



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

6th May 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Welcome back to everyone following the Easter holiday. I hope you all had time to re-energise and relax as well as spending time with family and friends. As ever, it is great to have the pupils back and the School back to life, the Spring weather has certainly helped make the first two weeks back go as smoothly as possible.

Firstly, I must belatedly congratulate the AGSB Concert Band and Jazz Band who were both awarded a Gold award at the National NCBF Finals which were held in the first weekend of the holidays at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. This really is an incredible achievement on the national stage. Congratulations go both to the pupils and to Mr Monument and his team. I know how much hard work and practice they have put in this year so this is very much deserved.

Congratulations also go Ans, Satvik and Asadulla from Year 7 who have made it through to the National Finals in Cambridge on 27th June. This is the first time we have sent a representative from all three MFL disciplines (French, Spanish and German) to the National Finals. They are among just twelve finalists out of an initial entry of 3686 students in the North West Region.

'Tis the season of exams – Year 9 and Year 10 have already been put through their paces, Year 12 are mid-way through and then the main event begins in mid-May with the first GCSE and A'Level papers since 2019. It does feel as though we are under starter's orders. I would like to thank Mrs Howell, Mrs Lavin and Mrs Cliff from the Exams Office for all their hard work in making both the internal and external exams at AGSB run so smoothly. It is such an important function of the School and we are lucky to have such a dedicated team.

We have much to look forward to on the House System front this term. Events include: Tug O'War, Debating, Esports Smash, Music Solo Competition, Summer Sports Festival and, of course, our annual House Sports Day. I urge all students to get involved.

In sport, it really has been a pleasure to see the cricket pitches and tennis courts full of activity. AGSB cricketers have enjoyed a good deal of success already with a range of matches against schools such as King's Macclesfield, MGS and The Grange. This week our senior tennis squad was also in action defeating Sedbergh School in the National Cup.

On Thursday 12th May, we open our doors to the public for the first time since June 2019. We are thoroughly looking forward to showing off what we do here at ASGB during Open Evening 2022 (this event is for Year 5 pupils who are thinking of applying for September 2023 entry).

Yours faithfully

Mr G. A. Wright
Head Master



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Year 9 EducAid GeogSoc Talk – Sierra Leone



The Year 9 Geography students were recently treated to a fascinating talk from the founder of EducAid, Dr Miriam Mason-Sesay. EducAid is an educational charity which provide vital development and schooling aid across Sierra Leone. It was a humbling yet incredibly positive experience for students to listen to, and the

Geography Department plan to support this charity in the future.

We are also pleased to announce that our fundraising for this project has raised a fantastic £654.12 and we are very grateful to everyone who donated.

Mr M Bromley
Head of Geography

Astro Pi – Mission Space Lab



In the Easter holidays two teams from AGSB received some “Out of this World” news. Having already won through to the second round of the European Space Agency’s Astro Pi competition to design an experiment to be carried out on the International Space Station (ISS), we were informed that both team’s entries were so good that they had achieved “Flight

status”.

This means that during April their code was transmitted to the ISS and their experiments will run in space in orbit above the Earth. <https://astro-pi.org/mission-space-lab/>

Massive congratulations to team Pi Heads: Aiyush G, Alex V and Muhammad J. Their experiment exploits the Raspberry Pi’s Camera alongside the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) to quantify current vegetation distribution across the Earth’s surface and compare it with historical data. The aim is to combine the two datasets to train an auto-regressive model that can predict future changes in both plant coverage and health.

Team Graviton also did superbly: Alex G, Hassan S Mansoor S, Syed S, Saifullah S and Sheen B. Their experiment investigates 2 things:

1. The difference between the earth's physical and gravitational centre.
2. The correlation between land cover, cloud cover, water cover and the local strength of the Earth’s gravitational field.



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Both team's code run on board the ISS before the end of April after which their results will be sent back to AGSB for analysis. This could lead to some truly unique discoveries.

Dr S Squire
Head of Science

House Gaming Competition



A total of 112 students recently took part in the annual House Retro gaming competition playing the classic game Galaga, a game that was released back in 1981 and a firm favourite for any gamer of that era.

