



# 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

10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

I hope that you have all enjoyed a rest this summer and have had an opportunity to see friends and extended family again. A very warm welcome to all those who are new to AGSB. It has been a very great pleasure indeed to have all pupils back and the start of term has gone extremely smoothly as we return to a more normal way of working. This week, I have already enjoyed witnessing play rehearsals, musical ensembles, sports fixtures and we are all enjoying the benefits of a longer lunchtime.

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.

Year 11 and Year 13 achieved some outstanding GCSE and A Level results in August, the result of hard work throughout the year in challenging circumstances. Their final grades were based on a basket of evidence, taken mainly from two sets of formal exams sat in the Coleman Hall in March and May. All papers were anonymised and were moderated by teachers other than the pupils' own to ensure fairness. The grades that were awarded were fully deserved and the pupils can be as proud of their grades as we are of their diligence and performance. Go to our website [here](#) for A Level news and [here](#) for GCSE news.

There has also been some sporting success during the summer with Ted Graves representing England Under 18 in Hockey; Charlie W representing Sale Sharks Academy; Ollie H, Edward L and Will Evans who represented the North of England side at the Hockey Futures cup over Bank Holiday weekend in St Albans and Raph S who was competing at the North of England Spring Rowing championships and won the U16 category in the singles event and came 2nd in double U16 category. A number of pupils also represented Cheshire at cricket.

As we prepare for the term ahead, I think it wise that we continue to have a flexible approach. We are aiming for normality and preparing for change. Coronavirus has not gone away and it is likely that the start of term in particular may be a little bumpy, especially with the usual array of September bugs sharing similar symptoms with Covid-19. We need to apply the guidance to keep everyone safe and assume that there is still the risk of Covid-19 transmission. Please ensure that if your child has symptoms they isolate and take a PCR test. In my assemblies this week I have also reminded the pupils to maintain good hand hygiene, wear face coverings in crowded areas (if not exempt), adhere to the one-way systems and complete a Lateral Flow Test twice each week. The need for 'collective responsibility' remains of paramount importance.

On a more cheerful note, the School is open, full of happy young people and we have an exciting term ahead. We have rugby and football fixtures against Wilmslow High School and King's Chester tomorrow. I look forward to seeing you on the touchline.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G.A. Wright', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mr G. A. Wright  
Head Master



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## Music at AGSB

The Music Department are beginning to get back to some sort of normality and details of their extra-curricular arrangements have been sent out to all Parents. Mr Monument, our Director of Music, would however like to share their end of term video with you which can be seen by clicking on the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7W80n6nVdjY>

The rehearsals are now in full swing for the “*Little Shop of Horrors*” production which Parents and Carers will be able to buy tickets for shortly and everyone is working very hard to get the show ready for November. More details will follow shortly.



Please note that the Music Department are launching two new extra-curricular singing groups as follows:

- Odyssey: Year 9-13 Voices. Wednesday lunchtime 12.30pm in T4
- Ignition: Year 7-8 Voices. Friday lunchtime 12.30pm in T4

This is a focus area for us and there is enormous potential to create something very special.

Mr Monument will be awarding a cake to the form group with the most students involved!

Mr S Smith  
Teacher of Music



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## AGSB Big Band



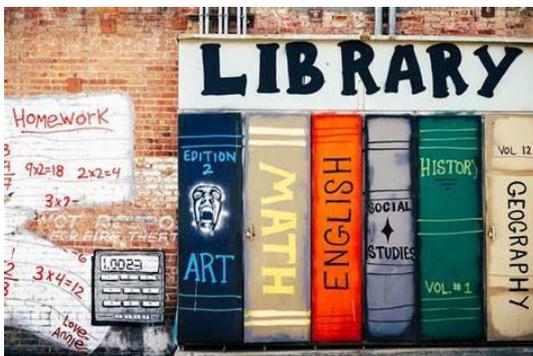
The AGSB Big Band did a fantastic job last Sunday morning, performing at the finish line of the Altrincham 10k.

As always, the boys were a real credit to the school, they were all punctual and able to deal with the slightly hectic conditions!

Mr M Monument  
Director of Music



## AGSB New Library



The new Library is opening **next Wednesday, 15th September**. It will be available before school, breaktimes and lunchtimes. We expect it to be popular so please get your stamp at breaktimes for lunchtime entry to avoid disappointment.

Thank you.

Mrs Mahony & Mrs Marson



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## Chess Club



Lunchtime Chess Club is finally able to start again after our Covid enforced hiatus.

Place: N8

Time: 12.30pm to 1.00pm

Days: Tuesday (Y7 only for the Autumn Term),  
Wednesday and Thursday

Maximum numbers apply per session, no food or drink allowed as N8 is a lab room.

