



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

20th May 2022

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

The last two weeks have been especially sad in School as we have said goodbye to both exam groups. Examination Leave has begun for Year 11 and Year 13 and the Coleman Hall is now being used exclusively for exams until the end of June. I should like to take this opportunity of wishing both Year Groups all the very best in the exam season. Year 13, who were dressed in their old AGSB blazers, enjoyed a traditional Leavers' Breakfast and it was fitting that the Chairman of the Old Altrinchamian's, Christian James, was present to say a few words on the importance of staying in touch. I look forward to seeing Year 11 when they return for their Sixth Form Taster Day (Tuesday 28th June) which is designed to help them prepare for life in the Sixth Form.

At a strategic level, a key focus has been to make improvements to the School Estate. As you are aware, in September we launched the Sports for All - Making a Difference campaign to improve our outdoor Sports facilities. I would like to thank those members of the parental body who have attended the receptions to date. Your help and support has been incredible and we are making excellent progress towards our target of £1 million.

I will share more news once we have final costings for various improvements, but the initial news is that Government Grants (Condition Improvement Fund – a fund for Academies for which we have to bid) of just under £1 million are enabling us to add a new perimeter fence around the School to help us secure the site and to put in a new heating system across the School.

You may have been aware that it was 'Mental Health Awareness Week' last week. The Head Prefect, students and staff delivered an excellent assembly on raising awareness of mental health and I reminded the School community that support is always available at AGSB for any students who are struggling in any way. At AGSB we have a fully trained School Counsellor who can provide one to one support for pupils on a variety of topics. We also have 11 staff who are Mental Health First Aid Trained (this includes all the Heads of Year).

Elsewhere in School life, in a competitive year, Seb and Tosin (Y9) have won the Regional round of the Performing Shakespeare Competition. They now progress to the National Final at The Globe in London at the end of June – an amazing achievement.

I travelled to watch the Year 8 football XI play in the final of the Trafford Cup on Tuesday. After a spirited performance, they unfortunately lost 2-3 to Wellington. It has been a busy week in Tennis with a good deal of success against Wilmslow and St Ambrose and I wish our Cricket sides the best of fortune against Sandbach School tomorrow. A reminder that all parents are very welcome to come into School to support their son during sporting fixtures.

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

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'G.A. Wright'.

Mr G. A. Wright
Head Master



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Year 9 House Debating Competition



The Y9 House Debating Competition was held last week and participants addressed the motion *'This House Believes That: A National Labour Service should be introduced for all aged 17-25 not in full time education or employment'*.

A wide-ranging and well-informed debate was ultimately won by the opposition, consisting of Seb W & James C (Tatton) and James K & Ethan X (Bradbury). Tatton was awarded first place by virtue of James C's superb closing statement. The defeated proposition put up a highly creditable performance. It consisted of Nischay P & late replacement Shawn D (Massey) and Leo B & Dhruv P (Stamford). Massey was awarded third place due to the measured way in which both Nischay & Shawn responded to some searching questions from the audience and judges' panel. Many thanks to the judges Mr Flanagan & Senior Prefect, Adham Saeid. Thanks as well to Ms Mahony & Ms Marson for hosting and all those staff and students who supported the event & participated by asking questions from the audience.

Mr N Croxton
Head of History & Politics

AGSB ESports

AGSB ESports have had another successful season, with multiple teams making it into the knockout phases of all 4 titles played in the British ESports.



Last week, our reigning Division 2 National Overwatch Champions once again competed in the semi-finals of the Division 2 competition, making it through to the National Finals and our League of Legends A team (pictured left) took part in the Division 1 semi-finals, also getting through to the National Finals in July!

This is an incredible achievement as we are the only school in the country that has made it into the multiple knockout stages and are up against 6th Form Colleges that have thousands of students on their rosters. Both teams have been working incredibly hard throughout the season to get this far.

Mr R Cummins
AGSB ESports



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AGSB LGBTQ+ Society



On Tuesday lunchtime this week we hosted ex-pupil, Sam Arbor, via Zoom, who is the Assistant Director of the Netflix show Heartstopper. Sam held a Q&A session followed by Episode 1 of the TV series on the big screen. He was simply amazing and an inspiration.



