



**ALTRINCHAM GRAMMAR  
SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

**ANNUAL REVIEW 2017-18**

# AGSB ACHIEVEMENT IS IN OUR DNA

Name:	Achievement	Sheen Bendon	Platinum award swing band members
Oliver Joyce	Arkwright Scholarship Winner	Talal Imam	Presentation, an Islamic perspective on the Crusades
Gleb Vinnychenko	Assemblies on the Legacy of the Russian Revolution	George Harper	Regional Finalist - ESU Mace Debating Competition
Japan Delegation	Best Delegation in Forum, MUNHIGH	Jonathan Burman	Regional Finalist - ESU Mace Debating Competition
Luke Kwan	Big Bang National Innovation Award	Rohan McCabe	Spelling bee finalist. 1st French regional finals
Shafae Ali	Big Bang National Innovation award	Yusuf Naeem	Spelling bee finalist. 1st place in the German
Harvey Payne	Black belt in karate	Gautham Ravisankar	Spelling bee finalist. 4th place in the Spanish
Will Crawford	Chad's Challenges - Star Wars Project Manager	Luke Kwan	Teen Tech National Winners
Gleb Vinnychenko	Chad's Challenges Tea Party Project Manager	Shafae Ali	Teen Tech National Winners
Bill Horton	Chad's Challenges - Tea Party Project Manager	Alex Goulermas	UKMT Junior Team Challenge finalist
James Walker	Chad's Challenges Tea Party Deputy Project Manager	Kevin Gao	UKMT Junior Team Challenge finalist
Garry Binns	DATA Technician of the year	Pranav Velevan	UKMT Junior Team Challenge finalist
Haris Syed Sulaiman	ESU Performing Shakespeare Competition	Theo Tyson	UKMT Junior Team Challenge finalist
Sid Surya	ESU Performing Shakespeare Competition	Dylan Morris	UKMT Senior Team Challenge finalist
Ben Martin	Finalist - ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition	Joseph Wright	UKMT Senior Team Challenge finalist
Eesah Amin	Finalist - ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition	Oliver Harding	UKMT Senior Team Challenge finalist
Freddie Whitehurst	Finalist - ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition	Yash Yeola	UKMT Senior Team Challenge finalist
Luke Holland	Great Carol Cake Off - Most Profitable Cake	James Millar	Winner - AGSB Y10 Debating Competition
Adil Ehsan	Great Carol Cake Off - Runner Up	Jed Bailey	Winner - AGSB Y10 Debating Competition
Janice McNab	Great Carol Cake Off - Runner Up	Sabeeh Rehman	Winner - AGSB Y10 Debating Competition
Simone Blaize	Great Carol Cake Off - Winner	Archie Edwards	Winner - AGSB Y10 Public Speaking Competition
Ben Martin	Institute of Economic Affairs Budget Challenge	Neil Bhabuta	Winner - AGSB Y10 Public Speaking Competition
Natha D'Cunha	Institute of Economic Affairs Budget Challenge	Niall Buchart	Winner - AGSB Y11 Debating Competition
Ollie Paterson	Institute of Economic Affairs Budget Challenge	Solomon Moryoussef	Winner - AGSB Y11 Debating Competition
Toby Singleton	Institute of Economic Affairs Budget Challenge	Tushar Arun	Winner - AGSB Y11 Debating Competition
Soroush Heydari	Junior Chad's Challenges Team Leader	Aadil Naeem	Winner - AGSB Y11 Public Speaking Competition
Alex Goulermas	Junior UKMT Team Regional winners	Freddie Whitehurst	Winner - AGSB Y11 Public Speaking Competition
Kevin Gao	Junior UKMT Team Regional winners	Tadiwa Mativenga	Winner - AGSB Y11 Public Speaking Competition
Pranav Velevan	Junior UKMT Team Regional winners	Harry Horne	Winner - AGSB Y12 Debating Competition
Theo Tyson	Junior UKMT Team Regional winners	Joe Haddad	Winner - AGSB Y12 Debating Competition
Chris Jurkowski	Land Rover Challenge National Winner	Scott Booth	Winner - AGSB Y12 Debating Competition
Ishan Jain	Land Rover Challenge National Winner	Joe Kennaugh	Winner - AGSB Y12 Public Speaking Competition
Luke Kwan	Land Rover Challenge National Winner	Nathan D'Cunha	Winner - AGSB Y12 Public Speaking Competition
Shafae Ali	Land Rover Challenge National Winner	Ramon Davis	Winner - AGSB Y12 Public Speaking Competition
Tom Watson	Land Rover Challenge National Winner	Alex Gower	Winner - AGSB Y13 Debating Competition
Will Atkins	Land Rover Challenge National Winner	Jonny Burman	Winner - AGSB Y13 Debating Competition
Angus Gilchrist	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Max Knowles	Winner - AGSB Y13 Debating Competition
Bertie Spencer	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Alex Gower	Winner - AGSB Y13 Public Speaking Competition
Chris Patel	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Jamie White	Winner - AGSB Y13 Public Speaking Competition
Dan Cockroft	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Seth Douglas	Winner - AGSB Y13 Public Speaking Competition
Dylan Morris	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Jeswin James	Winner - AGSB Y7 Public Speaking Competition
Giulio Bassanin	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Josh Legg	Winner - AGSB Y7 Public Speaking Competition
Harry Armitage	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Raiyan Attar	Winner - AGSB Y7 Public Speaking Competition
Henry Smith	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Aarnav Kunjoor	Winner - AGSB Y8 Debating Competition
James Cottrel	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Faaris Haque	Winner - AGSB Y8 Debating Competition
Kai Simpson	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Hamza Zeb	Winner - AGSB Y8 Debating Competition
Kit Fullman	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Hassan Shahzad	Winner - AGSB Y8 Debating Competition
Luke Chanerley	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Abdullah Atassi	Winner - AGSB Y8 Public Speaking Competition
Matthew Fairman	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Shishir Sonni	Winner - AGSB Y8 Public Speaking Competition
Matty Curry	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Tom Donnachie	Winner - AGSB Y8 Public Speaking Competition
Monty Harrison-Sterling	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Deen Majid	Winner - AGSB Y9 Debating Competition
Tom Pughe	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Ed Lythgoe	Winner - AGSB Y9 Debating Competition
Tom Vernon	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Ethan Anderson	Winner - AGSB Y9 Debating Competition
William Ashley	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Wurdaan Kashif	Winner - AGSB Y9 Debating Competition
William Lunt	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Adham Saeid	Winner - AGSB Y9 Public Speaking Competition
Xander Kaye	Musical Theatre Society Showcase Evening	Fazeed Kotta	Winner - AGSB Y9 Public Speaking Competition
Jonny Burman	New College of the Humanities Essay Competition	James Brennan	Winner - AGSB Y9 Public Speaking Competition
Alistair Lai	Outstanding Delegate, MUNHIGH	Luke Martin	Year 12 Winner of Portrait of The Head Master
Edward Hall	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team	Ying Bo Li	Year 12 Winner of Portrait of The Head Master
Harvey Devenport	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team	Ben Cottrell	Year 13 concert band and swing band leavers
Marcus Thompson	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team	Issaac Lucas	Year 13 concert band and swing band leavers
Paul Allen	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team	Liam Hughes	Year 13 concert band and swing band leavers
Ramon Davis	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team	Milo MacDonald	Year 13 concert band and swing band leavers
Selim Akmesa	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team	Robert Cooper	Year 13 concert band and swing band leavers
Andrew Flanagan	Paint Altrincham Pink - Sports Day Team Captain	Wenlong Zhao	Year 13 concert band and swing band leavers
Sam Tse	Platinum award swing band members	Alex Gower	Year 13 Vocal Society Leavers
Sammy Brieneagan	Platinum award swing band members	Nanda Saravanan	Year 13 Vocal Society Leavers

