



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

10th February 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Yesterday in assembly, the AGSB community paid their respects to all those affected by the series of devastating earthquakes hitting Turkey and Syria on Monday, 6th February 2023. All students have been made aware that if they are experiencing difficulties or suffering anxiety or upset, and would like some extra support, or just want someone to talk to, they should contact their Head of Year or Mr Hall (Deputy Head – Pastoral).

Furthermore, the AGSB Islamic Society will be holding their Asian Food Sale shortly after we return from half-term (13th and 14th March) and they will be donating the monies raised to the Earthquake Appeal. There will also be an “Own Clothes Day” on the 17th March to raise further funds for the relief effort.

Assemblies this week have been expertly delivered by members of the AGSB LGBTQ+ Society who focused on some key historical events from across the globe. LGBTQ+ History Month is held every February to raise awareness of, and combat prejudice against, LGBTQ+ people and history.

The AGSB PFA have been meeting regularly to plan future events and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Co-Chairs of the Association and all PFA members for their engagement and commitment in support of the School. Already this year we have seen the PFA fund external speakers, a new sound system for the Coleman Hall, Chinese ink painting sessions, new outdoor furniture and basketball hoops.

Last week the Year 7 Spelling Bee took place in the Coleman Hall and the students involved took the competition extremely seriously and performed brilliantly! I wish the winners the very best of fortune in the forthcoming regional rounds.

Remaining on the competition front, congratulations go to Tosin, Leo and Zach from Year 10 who have made it through to the next round of the ESU Public Speaking Competition. Well done to our Senior Chess Squad who won the regional final against Cheadle Hulme School and have now qualified for the U19 English Schools’ Chess Championship National Finals in June. The AGSB MUN team won Best Delegation (again!) at the Manchester High MUN Conference, and we have enjoyed great success in both the Physics Olympiad and the UK Maths Challenge.

There have already been some excellent House events in 2023. Students have taken part in House public speaking, debating, football, Geography quiz, Spelling Bee and Chess. The main event for next term is the House ‘AGSB’s Got Talent’ which is taking place after School on the 13th March. (See over for ticket information).

I would like to finish by wishing you all a safe and relaxing half term and we look forward to welcoming your son back to School on Monday, 20th February.

Yours faithfully

Mr G A Wright
Head Master



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys

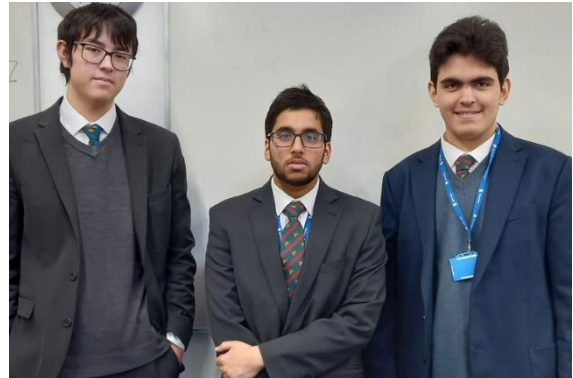
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Ritangle 2022 Competition

Congratulations to the team of Sixth Form Students who reached the final stage of the Ritangle Maths Competition. To do this they completed a series of 30 weekly challenges from October through to the end of the year! Well done to all who took part.



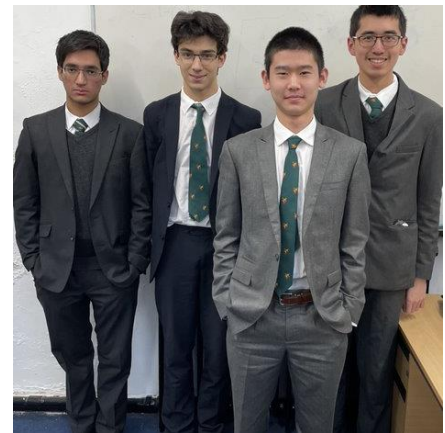
L-R: Alex V, Ibrahim J (Team captain) & Gautham R



L-R: Joe C, Arnav G & Arya M (Team Captain)



L-R: Ian C, Leo R, Naqib M, Giulio B, Sulayman C (Team Captain) and Sunain Syed



L-R: Amaan A, Isaac A-W, Liheng S (Team Captain) & Piotr Breda

AGSB PSHE



Our Year 7 pupils recently enjoyed a number of workshops with “Respect ME”, an international PSHE project offering a unique and complementary approach to RSE and self-esteem education.



