



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



16th September 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

A very warm welcome back, especially to families who have recently joined AGSB.

I hope you all had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. It has been wonderful to see the School in action again with the return of our pupils and my colleagues. The pupils, so far, have been immaculately presented. Thank you for the effort and investment you have made to support our dress code. There will naturally be one or two conversations regarding hairstyles and uniform as the pupils, new and old, adjust to School life after the summer break.

A warm welcome, too, to new staff:

Mr Parker (Head of Geology), Ms Littler, Mr Keaney (English), Mr Smyth (PE), Miss Underwood (Art), Mr Haimes (Maths), Mr Cundick (D & T), Mrs Lightowler (D & T), Ms Hutchinson (UCAS Co-Ordinator), Mr Cook and Mr Bailey (PE Gap Students).

Valete:

After 17 years' service as a teacher of Design and Technology, Mr Alan Williams has left the school to pursue other career options.

The Queen's Funeral and the Bank Holiday

As you will be aware, one of King Charles III's first acts as monarch was to approve a National Bank Holiday for the day of the Queen's State funeral, which has been confirmed as Monday, 19th September 2022. This will be a National Bank Holiday and as such, all schools will be closed. The Trafford Consortium Entrance Exam will now take place on Tuesday, 20th September and School will re-open for pupils on Wednesday 21st September.

The Autumn Term 2022

School life, however, goes on and it has been a busy first two weeks. This is an exciting term for AGSB Drama as we look forward with eager anticipation to the whole School Production of *Les Misérables* which takes place over 4 nights (21st to 24th November). We have also introduced Drama into the Year 7 curriculum. All Drama at AGSB is now being led by our newly appointed Drama Co-Ordinator – Ms Clark.

The AGSB House event calendar kicks off next week with the House Cross Country and we are also looking forward greatly to one of the seminal House events – The House Shout, which takes place on the evening of the 18th October in the Coleman Hall (all parents are welcome).



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Last weekend sport, made a welcome return with competitive rugby fixtures against Wilmslow HS and pre-season football training. Tomorrow we look forward to rugby and football fixtures against AKS Lytham and Rossall School. It will be good to see parents at fixtures and events again this term. Please see the School calendar [here](#) for key dates ahead and the AGSB SOCS Sports calendar [here](#) for a full programme of forthcoming fixtures.

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

Yours faithfully

Mr G. A. Wright
Head Master

Y11 GCSE Geography Fieldwork in Snowdonia



After a period of Covid disruption, normality has returned to Geography with a full programme of fieldwork returning in 2022. On the 8th and 9th September, 76 GCSE students and four Geography staff visited Snowdonia for two days. On the first day students left the field study centre at Bets-y-Coed to trek to the beautiful Cwm Idwal, where they were able to apply their learning from Geography to identify glaciated landforms and discover new intriguing features. Staff and leaders from the FSC did a

great job keeping spirits high throughout, and students clearly enjoyed the adventure - most singing their hearts out on the coach home! Students were a real credit.

Day 2 saw students carrying out practical fieldwork to investigate how the characteristics of the Afon Conwy river changes downstream. There was a sense of excitement amongst staff and students to be out on the moors and wading through rivers in wellies once again - everyone benefits and enjoys the practical side of Geography!

Next stop for the Geography department is Salford Quays for our annual Year 9 fieldtrip in November.

Mr M Bromley
Head of Geography





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Japanese Visitors



It was a delight to welcome three Japanese scholars from the Universities of Chubu, Keio and Osaka Kyoiku last week. They spent the day with the MFL Department and visited a number of lessons.

Mrs J Ding
MFL Department

PSHE at AGSB



We are very proud of our PSHE provision at AGSB. PSHE is a key facet of our curriculum as it teaches the skills necessary to navigate the wider world and stay safe. The modern world is changing faster and faster and with this change comes greater risks and challenges for our young people. For more information on our PSHE provision, please click here:
<https://www.agsb.co.uk/page/?title=PSHE&pid=47>

Rewards & Sanctions 2022-23



All pupils across the School should be aware of the School rules and expectations especially in terms of appearance, conduct and punctuality.