The students played the 2004 version online. If any parents wish to take on the challenge, the game link the students played is:

[Galaga - Play Game Instantly! \(freegalaga.com\)](http://freegalaga.com)

Leader board	1st	Seraphina S (Y13) Bradbury 40940 points
	2nd	Joseph B (Y12) Tatton 30170 points
	3rd	Dawei H (Y11) Tatton 28720 points
	4th	Matthew T (Y8) Bradbury 25030 points
	5th	Yash R (Y13) Bradbury 23020 points

Overall house winners (adding up the scores of every participant) are as follows:

House	Number of entries	Position	Accumulated points	Position	Overall position
Bradbury	41	1	423770	1	1
Tatton	24	2	292260	2	2
Massey	24	2	224070	3	3
Stamford	23	3	209620	4	4

Congratulations to Seraphina for achieving the highest score, even beating the legendary retro gamer, Mr Timmins!

Mr D Smith
House Manager (Bradbury)



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Year 7 National MFL Spelling Bee Competition



The MFL Department are delighted to announce that all three of our Year 7 contestants in the MFL Spelling Bee Regional Finals have made it to the National Finals in Cambridge on the 27th June. They are among just 12 finalists out of an initial entry of 3686 students in the North West Region.

Our congratulations go to Ans I (French) Satvik K (German) and Asadulla M (Spanish). They have achieved this through considerable personal effort and dedication over and above regular schoolwork. Additionally, they are competing in their first language learned at AGSB, having now moved on to their second! We continue to be impressed by the talent in languages displayed by our young students and we wish Ans, Satvik and Asadulla the very best of luck!

Mrs Gordon and Mrs Wallwork
MFL Department

DEC Ukraine Fundraising Event



Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, three Year 11 pupils undertook an incredibly successful fundraising campaign for DEC Ukraine. This involved contacting local businesses for prizes, speaking publicly on the issue and selling raffle tickets every lunchtime for two weeks.

The Food & Nutrition Dept lent fantastic support by hosting a 'Cook for Ukraine' event which was brilliantly attended and raised a substantial amount.

In total, Tim K, Daniel L and Alex V were able to raise **a staggering £1,657.17** with the brilliant support of the whole school community. A huge thank you to everyone who bought tickets, the Food and Nutrition Dept for their brilliant support and those local businesses who donated prizes:

- Crescent Dental Care in Hale
- Manchester City Football Club
- Rose and Grey Homeware Altrincham
- Pizza Express Hale
- A Nice Sip Arndale
- Victors Hale
- Sale Golf Club
- Belgian Bar Altrincham
- Zero Gravity Floatation Spa Altrincham



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- Evuna Altrincham
- Everyman Cinema Altrincham

Well done also to those Sixth Form students who gave up coffees and treats for a week and raised £180.02 for the DEC Ukraine Appeal.

Mrs E Chapman
Head of Year 11

AGSB Creative Writing Club



Congratulations to Daniel B in Year 7 who has had his winning poem published in the latest book of 'Empowered' poetry. What a fantastic achievement; I look forward to reading more of his work in future Creative Writing Club sessions.

Mrs Haines
English Department

AGSB Music – Alderley Edge Festival



Congratulations to Michael, Daniel, Jamie and Alex, all in Year 11, who won first place in the Small Instrument Ensemble at the Alderley Edge Festival this week.

Well done to our wonderful String Orchestra led by Zoe Burke, played beautifully by all.

Mrs Jarratt
Music Department





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AGSB Futures -Careers Newsletter

Please see the link to the latest Careers Newsletter updating learners, parents and carers about what's been happening within the Careers Department as well as details of upcoming careers events.

<https://sway.office.com/vkP6BujRTSdxvtwZ?ref=Link>

Mr Gallamore
Head of Careers

Sporting Achievements



Congratulations to Nathan P and Kuba J (Y8) and Freddie S and Lucca R (Y9) who were part of Timperley's U14s boys' Lacrosse team at the recent North Flags festival. The annual weekend of finals represented the culmination of the knockout competitions for both the North (and South of England) lacrosse leagues, where multiple finals took place across both junior and senior age group competitions in the North, and South, over the same weekend. Taking place in Rochdale, Timperley U14s boys were successful in winning the U14 Boys Plate Final against Sheffield 9-7 gaining the trophy (photo left). Well done to all who took part.

