



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

18th November 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Last week we held our Remembrance Assemblies. The Sixth Form Senior Prefect Team led an incredibly poignant and moving set of assemblies with each student speaking with resolute pride and passion for the former pupils of AGSB who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the 2 World Wars. The assembly was largely dedicated to the memory of those British and Argentinean service personnel who lost their lives in the Falklands Conflict 40 years ago.

This week, members of the Senior Prefect team have again been in action delivering excellent assemblies in support of the national Anti-Bullying week. Thank you to all pupils and staff who came to School on Thursday wearing odd socks. Pulling on a couple of odd socks might not seem like much, but it is an opportunity to encourage our young people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality in their own way, as well as recognising the fact that we are all different.

AGSB has become increasingly connected to our Alumni of late, largely thanks to our Head of Careers – Mr Gallamore (who is also an Old Alt). This week we welcomed back Luke Kwan who talked about his experience, so far, as a product creation degree apprentice at Jaguar Land Rover. Luke talked through the wide variety of projects he has been involved with, as well as showcasing the benefits of pursuing the degree apprenticeship pathway in comparison to the traditional degree route.

Yesterday we welcomed former Head Boy Alistair Allen, who is Managing Director at Rothschild & Co who delivered a fascinating talk alongside two other Alumni, Matt Jaquiss-Ollier (Assistant Director) and Jonathan Brown (Associate). Rothschild & Co are one of the largest Global Financial Services groups with over 60 offices in more than 40 countries. They specialise in Global Advisory, Wealth Management, Asset Management and Merchant Banking.

On Wednesday evening, we held our first 'face to face' 6th Form Open Evening since 2019. It was marvellous to welcome so many internal and external students into School. They were given an excellent snapshot of life in the 6th Form and great insight into what is in store for them post-GCSEs here at AGSB.

Last Saturday our Cross-Country squads (Juniors, Inters & Seniors) travelled North to Sedbergh School to compete in the NW finals. Congratulations go to the Juniors & Seniors who progress to the National finals with the Juniors being crowned NW Champions. What an achievement!

We are greatly looking forward to Les Miserable next week. I hope to see many Parents and Carers in attendance.

Tomorrow morning, I will be travelling to The Manchester Grammar School to support our 1st XI football team who are playing MGS in the 4th round of the National Cup (last 64). I am hoping that it will be our day!

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

Yours faithfully

Mr G A Wright
Head Master



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Remembrance Services 2022



Our annual Remembrance Day Services took place again this year in the Coleman Hall with the focus on the 1982 invasion of the Falklands.

Many thanks to the Senior Prefect team for their participation and well done to all of the students who behaved impeccably.

"We will remember them"



AGSB Chess



The Ivan Gromov league was in action again last week and both teams played. The results were:

AGSB A v Eton College C

A win for us 5-1 (Sai V, Hugo W, Sithun DS, Franciszek M and Gautham R)

AGSB B v Tiffin School B

A loss for us 1.5 - 4.5 (our only winner was Felix T)

At the moment, more through stats and lucky draws admittedly, we are second in the league – see here for full League information: <https://ecflms.org.uk/lms/node/124601/table>.

On Thursday night this week, both teams played Urmston. The B team achieved a 3-3 draw, the A team a 5.5-0.5 win. The A team have now qualified for the North West regional knockouts of the U19 ESCC, which take place next term. The B team still have the opportunity to take part in an online event to attempt to qualify also.

Next Thursday, 24 Nov, is the last Ivan Gromov league match of the term and the teams are likely to be drawn against one of the big hitters, so good luck to everyone taking part!

Dr V Sully
Teacher of Chemistry/Head of Chess



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House Photography Competition

We had 231 excellent entries for the recent House Photography Competition which was judged by our House Sponsors, and our Senior Leadership Team. The winning entries are above – very well done to all!