This year all rewards and sanctions are being recorded on Arbor (the School's Management Information System).

When a pupil receives a House point, a referral or a detention, this will automatically be sent to their Tutor/Head of Year and to Parents and Carers. This will provide us with an excellent overview of how pupils are getting on across each term.

Please find the AGSB Behaviour Policy [here](#).



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Safeguarding

This week the School has secured the services of Safeguarding expert, Jane Bee, who is conducted a full review of AGSB's safeguarding systems and procedures. Many thanks to all parents and carers who took the time to complete the safeguarding survey – the results of the survey were extremely positive. I will be sending further information about the review in the next Newsletter.

G. A. Wright

Site News



To improve safeguarding across the site, the School has secured a bid from the Government to put in place a new wrought iron style fence which will run down the length of Marlborough Rd and at the rear of the School at Heath Road. Work will begin in October on this project.

Thank You!



Before the Summer holidays, the School received two minibuses full of donated Science laboratory equipment including equipment trolleys, lab coats and white boards, from Dr Simone Howarth, mother of Luca (pictured left). Dr Howarth is the Clinical Lead of Lighthouse Lab in Alderley Science Park. For the past two years the Lighthouse Lab has acted as an NHS COVID testing laboratory although the lab is now being decommissioned and equipment and furniture is being sold, redistributed to other parts of the NHS or given as charitable donations. AGSB Science Department would like to say a massive thank you to Dr Howarth for all the amazing work her and her team did during the pandemic and for this really welcome donation, it will save the School a great deal of money.

Dr S Squire, Head of Science Dept

Geography Photograph Competition 2022 Results



Congratulations to all who took part in the Geography Photograph Competition at the end of last term. Here are the top three entries.

Left - Abdullah K 11FN
Durdle Door, Dorset





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Left - Nikhil Ramos 10AS
Photo taken on Nikhil's walk to school.



Right - Sebastian Watson 10FB
Uyuni Salt Flats in Bolivia



The Geography department looks forward to seeing your amazing entries for 2023!

Mr P Williams
Geography Dept

Congratulations

Well done to all those students who took music exams over the Summer. We received some fantastic emails from very proud parents. Here are their stories ...

Very well done to the following pupils:

Philip S (8PG) who passed his Grade 5 Piano exam with merit before the summer break. Mr Monument said that Philip really impressed the Music Department last year as he worked very hard.

Rey B (9PS) recently passed his Grade 3 Flute ABRSM exam with near merit.



Congratulations to Flynn and Theo B-D (left) who both received Bronze medals in the National All England Dance Finals in London at the end of July. They also successfully auditioned for Euro Disney and performed in August at the Videopolis Theatre in the Disney Park.



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Ahmed K 11BY took two GCSE examinations a year earlier and has attained Grade 9 in both Maths and Religious Education.

Ossian A (11RW) got a distinction in his ABRSM Music Grade 5 theory exam and a merit in his Grade 5 Piano taken over the Summer.

Neil R (9SU) passed his ABRSM Piano Grade 4 exam during the Summer holidays.

Justin Z (9GA) achieved a Grade 5 Piano exam with merit.

New Year 7 pupil, Aaron C (7HI) was pleased to receive an A+ in his Technology work during the first week of term.

Abdullah A (Y13) was a finalist in the New College of Humanities essay competition, winning a medal.



(Left) Taimor A (13RD) was also a finalist in the NCH essay competition and was awarded a medal and certificate for being one of the top ten finalists and he was also in the top 4 writers.

Aiyush G (12PT) achieved a distinction in his Grade 5 Piano exam during the Summer holidays.

(Right) Aarush Varma B (7OL) got the 'India Book of Records' for answering 123 Geographical questions correctly. He has a passion for reading Geography related books.



Charlie W (7UN) recently passed his Grade 2 Piano exam.

Rohan B (9SU) achieved a High Merit in Grade 5 Drama (LAMDA Speaking Verse & Prose).