This is an uplifting LGBTQ+ storyline about teenagers in an all boys' State Grammar School.

DEC Ukraine Fundraising Event



**DISASTERS
EMERGENCY
COMMITTEE**

Thank you to all those Parents, Carers and Students who raised an amazing £798 for the joint DEC Ukraine and Afghanistan Crisis last week for Own Clothes' Day. Such a worthy cause.

AGSB Music



Well done to Neil R (8SU) who came second in the Piano solo category at the recent Alderley Edge Festival (photo left).

Congratulations also to the AGBS String Orchestra (pictured below) who performed at the Alderley Edge Festival and won the Under 18 Large Ensemble category.





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AGSB Open Evening



It was really good to see so many people at last week's Open Evening. Thank you to our Jazz and Guitar groups for the fantastic musical entertainment and to the students in Years 7 to 10 who gave some fabulous speeches about their school experiences.

AGSB Outgoing Senior Prefect Team



Thank you to our fantastic Senior Prefect Team who have done a fabulous job all year of setting positive examples for our students, and showing great initiative and leadership.

Head Master



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AGSB Careers – Help Urgently Needed for Work Placements

We are actively encouraging our Year 12 learners to find a work placement for the week commencing 11th July and so far, many learners have sourced an opportunity. However, we still have a good number of students who are struggling to get a placement with many companies stating that Covid and/or working from home is a barrier to now being able to offer anything.

We therefore, wonder whether there are any Parents/Carers out there who, through their workplaces or connections, could offer one or more of our students the chance to gain a week's work experience. We really would like all learners to have an experience as they missed out in Year 10 due to lockdown and the skills gained by this can really enhance their future aspirations and give them an invaluable insight into the workplace.

We understand that If, due to logistics or hybrid working, a full 5 day placement is not possible, we would still be keen to hear from you and could take advantage of a shorter placement if necessary.

If you feel can help with this, please can you complete the questionnaire here - <https://forms.office.com/r/ZBD45RDqae>. A member of staff will then contact you to talk through the logistics of offering a placement before we then try to match up a suitable student with the opportunity.

Many thanks in advance of your assistance.

Mr A Gallamore
Head of Careers

Year 13's Last Day!



On Tuesday of this week, our Year 13 cohort spent their final morning in School at the traditional Leavers' Breakfast. We wish all of our Year 13 students the very best of luck in the coming weeks. We will miss you all!



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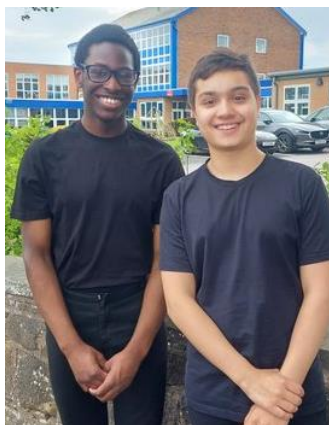
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AGSB House Tug 'O' War



What an amazing Y10 House Tug O'War competition last week – 100% commitment and effort displayed by all! Well done to Bradbury House who won by a narrow margin.

AGSB English



On Tuesday evening this week we travelled up to the ESU Performing Shakespeare Regional Finals. **Tosin A and Seb Win** Year 9 represented the School brilliantly by performing a duologue from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Astoundingly they **WON** and are now off to the National Final in June which will be hosted at 'The Globe' theatre on London's Southbank - an incredible opportunity for them.

Miss C Clark
English Department



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Altrincham Move Against Cancer



It was a pleasure to welcome back Tony Collier and Alex McCann to support Tony in completing his daily 5km to raise funding and awareness for Move Against Cancer Charity which provides online support for young people. Tony's efforts continue to inspire us all at the School. The sun was shining and the boys and teachers enjoyed taking part.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rahul P (10LS) who has been selected to represent the Cheshire U15 County Cricket team.

Well done to Luca T-H (right) who took part in the recent Dragon Boat event organised by THK in association with Charity Dragon Boat Festivals which saw 35 teams entered. Luca did an amazing job drumming and leading THK Dragon Kings to win and become champions of the Open Charity Event out of 15 teams.



Well done to Valentine F (8GA) (left) who recently took part in the British Junior Wrestling Championship, winning first place in the tournament, competing in the U13s in the "Under 60.5kg weight category".