Below left – Lucas D-T (13BK) KS5 winner



Below right – Liam R (9SU) KS3 winner



Right - Theo C (10FB)
KS4 winner



The points are as follows:

KS3 (Y7-9)

- 1st place goes to L Rhodes (Bradbury)
- 2nd place goes to T Hill (Massey)
- 3rd place goes to L Ye (Bradbury)

KS5 (Y12-13)

- 1st place goes to L Diaz Thorpe (Bradbury)
- 2nd place goes to C Cross (Massey)
- 3rd place goes to J Lees (Stamford)

KS4 (Y10-11)

- 1st place goes to T Croquette (Massey)
- 2nd place goes to W Draper (Massey)
- 3rd place goes to D Parekh (Massey)

Staff Entries:

- 1st place goes to Mr Timmins (Tatton)
- 2nd place goes to Mrs Blakeley (Bradbury)
- 3rd place goes to Mrs Lord (Bradbury)



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Safe Drive, Stay Alive



As a part of their Sixth Form enrichment curriculum, all of Year 13 were taken to a talk on road safety called 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive', in Middleton last week.

'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' is a road safety initiative that aims to empower young drivers to make safe driving choices. Year 13 heard from members of the emergency services, and family members who had lost loved ones as a result of dangerous driving and poor road choices. The powerful message was one that will remain with our

students as they take their first steps as road users, with a new profound understanding of the consequences their actions can have.

Thank you to 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' for the time and effort that went into the talk to deliver the pertinent message, and thank you to all members of staff who accompanied the students.

Mr A Sampson
Teacher of Philosophy
Sixth Form Enrichment/ACE Co-Ordinator

Y10 House Public Speaking Competition

The Year 10 House Public Speaking Competition was held last week and the motion was *'This House Believes That: With a growing housing crisis in the UK, owning second homes should be banned'*.

The competition was of a high standard and was contested in front of a large audience of students from across the School in the New Library. It was won by the proposition, consisting of Harry C & Leo B (Stamford) and Leo W & Seb W (Tatton). Leo W was awarded star performer for his well-structured and engaging arguments as Seconder, which gave Tatton first place. The defeated opposition team consisted of Tosin A & Marley I (Massey) and Ethan X and Aaric P (Bradbury). Tosin was highly persuasive in his role as Responder and so Massey was awarded third place.



Many thanks to Ms Chapman, 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.

Mr N Croxton
Head of History & Politics



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Year 9 House Public Speaking Competition

The Year 9 House Public Speaking Competition was held on Thursday and the motion was *'This House Believes That: Past events and people should not be judged by the morals of the present day'*.

The participants dealt effectively with a complex motion and presented a good range of arguments in front of a packed audience in the Old Library. It was won by the opposition, consisting of Zach S & Rey B (Massey) and Panchu N & Taha C (Bradbury). Panchu was awarded star performer for his persuasive contribution as seconder, which gave Bradbury first place. The defeated proposition team consisted of Bhargav K & Daim S (Stamford) and Ali D & Madhav A (Tatton). Bhargav and Daim were both commended by the judges and so Stamford was awarded third place.



Many thanks to Mr Birchall, Ms Frankland, Ms Chapman, Mr Davies & Ben B-J (Y13) for judging the competition and to all other staff who came along to support the students. The Year 8 House Public Speaking competition is next on the 8th December and the motion is *'THBT: Video game violence encourages aggressive behaviour'*.

Mr N Croxton
Head of History & Politics

House University Challenge



It was great to see the return of our House University Challenge to the 6th Form Centre this week.

Many thanks to Mr Flanagan for organising.



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Chad's Challenge SUMO Wrestling Competition



Incredible scenes at the AGSB Annual Staff SUMO Wrestling Challenge on Wednesday lunchtime this week! Congratulations to Mr Birchall (defending Champion) on defeating Mr Parker in a very competitive final. Great fun was had by all and £566 was raised for Chad's Challenge. Many thanks to all students and staff who paid to watch!