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Chess Club



The AGSB Chess team played their regional final against Cheadle Hulme School this week and won 4.5 – 1.5 and now qualify for the U19 English School's Chess Championship National Finals in June! Congratulations to everyone who took part, what a great achievement!

Dr V Sully
Teacher of Chemistry

Guest Speaker

It was great to welcome back student Krish Bhatia who came in to deliver a fascinating talk about his Degree Apprenticeship in law. Krish works for the London Firm, Simmons & Simmons LLP



Mr A Gallamore
Head of Careers

GCSE Options Evening



We had a great turn out for the GCSE Options Evening last week. Many thanks to our Deputy Head (Academic), Mrs Weil, for taking Parents through the process.

Model United Nations



Congratulations to the AGSB MUN team who won Outstanding Delegation at the MUN Conference last weekend at Manchester High School for Girls.



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RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch

Some of our environmental ambassadors did a great job of placing bird food around the School grounds last week in preparation for the RSPB's Big Schools' Birdwatch which involves counting the number of birds in the School grounds in order to join in with the world's largest wildlife survey.



Many thanks to the Gardening Club for their help also!

Year 13 House Debating Competition



The Year 13 House Debating competition was held today and the motion was 'THBT: UK government terms should be increased to ten years to facilitate more positive long-term change'. The standard was very high and the result closely contested. It was ultimately won by the proposition, consisting of Oliver K-D & Radin K (Stamford) and Micah W & Isam P (Bradbury). Stamford was awarded first place by virtue of Radin's articulate and persuasive

well-argued contributions to some challenging questions during the floor debate. The defeated proposition team consisted of Abdullah A & George A (Massey) and Gaurav B & Sammy B (Tatton). 'Star Performer' for the opposition was Sammy for his perceptive and highly effective contributions in the floor debate. Thanks to Ms Clark and Ben B-J (Y13) for judging and to all other staff who came along to support the students. Turnout from across a range of year groups was excellent for a Sixth Form competition.

Mr Croxton
Head of History/Politics

English Speaking Union



Congratulations to Y10 students Tosin A, Leo B and Zach T who have made it through to the next round of the ESU Public Speaking Competition.

Good luck!



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Year 12 Physics Olympiad



Our Year 12 students have again taken part in the British Physics Olympiad which is open to all schools in the UK. The aim is to encourage the study of Physics and recognise excellence in young physicists through twelve annual Physics and Astronomy & Astrophysics competitions. The competitions are designed to test understanding and problem solving skills and are open to able young physicists.

This year a total of 290 schools took part and 5,585 pupils and AGSB were awarded 8 Gold medals, 7 Silver medals and 4 Bronze medals. A special mention goes to Alex V (12SM) who got Gold medal and came top out of all of the 5,585 pupils who took part! AGSB were also top with our results.



This is an absolutely amazing result and the students were supported by Mr Reeder and Mr Suthard who ran an Olympiad support session every Monday lunchtime! Cambridge University who organise this competition said that they were extremely impressed with AGSB's scores and results.

Well done to everyone who took part!

Mr L Suthard
Teacher of Physics



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MFL Spelling Bee Competition



On the 2nd February, all Year 7 students were invited to the Coleman Hall to watch their class language champions compete in the MFL Spelling Bee. The 20 competitors worked independently to memorise 150 words in either French, German, or Spanish - no mean feat! They were enthusiastically cheered on as they took their turn to remember and spell out as many of these words as possible in a minute. The competition was very close run and our congratulations go to the winners: Rohit K (French), Aryan D (German) and Arush B (Spanish). These students will represent AGSB at the Regional Competition and we hope the National Final at the University of

Cambridge. Very well done to all participants!