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# DETERMINATION, NOW, ALWAYS

We all have DNA within us – that chain of atoms which contains the genetic instructions about our growth and development and which makes us all unique. We also talk about institutions having a unique DNA – this is not really the case but there is no doubt that some places do have a unique atmosphere about them which you feel as soon as you step through the door.

I certainly felt this was the case when I first set foot inside Altrincham Grammar School for Boys 16 years ago. There was a friendly welcome from the lady on reception, pupils walked about in a purposeful way in classrooms; pupils took a lively interest in their work and listened carefully to their teachers. Everyone was exceptionally polite and respectful.

DNA, the chain of atoms, is passed down from generation to generation – we are all unique but there are key aspects of our appearance and personalities which show we are the products of our parents, grandparents and great grandparents. In the same way, institutional DNA is passed on over time by those who live and work within the institution. AGSB today is a very different school from that which I joined 16 years ago – all the pupils who were there then have left! There are many different Governors and teachers and support staff. However, the institutional DNA remains buried deep within the School so although much is different because the School has grown and developed, the values and ethos of AGSB remain just the same as they were 16, 32 and 64 years ago.

The School Magazine strengthens the School's DNA. It is an annual record of the amazing success and achievements of our pupils and staff. This year Mr Williams and the editorial team have been overwhelmed by the amount of copy received, the pages are bursting with stories of individual and collective achievements. I hope you enjoy reading through the pages and sharing in another twelve months of significant success for our boys.