The Chess Team

Dr Sully, Mr Kidd and Zain M (Y13)

## Hockey News



Congratulations to Ethan H-B and Alex E who both played in the Boys' U18 Club Hockey Championship recently and the team convincingly secured a 4-0 victory over Canterbury in the final. England Hockey reported *"Brooklands MU stormed to the Boys' U18 Championship final with a litany of solid performances, on all four occasions winning by three goals. Though the team have secured comprehensive victories, 11 of their 15 goals have come in the second-half with strong finishes to matches seeing them through"*.

Some other fantastic hockey news, three of our Year 11 students (Oliver H, Ed L and Will E) all played in the Pennine Pumas (North England side) over the recent Bank Holiday week in St Albans. It was a fantastic experience for them which they thoroughly enjoyed.

## Sporting Success

Congratulations to Raph S (Y11) who last weekend competed at The North of England Spring Rowing Championships, representing Agecroft Rowing Club. He won the U16 category in the singles event and came 2nd in double U16 category. Great achievement Raph and well done.





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## Charity Fundraising



We are pleased to have received a Certificate of Thanks from Sewa UK in acknowledgement of all the kind donations in aid of the India Covid Support Crisis for 'Non-Uniform Day' last term. The total raised was a staggering £2,338.60! Many thanks to the AGSB Islamic Society for co-ordinating.

## Congratulations

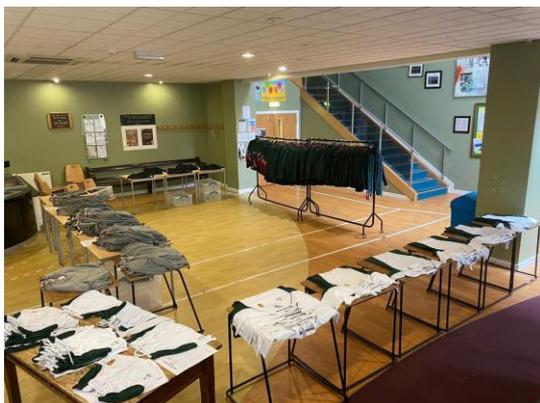
Well done to Haidar J, in Year 12. During the summer holidays Haidar was up early to travel to Carlisle twice a week with his uncle to help with the running of a vaccine centre. He has also been working once a week with the Manchester City Centre community to help students in Year 7 from less privileged backgrounds with their understanding of the sciences. Haidar also starred in an ITV news video which you can see [HERE](#).

Congratulations to Neil R (Y8) who has achieved Grade 3 in his recent Piano exam with Merit, well done Neil.

Also, well done to Jacob Y (Y10) who recently passed his Grade 5 Flute exam with Merit. Jacob has been practising throughout lockdown by taking online Music lessons.

## PFA Second Hand Uniform Sale Tomorrow, 11<sup>th</sup> September

Over the Summer the PFA raised the amazing sum of **£1695** from second hand uniform sales. Lucy Cachia-Boyce did an amazing job and she hopes that the Second-Hand Uniform Sale tomorrow, **Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> September**, will raise a similar amount. Please come along to the Sixth Form Centre between the hours of **10am and 3pm** and the PFA ladies will be there to help!





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## PFA Dates for your Diary

Y7 PFA Parents Evening:	Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Y8 PFA Parents Evening:	Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Curry & Quiz Night:	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
Xmas Fair:	Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
PFA Ball:	Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> March 2022

## Easy Fundraising



Altrincham Grammar School for Boys "Parents & Friends Association", are registered with Easyfundraising, which means that you can raise **FREE** donations for us every time you shop online.

Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use Easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! Please remember to use Easyfundraising every time you shop online. These include all the big names like eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Argos, Your Flight, Your Holiday, ASOS, Expedia, M&S, Just Eat, uSwitch and many more!

This means you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. If you haven't signed up to support us yet, it's easy and completely FREE. These donations really help us, so it would be great if you could take a moment to get started! You can find our Easyfundraising page [HERE](#).

## Making a Difference – Sports for All Fundraising Campaign



We are very excited to be in the early stages of a campaign to raise funds for Phase 1 of our long-term Development Plan which seeks to significantly improve outdoor sporting facilities. We are currently setting up a Campaign Office in the school and we need

volunteer admin support on a part-time basis. If you have a few hours a week to spare, please in the first instance contact the Head Master's PA Mrs Brickell – [mbrickell@agsb.co.uk](mailto:mbrickell@agsb.co.uk).