Mrs G Gordon
Teacher of MFL



LGBTQ+ History Month



AGSB is proud to continue its support of and champion LGBTQ+ History month.

The LGBTQ+ Society have been working very hard over the past few weeks to prepare for a flurry of activities for LGBTQ History month which started last week and runs through the whole of February. We've had an LGBTQ Thought For the Week, assemblies in the Coleman Hall, case studies on a noticeboard in reception, surrounded by rainbow themed decorations, as well as a House competition to design a t-shirt. All these initiatives have allowed the School to look at the past and the present of LGBTQ rights and also allowed us to celebrate and look towards a bright future. Many thanks to the LGBTQ Society who have worked hard to produce all these materials as well as Mr Flanagan, Miss Frankland and Mr Croxton, who have provided support and expertise.



Mrs S Chancellor
LGBTQ+ Society



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3D Printer Success for Design & Technology



Our Year 12 Engineers have bid successfully for £1,000 worth of rapid prototyping hardware to support their research project. Aiyush G (12PT), Gautham R (12SM), Alex V (12SM), Seb H (12EL) and Ibrahim J (12EL) all forwarded a research proposal to the Hack Club to fund a project based around electronics and fluid mechanics. Their aim is to construct a radio controlled car and simulate the air-flow using fluid mechanics that can be simulated in Fusion 360, an industry standard CAD package that we use in

Design and Technology. The rapid prototyping hardware will be used to manufacture the car body parts ready for testing.

We are excited to have taken delivery of two different 3D printer types. One uses thermoplastic to build the designs in layers whilst the other uses the new resin and UV technology to provide higher resolution outcomes. Congratulations to the team for securing the funding. If you would like to learn more about this project, you can visit the [Website Here](#).

Mr R Baker
Head of Design and Technology



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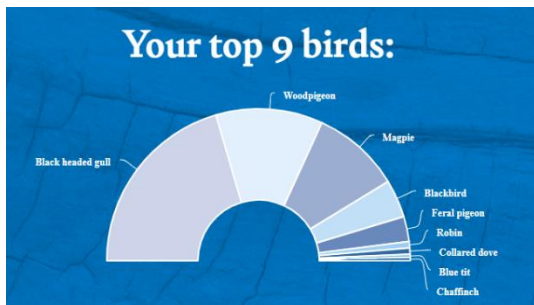
AGSB Library

The AGSB Library have been sharing the love of reading this week to celebrate Valentine's Day and have had their infamous "blind date" with a book together with the return of our excellent puns!

Mrs C Mahony
Library Co-Ordinator



AGSB Environmental



Congratulations to the Environmental Ambassadors who took part in the 'RSPB Big Schools' Birdwatch' last week. The team spent the weekend making bird seed mix which was distributed around the school on Monday in preparation for the big 'Birdwatch' on Thursday the 2nd of February. Our dedicated team spent an hour on the school grounds recording the birds they encountered and entered the data on the RSPB website and achieved a certificate for

their efforts. The students observed over 140 individual birds and enjoyed their experience taking part in some community science. They look forward to their next environmental project after the half term.

Well done team!

Mr P Williams
Geography Department





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Oxbridge Success



For the full story of the 19 AGSB students who have been awarded Oxbridge offers please click [HERE](#).

Study Skills Session for Parents and Carers of Students in Years 11 and 13



Parents and Carers of students in Years 11 and 13 have received a letter from Dr Thomas, Assistant Head (Teaching & Learning) inviting them to attend a Study Skills Session in School on **Tuesday, 7th March at 4.30pm**. This will be delivered by Martin Griffin from the VESPA Academy, a teacher with over 20 years' experience. This session is being run to help Parents and Carers to support their children with their revision and exam preparation. Tickets are FREE but must be booked through Eventbrite so that we have an idea of how many people to expect. If you are interested, please click [HERE](#).