Aarav S (7MO) represented his primary school, playing rugby, with tennis being his favourite. He also takes pride in Music and plays the electric guitar, having passed his Grade 4.

Barney W (11CK) had a football article published in the MEN back in July – you can read it [HERE](#).

Sporting Successes

Thank you to all those parents and carers who took the time to send in their child's sporting successes over the Summer. We detail below all those who achieved great things.

Fin S (Y11) was selected for the Sale Sharks Academy Under 16 squad.



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(Left) Yusuf R and Dan W (12NW) both competed in a North West powerlifting competition, both breaking records and setting new ones in the U18s category.



On 25th June, Dan E (12EL) (right) completed a trek up Ben Nevis.

Aryan Dash (7UN) currently plays for the Under 11 Cheshire County Cricket team and being a new student is optimistic that he will be picked to play for the School Cricket team.



(Left) Harron Musa (9WL) won both the Division 5 Timperley & District Junior football league and the Cup league for U13's with his team, Mersey Valley Titans FC for 2021/2022. Musa also won the Coach's player of the season.



(Right) Noah K (8PG) competed in a swimming gala for his team, the Trafford Mini Mets. He won three Bronze medals for freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke.



The North of England Sprint Rowing Championships took place at Hollingworth Lake last week and Jason L (8SI) represented Trafford Rowing Club and won the J11-13 single sculling. His brother, George L (12SM) was teamed with boys from other schools and won both J17 quad and J18 double



Harris S (7LR) (left) was awarded Bowler of the Year in the Under-11s Gold Team by Lindow Cricket Club. Harris also played in the Under-13s gold team helping them to become the South Manchester Junior Cricket League's Champion this season. He received an award in recognition of this

Rohan P (8CD) was selected and played cricket for Lancashire District during the summer. He scored 53 (retired) which led to the victory of his team.

Ishan M (7CE) is in the U11 Cheshire Cricket County team and had a busy cricket season over the summer. He also passed his Guitar Grade 1 recently.

Gabriel O (7CE) became the boys 11U and 12U Cheshire County Champion having won both singles and doubles in the Cheshire County Tennis Championships held at the end of August.



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(Left) Alex V (12SM) over the Summer, qualified for the British and English National Swimming Championships where he swam 1500m freestyle and finished 6th in the 17 years age group. He also swam 400m and 800m freestyle where he finished 11th and 9th. Alex also competed in the English Championships in August and swam 200m freestyle - where he qualified for the top 10 finalists and came second in an extremely close final.

(Right) Jamie L-B (12WK) was selected to represent Trafford Rowing Club in the British National Junior Rowing Championships and was placed 16th nationally in the J16 doubles category at the National Watersports Centre in Nottingham. At the end of the summer he also won first place in the J17 singles race at the North of England Sprint Rowing Championships at Hollingworth Lake.



Buy a Book for Charity

Mum of Charlie B (9PS) self-published a book over the Summer with all profits going to football/rugby dementia charity, Head for Change.

In Kirstie's own words, "The story is that of my late father-in-law, Graham Hawkins, and was a lockdown project I started in order to entertain my mother-in-law, Jane. Graham was a professional footballer in the 1960's and 1970's (Wolves, Preston North End, Blackburn Rovers, Port Vale) and he made over 500 appearances. In the 1980's and 1990's he was a football manager, achieving promotion to the top flight with his boyhood club Wolverhampton Wanderers and also managed in the Middle East. His five decades in football finished with a spell as Head of Youth development at the Football League.

You can access the book by clicking on the link to the book below where you can have a 'look inside' via Amazon. A Marriage Made in Football: The Story of Graham and Jane Hawkins <https://amzn.eu/d/fRNSXJs> I too am married to football - my husband Dr Richard Hawkins is a sports scientist and Head of Athletic Performance at Manchester United. He has previously worked under Bryan Robson at West Brom and Sheffield United - hence the title of the book.

I thought that both the story and the process of self-publishing might be of interest to your boys, plus obviously I'd love to sell a few copies - all for charity!"