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## Important International Travel Information for Parents

As part of a safe and cautious reopening to international travel, the [UK government's travel lists](#) have been updated. You may wish to remind parents of the following:

- International travel to and from the UK has changed – everyone will need to meet a number of new requirements so **we can all travel safely and securely.**
- Before considering any international journey, parents should think carefully about the risks to them, their family and their community, as well as the impact on their child's education.
- To prevent new COVID-19 variants from entering the UK, parents and families should not travel to **red list countries.**

Everyone who enters England having visited or transited through a red list country in the ten days before arriving in England, must quarantine in a [managed quarantine hotel](#). If parents are concerned about their ability to pay for managed quarantine, they may be offered a [deferred payment plan](#) and should call the Corporate Travel Management (CTM) helpline on +44 (0)20 7429 9983.

## Noticeboard for Parents

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](mailto:acathcart@agsb.co.uk).

More information can be found [HERE](#)

## Important Information regarding Lateral Flow Testing at Home

Please remind your son(s) to recommence Lateral Flow Device Testing twice weekly on a Monday and a Thursday morning.

All parents should have received full information regarding this today. To summarise:

- Please look at the instructions in the pack on how to perform testing
- Carry out testing every Monday and Thursday morning, preferably before breakfast is eaten
- Report the result to school and NHS via website
- If the result is positive please arrange for your child to have a [PCR test](#) and report this result to school using the [covid@agsb.co.uk](mailto:covid@agsb.co.uk) address



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## Sodexo Information

Please can you ensure that your son(s) has his card with him when purchasing food or drinks at break and lunchtime. Please can you also ensure that there are sufficient funds on the card to pay for purchases.

If your son needs a replacement card, he must go to the Stamford Hall with a receipt (screenshot or printed copy) before 8.30am any day to collect this. Requests will not be accepted after this time.

## Free School Meals/Pupil Premium Funding

### Message for all Y7 Parents and Carers

If your son accessed means-tested Free School Meals or Pupil Premium funding in primary school, and you have not yet heard from us about these, please contact Ms Alison Cathcart at [acathcart@agsb.co.uk](mailto:acathcart@agsb.co.uk) for more information.

## Public Transport Information



To assist with public transport information for schools in Greater Manchester TfGM have created a bespoke webpage for every school which can be found here [tfgm.com/schools](https://tfgm.com/schools).

On this page there is information on public transport services to the school and, where applicable, details of bespoke bus services that operate.

Over the coming weeks timings for school bus services may change as they continue to update and iron out any issues. The information on the bespoke school page will be continually updated with this information so that you and your sons are aware of any changes to times.

Currently the information for school bus services is linked to a pdf document but, over the coming weeks, live times will be added into the TfGM system and linked to on the page. This will allow students to accurately see in real time at what time services will arrive and depart from their bus stops and the full route mapped out.

Finally, as we began last year, we will continue to send through notices of disruption on Metrolink which are likely to impact pupils' journeys to or from school.



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## Forthcoming dates for September and October 2021

<b>Mon - 13-09-2021</b>	<b>School Closed – Trafford Consortium Entrance Exam</b>
<b>Tue – 14.09.21 to 17.09.2021</b>	<b>Y13 Geology Trip to Vale of Eden</b>
<b>Thu – 16.09.2021</b>	<b>School Photographer – Y7, Y10 &amp; Y12 individual photographs and Y7 Forms</b>
<b>Thu – 23.09.2021</b>	<b>Y7 CATS Exams</b>
<b>Thu – 23.09.2021</b>	<b>Outdoor Autumn Concert – 6pm</b>
<b>Tue – 28.09.2021</b>	<b>PFA Y7 Parents’ Evening – 7pm</b>
<b>Wed – 29.09.2021</b>	<b>PFA Y8 Parents’ Evening – 7pm</b>
<b>Tue – 05.10.2021</b>	<b>Whole School Photograph</b>
<b>Wed – 06.10.2021 to 08.10.2021</b>	<b>Y7 &amp; Y8 Bushcraft Trip</b>
<b>Tue – 12.10.2021</b>	<b>Y11 Geology Field Trip Set 11A</b>
<b>Wed – 13.10.2021</b>	<b>Y11 Geology Field Trip Set 11B</b>
<b>Thu – 14.10.2021</b>	<b>Y11 Geology Field Trip Set 11D</b>
<b>Tue – 19.10.2021</b>	<b>Y7 Flu Vaccinations</b>
<b>Wed – 20.10.2021</b>	<b>GCSE Awards Evening – 7.30pm</b>
<b>Wed – 20.10.2021</b>	<b>School Closes at 12.30pm for Awards Evening</b>
<b>Thu – 21.10.2021</b>	<b>School Closes for October Half Term</b>

## Altrincham Grammar School for Boys 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



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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

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

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