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AGSB House Competitions – Tickets are Free!

BATTLE OF THE BANDS
Monday 13th March 3:30-5pm.
NOT A HOUSE COMPETITION!

- Two songs per band
- Email Mr Monument by 20th Feb to enter.
- The winning band will also play an encore to close the show.
- sound check on Friday 10th March @3:30
- Bands of all age and abilities will be accepted.

AGSB's got TALENT

- Open entries to the competition, house points awarded for **EVERY ENTRY!**
- Upload an audition video below by 20th Feb.
- House Managers will select two performances per house.
- We are looking for a variety show (comedians, juggling, gymnastics, dance, magic, didgeridoo, sitar, poetry, a skit, cultural performance, yo-yo, etc).

There will be a winner for each of the separate competitions, which will be decided by a vote on the evening.

*There will be bonus house points for the house with the most (loudest) audience members.

Get your FREE tickets here! Submit your entry here!

On Monday, 13th March (3:30pm - 5pm), AGSB will host two competitions combined into one spectacular event. We are looking for entries!

Battle of the Bands and AGSB's Got Talent

Battle of the bands 3:30pm -4:15pm

AGSB's Got Talent 4:15pm - 4:50pm

Results announced at 4:55pm and the winning band will close the show at 5pm.

Tickets are free – but you must reserve one. Click [HERE](#) *Students must book their own tickets.

We are looking to fill the Coleman Hall with pupils to watch this event. **(Parents and Carers may come too!).**

*There will be bonus House points for the House with the most (loudest) audience members.

AGSB's Got Talent - A House Competition!

Have you got a talent? Open entries to the competition, House points awarded for every entry.

Upload an audition video [HERE](#) by Monday, 20th February.

House Managers will select two performances per house to perform at the show.

We are looking for a variety show (comedians, juggling, gymnastics, dance, magic, didgeridoo, sitar, poetry, a skit, cultural performance, yo-yo, etc).

There will be a maximum of one traditional music performance per House at the actual show.

There will be a winner for each of the separate competitions which will be decided by an online vote at the end!

Battle of the Bands – Not a House competition

Each band will play two songs to open the show and students should enter by e-mailing Mr Monument as soon as possible, or by Monday, 20th February.

The winning band will also play an encore to close the show.

There will be a sound check on Friday 10th March 3:30pm - 4:30pm. Bands must be represented at this sound check.

Bands of all age and abilities will be accepted.

Mr M Soulsby
Assistant Head (Development)



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AGSB Sports



Well done to the AGSB U15s Hockey team who came away in 3rd place in the MGS PowerPlay Tournament last week.

With 6 wins and 2 losses, it was a great tournament with some fantastic hockey played throughout.

Top 200 sporting schools of 2022	
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AGSB Sport recognised on the national stage

Congratulations to everyone involved with sport at AGSB. We have been placed 68th out of all schools in England which is testament to the values and hard work put in by colleagues and students, as well as excellent support from parents. Fantastic achievement!

Sporting Achievements



Success at the Taekwondo English Championships for three AGSB students!

Very well done to Shlok D (7UN) (left) who recently won a Bronze medal in the sparring category.



Congratulations to Eesa S (11CK) (right) who won a Gold medal in sparring and a Silver medal in patterns (up to Green Belt).



Also, well done to Sami A (11CK) (left) who became a Black Belt (15-17).

Great successes all round!



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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.



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.

Are you entitled?

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

Well Done

Well done to Bertie S (13DV) who gave blood for the first time recently. Bertie was keen to get started as soon as possible (you have to be 17) and he said it was worth it just for the chocolate biscuits afterwards!



AGSB ISOC

Well done to the AGBS ISOC team who, after an extremely successful Charity Dinner and a Football Tournament, have managed to raise the grand total of £12,908.81! This amazing sum of money will be given to the Charity, Orphans in Need.