AGSB Sports Report



Great day of rugby last weekend vs Wilmslow High. AGSB Senior squad running out 20-17 winners. Wilmslow HS then taking the spoils with the younger age groups.





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The Year 7 football squad were also training, preparing for the week ahead fixtures.

Great Cup fixture vs The Grange School this week. AGSB get the win and go through to the next round.



Old Alts



It was great to see two Old Boys (Brendan Creed and James Mazerello) playing for the England hockey team in the Commonwealth Games and receiving a Bronze medal.



Tom Hunt, ex pupil at AGSB came into school before the end of the Summer Term to collect a cheque for £2,000 from Governor Nigel Hiatt (former PFA Chair) for Teenage Cancer Trust. Tom was diagnosed with leukaemia in 2018 just before he was due to go off to University. Tom's story was in the MEN and you can read the full story by clicking on this [LINK](#).



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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.



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

Transport For Greater Manchester

Before travelling to and from school it is important to plan-ahead and consider different options.

Transport for Greater Manchester has [a dedicated School's Hub](#), with information about public transport services, tickets and passes, latest dedicated travel advice for our school and tips around cycling and walking.



If you can, please consider whether your child can walk or cycle to school – it can be a safe and healthy way to make shorter trips. With new [cycling and walking routes](#) popping up across the region, it is safer and easier than ever to get about on foot or by bike.

If you do need to drive, please switch off your engine when waiting outside to reduce air pollution and, if possible, try parking further away and walking the last part of the journey. **It is also very important that you do not park on double yellow lines or cause obstruction to other road users. Marlborough Road is a very busy road and it is of the utmost importance that you do not upset the local residents. A Traffic Officer will be patrolling the road from time to time and you will be ticketed and fined if you are found to be causing a nuisance.**



A new school year is a great opportunity to start afresh and try something new and this year is no different – particularly when it comes to the journey to and from our school.



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From the 4th September, the cost of a child's bus fare in Greater Manchester will be capped at £1 for a single journey and £2.50 for an 1-day AnyBus travelcard. With this in mind, if they don't already, why not consider talking to your child about catching the bus to school?

There are a couple of things you can do to plan ahead, including ensuring they have their [igo card](#).

However, you chose to travel, it is important to plan ahead and check the latest travel advice. Support and information about this can be found on [TfGM's Schools Hub](#), including dedicated advice for our School.

AGSB PFA



Satchel One (Show my Homework) has been an invaluable resource – funded by the PFA - for all boys over the last three years. The time has come to renew our contract, and it's cheapest overall to sign up for another three years. This means we need to raise around £9,000.

We are therefore asking for a voluntary contribution of £10 from each parent/carer across the whole School to fund this.

We're sure each and every parent relies heavily on the app! If you are able to assist, please visit ParentPay – PFA Donations - to make your donation:

<https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 7 Welcome Evening 21st September

The PFA would like to invite all Year 7 parents and carers to a Welcome Evening on Thursday, 21st September 7pm in the Coleman Hall.

The evening will consist of:

- Welcome by Headmaster
- Welcome by Head of Year 7
- Welcome and Introduction to PFA by PFA Co-chair
- Parents informal meet & greet with Form Tutors and PFA Reps plus drinks and snacks

There will be a raffle to raise money for the PFA Charity so please don't forget your wallets and purses!

6th Form Welcome Evening 27th September – Uniform Donations

The PFA Reps will be available at the 6th Form Welcome Evening on Tuesday, 27th September to gratefully receive any unwanted AGBS School uniform that 6th Form parents would like to donate. These will be re-



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sold at our very popular and in-demand second hand uniform stalls. We are very low on stock and would welcome all donations that are in good condition (washed of course!)

Next PFA meeting 10th October

The first face-to-face PFA meeting of the year will take place on Monday 10th October 6-7.30pm in the 6th form Common Room. All parents and friends welcome!