Old Altrinchamian

It was great to welcome Old Alt – Luke Kwan – back to AGSB this week. Luke is a 5th year Product Creation Degree Apprentice at Jaguar Land Rover. Luke talked to our current students about the projects he is involved with and showed some brilliant videos of what he's been working on including an App which can park the car for the owner without them even being in the car.

He also talked about the apprenticeship pathway, and how it would compare to someone wanting to pursue Engineering at University.



Mr A Gallamore
Head of Careers



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AGSB Alumni



It is always great to see former students and on Thursday this week, we welcomed former Head Boy, Alistair Allen, Managing Director and Head of the Manchester team at Rothschild & Co, who delivered a fascinating talk alongside two other Old Alt's, Matt Jaquiss-Ollier (Assistant Director) and Jonathan Brown (Associate).

AGSB Gardening Club



AGSB's Gardening Club 'GROW' were selling Thai Spiced Pumpkin Soup 🍲 at lunchtime last week to raise funds for next season's seeds and compost.

The soup was been made from squash and pumpkins grown in our very own School garden which staff really enjoyed 😊.

Thank you to the Gardening Club and to the Food & Nutrition Department for their culinary skills!



Sporting Successes

Well done to Alex M (12CN) who plays lacrosse for the U18 England National squad. Alex has been invited to attend a Performance Sport Day at Nottingham Trent Day in December which is an introduction to the NTU Performance Sport Programme including participation in mock training sessions, speaking with current NTU performance athletes and scholarship opportunities for studying at the University.



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Congratulations to Rory H (9CM) who has been asked to go on the UK Lions Hockey Tour to Barcelona in December.



Well done to all those who took part in the NW Cross Country Finals at Sedbergh School. It was a beautiful sunny Saturday and AGSB were represented at Juniors, Inters and Seniors. Well done to the Juniors and Seniors who progress to the National Finals with the Juniors being crowned North West Champions!



Please click on this [LINK](#) to read about a terrific half term of Sport at AGSB. The School is enjoying regional and national success across a range of sports, including football, rugby, hockey and tennis.

Charity Fundraising



After two days of performances, dances and food, the Hindu, Sikh and Jain Society are pleased to announce that Utsav 2022 raised a fantastic **£4,500!**

This money will go to two local charities: Wythenshawe Foodbank and Centrepont UK, who help combat food poverty and homelessness in the youth.

A huge thank you to all those who attended, whether to volunteer or to enjoy the event.

Soham Bhansali - Hindu, Sikh & Jain Society



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6th Form Open Evening



It was fantastic to see so many attendees at our 6th Form Open Evening on Wednesday night this week.

Dates for your Diary



On the 6th 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.

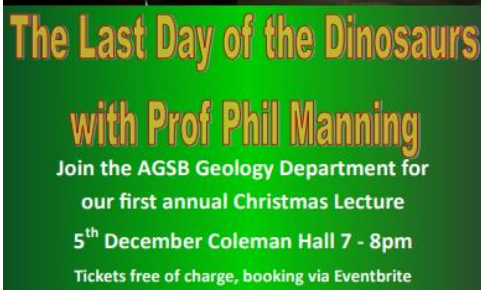
To purchase tickets, please click on this [LINK](#).

Guest Speaker – Professor Philip Manning



We are delighted to welcome Professor Philip Manning from the University of Manchester to share his insights on the last day of the dinosaurs. Prof Manning recently helped produce **Dinosaurs – The Final Day**, with Sir David Attenborough which aired on the BBC earlier this year. He is a world leading Palaeontologist as well as the Chair of Natural History and Director of the Interdisciplinary Centre for Ancient Life at the University of Manchester.

Prof Manning has agreed to deliver our inaugural annual Geology Christmas Lecture on the **5th December**. To reserve your place, please book a ticket via Eventbrite [HERE](#).