Thank you to everyone involved.





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AGSB Charity Fundraising

**ALTRINCHAM
vs CANCER**

Altrincham Vs Cancer is back!

The week commencing 20th February, we will begin our campaign to raise awareness regarding cancer, as well as raise funds to tackle and prevent it.

Throughout the week, there will be assemblies which will be about raising awareness of the cause and informing you about the reality of cancer. It will involve a guest speaker called Tony Collier who is a Stage IV prostate cancer patient who will talk us through his experience with cancer, and how it has affected him. We will have 6th Form students with buckets at the doors of the hall, so any kind donations would be much appreciated. There will also be fundraisers to collect donations to raise further awareness for our cause. We will have a bake sale throughout break time and lunch times throughout the week, in both yards.

On Thursday 23rd February, we are hosting a sponsored 5K run on the School field and are happy for all students, staff, friends, parents and carers to come and participate, whether this be running, jogging, walking or any way of moving around the field. It would be great to see people come together to support the runners and we will be accepting donations here. Students – if you would like to participate in the run, you must get changed at break and be ready for lunch.

On **Friday, 24th February**, there will be an **Own Clothes Day**, and we would be grateful for a £2 donation to help our cause. This will be available on ParentPay.

All proceeds will go to the Christie Hospice, which will help them provide treatment for cancer patients across the country.

We hope you have a restful half term.

Kind regards.

AGSB Medicine & Dentistry Society

Mission Christmas Appeal

We have received a very big thank you from Hits Radio who organised the Mission Christmas 2022 Appeal in December and

have told us that they were able to provide gifts for **32,754 children** across Greater Manchester!!!

On behalf of Hits Radio Cash for Kids and the local children we gifted presents to this Christmas, thank you to all those Parents and Carers kindly sent in donations in support.



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Noticeboard for Parents



Heath Road

We are once again receiving complaints from the residents who live on Heath Road close to the back gate of the School about parents who are dropping off their children in the mornings. Please avoid driving down Heath Road where possible as this causes congestion for the residents.

Sodexo Card Balances

Sodexo are experiencing a large number of boys who have negative balances on their Sodexo Card. If your son has a negative balance, you will receive a reminder to top this up but Parents and Carers can check the account balance at any time by logging into your ParentPay account. You also have the auto top-up feature for School meals, which will automatically top up your child's lunch balance when it falls below a set value. If you have difficulty making payment, please contact the School Finance team to discuss this further.



Forthcoming dates for February and March 2023

Mon 20.02.2023

Thurs 23.02.2023

Fri 24.02.2023

Fri 24.02.2023

Thurs 02.03.2023

Mon 06.03.2023 – Mon 13.03.2023

Tue 07.03.2023

Thurs 09.03.2023

Fri 10.03.2023 – Thurs 16.03.2023

Mon 13.03.2023 & Tue 14.03.2023

Mon 13.03.2023

Fri 17.03.2023

Sat 18.03.2023

Tue 21.03.2023 – Fri 31.03.2023

Thurs 23.03.2023

Wed 29.03.2023 – Fri 31.03.2023

Wed 29.03.2023

School re-opens 08.40am

Piano Recital Concert 7pm

School Closes at 12.20pm for Staff Development

Own Clothes Day in aid of The Christie

Y9 Parents' Evening

Y13 Geology Fieldwork Trip to Cyprus

Y11 & Y13 Parents' Revision Skills Workshop 4.30pm

Spring Concert @ 7pm

Spanish Exchange (Spanish Students to AGSB)

Islamic Society Asian Food Sale 12.20pm

AGSB'S Got Talent & Battle of the Bands 3.30pm

Own Clothes Day for Turkey/Syria Earthquake Fund

Senior Rugby Fundraiser Tour Pie & Pint 12-7.30pm

Y10 Exams

Y12 Parents' Evening

Y7 PGL Adventure Trip to Yorkshire

Senior Sports Awards Evening

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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