) and Arjun A (Y12)**



# 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*

## AGSB Charity Fundraising



There was an amazing atmosphere on the astroturf yesterday as the Year 9 students took part in 9PG's Football Tournament to raise money for charity. Some fantastic football was played and after a very tense final, the match ended 0-0 and it was time for sudden death penalties. A huge well done to 9PA who won 4-3 on penalties! The students raised an amazing £103.02 for charity!



Thank you to everyone who took part and donated.

**Miss C Pickering**  
**Form 9PG**

## SEND Support at AGSB



You can arrange an appointment to discuss a SEND issue, either at our weekly virtual SEND Clinic (Thursdays 1:30pm- 3:00pm) or at another suitable time.

### **Financial Support at AGSB**

You can apply for Free School Meals [here](#).

You can find out more about Pupil Premium support for Y7-Y11 [here](#).



You can find out more about Sixth Form Bursary support [here](#).

Information on discounted and free public transport for students aged 11-18 is available [here](#).

Help with funding UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) is available [here](#).

For all Inclusion related queries, please contact [acathcart@agsb.co.uk](mailto:acathcart@agsb.co.uk)

**Ms A Cathcart**  
**Assistant Head Inclusion/SENDco**



# 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

## Sodexo Christmas Lunch – Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December & Christmas Jumper Day



**Christmas at AGSB**

Yr 7 – 10 in Stamford Hall  
Yr 12 & 13 in 6<sup>th</sup> Form

**Join us on  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December for  
Our Festive Lunch**

**Roast Turkey Breast (H),  
Chipolata Sausage & Sage & Onion Stuffing**  
or  
**Bell Pepper Stuffed  
with Mushroom Risotto & Mozzarella**

**Roast Potatoes  
Carrots  
Sprouts  
Roast Gravy**

**£4.20**

The AGSB Christmas Lunch will take place on **Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December** in the Stamford Hall.

Please can Parents and Carers ensure that their son(s) have enough money on their Sodexo Card if they wish to buy lunch.

Students are invited to wear their festive Christmas Jumper on that day for a small donation of £1 to the 9PG's Whole School Charity Christmas Jumper Day. Students must wear their School uniform with their Christmas jumper under their blazers.

## 9PG'S Charity Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 all students can wear their Christmas Jumper for a donation of £1 to charity. Normal school uniform must be worn with the Christmas Jumper.

£1 payable on ParentPay.



## 9PG'S Charity Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023 all students can wear their Christmas Jumper for a donation of £1 to charity. Normal school uniform must be worn with the Christmas Jumper.

£1 payable on ParentPay.

## Noticeboard for Parents

Can we please remind Parents/Carers to ensure that School uniform has the student's name clearly labelled, particularly coats and PE Kit. We also have an increasing collection of water bottles and without a name, they cannot be reunited with their owners.



# 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

## Calendar Dates

Remember to keep an eye on our [School Calendar](#) for information on upcoming events.



### Forthcoming Key Dates are:

- \* 11.12.2023 - 21.12.2023: Y11 Exams
- \* 19.12.2023: A Level Awards Evening 5pm
- \* 20.12.2023: School Christmas Lunch for Students
- \* 21.12.2023: School Christmas Carol Service, St Mary's Bowdon
- \* 21.12.2023: School Closes for Christmas 12.20pm
- \* 08.01.2024: School Re-Opens for Spring Term 2024
- \* 11.01.2024 – 18.01.2024: Spanish Exchange Trip
- \* 12.01.2024 & 16.01.2024: GCSE Human Geography Fieldwork Trip to Ancoats
- \* 18.01.2024: Y8 Parents' Evening
- \* 23.01.2024 – 26.01.2024: Y13 Exams
- \* 31.01.2024: Y10 Parents' Evening



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys, Marlborough Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2RS.  
Telephone: 0161 928 0858. Email: [agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk](mailto:agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk)

**HAMBLIN** EDUCATION TRUST