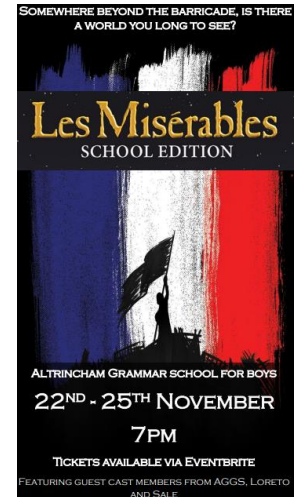
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AGSB Production of Les Miserables

Tuesday 22nd to Friday 25th November 2022

We are now less than a week away from 'curtain up' of the School Production of Les Miserables and the anticipation is rising. This week, we took delivery of the set which is making it all very real now!



There are still some tickets available on Eventbrite and if you want to buy tickets please click on this [LINK](#).

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 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 November and December 2022

Tue 22.11.2022 – 25.11.2022	School Production of Les Miserables @ 7pm
Wed 30.11.2022	Y10 Work Experience Information Evening for Parents
Thu 01.12.2022	Year 7 Parents' Evening – Online
Sun 04.12.2022	PFA Christmas Fair – 12 noon to 3pm
Mon 05.12.2022 – Fri 16.12.2022	Year 11 Exams
Mon 05.12.2022	Geology Lecture by Prof Phil Manning – 7pm
Tue 06.12.2022	An Evening with Alex Bescoby – 7pm
Thu 08.12.2022	Year 13 Parents' Evening – Online
Fri 09.12.2022	Chad's Challenge Christmas Jumper Day
Mon 12.12.2022	A Level Awards Evening – 5pm
Wed 14.12.2022	School Christmas Lunch
Fri 16.12.2022	School Church Services at St Mary's Bowdon
	School Closes at 12.20pm for Christmas Holidays

AGSB PFA



AGSB PFA Auction Of Promises

A reminder that the AGSB PFA Auction of Promises has only a few days left to run and closes on **Sunday, 20th November at 9pm**.

You can bid on any of the Auction Lots by clicking on this [LINK](#).

Odd Socks Day

ODD SOCKS DAY FOR ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



It was great to see so many students wearing their "odd socks" on Thursday. We have had Assemblies all this week which were delivered by the Senior Prefect Team focusing on Anti-Bullying Week.

Anti-bullying Week is co-ordinated in England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place from the 14th to the 18th November 2022 and has the theme 'Reach Out'.

Odd Socks Day is a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique in Anti-Bullying Week. Pulling on a couple of odd socks might not seem like much, but it was an opportunity to encourage students to express themselves and celebrate their individuality in their own way, as well as recognising the fact that we are all different.



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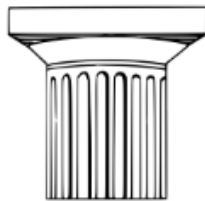
Noticeboard for Parents

Please can we remind Parents and Carers to use the correct entry and exit gates in The Grammar Gym car park when dropping off or collecting your children from after school sports. We have had instances lately when cars are driving in through the exit resulting in near collisions with other cars exiting.

School Absences

A reminder that any requests for term time absences such as additional holidays etc, must be made through the Leave of Absence request form found under the Parents' tab on our website which can be found [HERE](#), with at least four weeks' notice. Requests must be submitted for the consideration of the Head Master and authorisation will be at his discretion in all circumstances. The School focus is on the highest level of education for its students and wish to discourage absences that prevent that. Any absences not agreed by the Head Master will be registered as unauthorised and may result in a Penalty Notice being issued. However, we do understand that there are some circumstances where you may have very little notice of an absence, therefore the earliest notification would be appreciated.

AGSB Agora



Agora

AGS News By Students, For Students

We are very proud to announce the creation of the new 'AGS Agora' an online news platform created by students from AGSB and AGGS by students for students.

Thanks to the great support from teachers from both Schools, and students with a great drive to push the project forward, AGS Agora has now come to fruition. Students from both schools can write articles on any subjects they are passionate about which is a great way to delve deeper into hobbies, and a great addition to a university application. An email will be sent out on Monday, 21st November for any student who is interested in contributing. If you want to check it out, click [HERE](#).

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

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