Lacrosse doesn't get much attention but dates back to 1876 when Queen Victoria watched a game between a team of Iroquois Indians and Canadians at Windsor!

Well done to Philip S (7PG) (right) who recently competed in the Trafford Athletics Club regional open medal meeting and won gold in both 75m (9.98 sec) and 150m (19.61) races, breaking the club record for both distances in the process. What a fantastic achievement!



Congratulations



Congratulations to Ali M (12BK) and Hamzah A (11ST) who have both successfully applied for an AFS scholarship which means that they will be heading to Egypt for four weeks in the summer this year to look at the environmental sustainability issues and initiatives there.

Well done to Joseph S (7HI) (right) who has just passed his Grade 5 Piano Certificate after lots of dedicated practising!





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Chad's Challenges



The Sixth Form are very proud to have on the wall, the newly printed 'AGSB together with family and friends of Chadwick Mulholland' coin.

This is a special recognition of the fundraising that has been achieved over the years.

*Mrs G Williamson
Sixth Form Officer*

AGSB Sports Report



Cricket

Well done to our new Year 7 Cricket team on their win at Grange School. They are showing great potential for upcoming games. They hit 118 and bowled the opponents out for 31.



The U15s Cricket team, sadly the run the national cup came to an end with narrow defeat losing to MGS by 3 runs. Special mention to Zach T who hit an impressive 84, he was also playing up a year.

The cricket season has now commenced. All afterschool training and lunchtime practices are on the Sports+ timetable and will be placed on SOCs. You can also find all Saturday fixtures on SOCs.

Athletics

Our first Athletics meet is on Wednesday 11th May where our U13 and U15 squads will be competing in the ESAA first round at Longford Park.

Football

Our Year 8 Football Team have reached the Trafford Cup Final. The game will be played on Thursday, 19th May at Ashton-on-Mersey School. Good luck to all involved.



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Tennis

Tennis has expanded every year at AGSB for the past 10 years and 2022 is no exception. Summer tennis lessons have started and over 100 students are getting high quality lessons at all different levels.

Earlier this year our Year 7 & Year 8 team tennis A team finished off last season with a well fought runner up place in the Regional finals in Sunderland. Our U18's followed this up with also a runner up spot in the Regional finals.

This season is the first time the School has entered an A and B team into the National U18s Knockout cup (Glanville Cup) and I am pleased to say that both teams are through to the regional semi-finals. If we win both matches, then the two teams will face each other in the finals to progress to the area finals (last 32 in the country).

Our 6 junior teams have also made a very good start to the team tennis season. Both our A teams are undefeated and looking to progress to another regional finals trip to Sunderland.

Mr S Meakin
Head of PE (Sport)

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





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Forthcoming dates for May and June 2022

12.05.2022	Open Evening 5pm to 7.30pm (School closes at 12.20pm)
13.05.2022	School Opens at 10am for Pupils
18.05.2022	Sport For All Campaign Parents' Reception 7pm - 9pm
27.05.2022	School Closes for Half-Term
06.06.2022 – 09.06.2022	Y7 and Y8 Exams
06.06.2022 – 08.06.2022	Y12 Geography Field Trip to Blencathra
13.06.2022	School Closed for Staff Development Day
22.06.2022 – 24.06.2022	Y12 Geology Field Trip to the Vale of Eden
23.06.2022	Art Exhibition of GCSE & A Level Work 5pm – 7pm
24.06.2022	Y13 Book Return Day 11am to 1pm
26.06.2022	PFA Summer Fair
28.06.2022	Y11 Transition & Book Return Day 9am to 11am

AGSB Vacancies

We are recruiting a Food & Nutrition Teacher from September 2022. For further information, please click on this [LINK](#).

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

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