PFA Charity Curry & Quiz Night 17th November

Beat the Teachers, Staff and Sixth Formers! Please join us for our annual Curry & Quiz night on Thursday 17th November at 7pm to raise money, make friends and have some family fun!

Form a team or turn up on the night and make new friends!! Adults £15 Pupils £10. Halal and veg curry options available along with a licenced bar

PFA Charity Annual Christmas Fair 4th December ** HELP NEEDED **

The PFA is looking for volunteers and stall holders for our annual BIG FAMILY & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS EVENT on the 4th December 12noon to 3pm.

The PFA Christmas Fair is a great day out for the family. Open to the public, there are stalls selling unique Christmas gifts, crafts, candles, chocolates, drinks, cakes, halal food, portrait photography, second hand uniform, all raising funds for our PFA Charity.

If you would like to help or set up a stall, know a business who would like to take part or sponsor the event, run a raffle or have any new ideas for the Fair, or just want to be part of the PFA Christmas Fair team then please email pfssgsb@gmail.com ASAP for further details.

****All parents, friends and businesses welcome!!****

We will also be recruiting for new members to join the PFA so please ask!

Find us on: [Facebook](#)/Twitter: @agsbpfa or contact us via email: pfaagsb@gmail.com

Thank you

AGSB PFA

Extra-Curricular Provision at AGBS

We are very pleased to be able to advertise our Extra-curricular programme. We have a huge volume and variety of opportunities available to our pupils and we encourage all pupils to get involved as much as possible.

Clubs and Societies extra-curricular Timetable - [Extra-Curricular Activities](#)



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[Music extra-curricular Timetable - Extra-Curricular Music](#)

[Sport extra-curricular Timetable - Sports+](#)

[House events calendar \(Autumn term\) - House Events Calendar](#)

House Shout



Date for the diary – AGSB House Shout

One of the highlights of the House Calendar is the House Shout on Tuesday, 18th October at 7pm.

Forthcoming dates for September 2022

19.09.2022	School Closed – National Bank Holiday for HM The Queen’s Funeral
20.09.2022	School Closed for all Pupils – Entrance Exam Day
21.09.2022 – 23.09.2022	Y13 Biology Fieldtrip to Wales
21.09.2022	PFA Y7 Welcome Evening
22.09.2022	Y12 A Level PE Students @ Manchester Tennis & Racquets Centre
23.09.2022	Y7 CATS Testing
27.09.2022	Sixth Form Welcome Evening – 7pm
28.09.2022	Outdoor Music Showcase – 6pm
28.09.2022	6 th Form Theatre Trip to The Royal Exchange

Noticeboard for Parents

For up-to-date information, please always search on the School Website - <https://www.agsb.co.uk/> - rather than doing a Google search as this often brings up misleading information.



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Social Media Accounts

Keep up to date with the School activities, achievements, news and associations by following AGSB social media accounts. Watch this space as we add more but for now here's the ones you can follow. Twitter feeds first, followed by Instagram:

Head Master/School	@agsb_official
Music	@AGSB_music and Instagram @agsb_music_department
Sport	@AGSBsport and Instagram @agsbsport
Careers	@AGSB_Careers
House System	@AgsbHouse
German	@agsbGerman
Geography	@AGSB_Geography
Philosophy & Ethics	@AGSBPandE
AGSB PFA	@AgsbPfa
AGSB Esports	@agsbesports and Instagram @agsb_esports
Food & Nutrition	@FoodAgsb and Instagram @agsbfood
English	Instagram @agsb_english
Publications	@AgsbPublication
Library	@agsblibrary and Instagram @agsblibrary

Vacancies



Sodexo currently have the following vacancies:

Cleaners Required:

3.30pm to 6.30pm Monday to Friday. Full training provided.

Assistant Chefs:

We currently have 2 Assistant Chef positions, both 35 hrs per week. One of the positions will be responsible for producing our home baked cakes & cookies, the other position will work with the Head Chef on mains. Working: Term time only 7.00am – 2.15pm.

For further information please contact Mrs P Bowden via email to Patricia.bowden@sodexo.com.

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