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Old Altrinchamian



It was great to welcome Old Alt, Chris Hill, for a tour of the School recently. Chris attended AGSB between 1957 and 1963. He then enjoyed a very successful career in the RAF and was then CEO of a National Charity. Chris was also Northern Junior Tiddlywinks Champion in 1963!

AGSB Sports Report



Cricket

AGSB cricket has started strongly with wins across the board against The Grange and Bury Grammar School.

Our U12 and U14 teams both have County Cup fixtures next week, with the U12's playing Tytherington and the U14's taking on Sandbach School.

Athletics

School Athletics has started, and the Junior squad qualified through to the Greater Manchester first round into the regional finals. This is to take place on Wednesday 8th June. Well done all involved.

Tennis

The start of the Tennis season has started off well. We have over 100 boys taking tennis lessons and 8 competitive teams.

At the moment our Y7 & Y8 and Y9 & Y10 A teams are undefeated and are on the brink of qualifying for the Regional Finals.

Our Senior Cup teams are also doing very well. Our B team made it through to the area semi-final but narrowly got beaten. However, our A team are in the other semi-final and are playing well.

Tennis at AGSB is getting stronger and stronger.

Table Tennis

U13's Table Tennis team came 3rd in the country last month in Wolverhampton. In the squad was Kofi M, Joseph, Oscar and Yillin L.

Football

AGSB U13's were in action this week in their Trafford Cup Final against Wellington. It was a great fixture with both teams battling out a highly contested game. Unfortunately, we were beaten 3-2 after extra time. However, all boys were a credit to the School. Special mentions go to Josh. C who scored an equalising goal from his own half! Also, special mention to O. Dempster who stepped into goal to replace an injured J. Cuddy.



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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.



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

AGSB Plant & Cake Sale – Saturday 11th June at 10am

Date for your diary – Plant & Cake Sale as well as Second-hand Uniform Sale!!

The Gardening and Wildlife Clubs are very excited to announce the first garden, plant and cake sale happening at AGSB on **the 11th June between 10am - 12pm**.

They have been busy sowing seeds, splitting and dividing plants and making wildlife related objects at lunchtimes in "Tech Thursday lunchtime Club". All the profit will go towards buying new equipment for both Clubs.

The PFA have very generously agreed to buy a greenhouse for Gardening Club but they will need to add shelving, buy compost, seed trays etc so they can grow even more exotic fruit and veg!

The sale will also include stalls from:

- **Bird and Bay** - a garden, home and lifestyle shop in Lymm
- **Mel Farrow** - "*smellaniesgardenflowers*". Mel is an Instagram influencer and has featured in garden magazines. She grows and sells her flowers direct from her field and at the Church Green in Lymm.



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AGSB GARDENING and WILDLIFE CLUB

PLANT and CAKE SALE



Saturday 11th June 10am-12pm
Altrincham Grammar School for Boys Malborough Road WA14 2RS

TABLES ALSO INCLUDE PFA second hand uniform sale AND;

<p>Beautiful hand tied bouquets by Melanie Farrow. Her flowers are all home grown in Lymm.</p>	<p>Wildlife themed objects made in Tech Thursday lunchtimes by yr7 and 8. Cash only.</p>	<p>Plants and unusual garden ornaments by Bird and Bay, Lymm.</p>
		



- Cake donations from AGSB staff and pupils
- PFA Second-hand Uniform sale – (TBC)

Please do come along and support the pupils, Clubs and local businesses! **Please note, the School stalls will be cash only.**

*Ms H Drake
Technology Department*



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To Celebrate The Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022 – Special Lunches All Week



Join us to celebrate

The Platinum Jubilee

week commencing 23rd May

Stamford Hall & 6th Form

Each day we will have a **British Dish on the Menu**



Alongside your favourite **British Puddings**

Treat yourself to an **Ice cream Cone** from our **Pop-up Ice Cream Tent**



And

On Wednesday 25th June don't miss our

Lunchtime Trio of Mini Mains - all three for £3.50

Beef Slider

Mini Fish & Chips

Garlic Pizza Bread with Mozzarella



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Forthcoming dates for May and June 2022

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 looking to recruit a UCAS Co-Ordinator (Non-Teaching) to join our busy Sixth Form Team. 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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