Head Master



# END OF EXPERIMENT



## Tim Lowe

(Religion & Philosophy  
1998 - 2018)

Tim Lowe joined AGSB in September 1998 because of a desire to return to teaching his subject. Prior to coming to Altrincham Grammar School for Boys he had spent twenty years working in other schools and colleges. He began his career as a young teacher in 1978 at Coppenhall County High School in Crewe, from where he moved to Stand Grammar School to be Head of Department in 1980. As Stand evolved into a Sixth Form College, later becoming the A Level centre for Bury College, Tim's career diversified as he took on a variety of different roles including Head of Careers, A level Senior Tutor, Deputy Dean of Students, Student Quality Manager for the Further Studies Faculty and Centre Head for the A level Centre of Bury College, mysterious labels even in a world of multi-academy trusts and free schools! In hindsight one wonders whether the school might have exploited Tim's skills more fully over the past two decades.

In 1998, Tim set about transforming the AGSB RS Department. The two high profile and immediate changes he initiated were the rebranding of the department to the Department of Religion and Philosophy and the introduction of A level Philosophy. In 2001 Tim initiated the next stage of his project to revolutionise the subject. He removed RS from the options matrix entirely and introduced a whole-school full GCSE RS course alongside a Short Course equivalent, delivered originally in two hours a fortnight. Although entry for the full GCSE was optional, it is testament to Tim's charisma as a teacher and leader that 4 out of 5 pupils in year 11 in 2003 chose to enter for the full GCSE in RS, with over 90% achieving A\*/A grades.

Over the following years, under Tim's stewardship, the department continued to develop, with the introduction of A Level Religious Studies. Indeed, with the growing popularity of A Level Philosophy, sufficient numbers were often recruited to run two sets. Tim's latest venture has been to abandon the new

'Gove-tainted' GCSE RS course, replacing it with the teaching of a new AS RS course to all boys at KS4. We expect this to be an important development in the education of all boys at AGSB. There is no doubt that Tim has led the of Religion and Philosophy department with both vigour and passion- beware any soul who would dare question the validity of teaching RS and Philosophy in the 21st Century for Tim would, "execute great vengeance on them with wrathful rebukes when he lays his vengeance upon them" Ezekiel 25:17.

Tim brought his prior experience and expertise to cross curricular issues, taking on the role of Assessment, Recording and Reporting coordinator in 2002. He introduced an integrated ARR calendar for the first time at the school and brought our reporting systems and documentation into the twenty-first century. From 2007-2012 he was a KS4 Head of Year. Tim is one of those teachers who has always given freely of his time, contributing to and enriching the life of the school: he spent 12 years running football teams before five years i/c Hockey; he is a member of the staff choir and played regularly for staff football and cricket teams before age and injury finally took their toll; he has been a regular on school ski trips and a staff governor for the past dozen years.

Some may consider Tim's greatest contribution to be the introduction of wearing bowties on Fridays, a sartorial statement which, at its height, was embraced by ten colleagues. Others may highlight Tim's impact on the school corridors via the perfumed incense emanating from his room or his zero-tolerance approach to classroom management or his penchant for inappropriate profanity. Still more may consider his evangelical fervour to educate his students culturally to be most significant, making them listen to Beethoven, Schubert, Stravinsky, Steve Reich, Frank Zappa, Captain Beefheart, King Crimson and Marvin Gaye.

This is not a real 'obituary', however. Tim is really a fraud; because he's not leaving us completely as he's coming back part-time in September primarily to teach A level Philosophy!

Kevin Stephen

# END OF EXPERIMENT



**Brenda Allen**  
(Art and Food and Nutrition 2013-2018)

Brenda originally joined us as a volunteer to support the teaching of Food and Nutrition. She quickly became indispensable as the major organiser of ingredients, resources and recipes.

Brenda was so unbelievably organised that these skills prompted the headmaster to actually employ her as a part time technician. This would be no ordinary role though. Brenda would drift between Art and Food in an almost invisible way. Resources appeared.

Dishes were cleaned. Towels were washed. Displays were set up and Budgets were managed. What will we do? How will we replace the irreplaceable?

Over the course of the last five years Brenda has become an integral part of our team and will be missed very much but we all wish her well in her future endeavours.

Thanks Brenda!

Robert Baker



**Mark Heslop**  
(Maths 2005 - 2018)

Mark joined the school in 2005 following a career as an engineer in the automotive industry. He has many a tale to tell of crash testing cars in France, not many people can say they have permission to write off prototypes worth £1million. Having worked in Europe, Mark can speak French, German and Italian and has utilised these skills covering language lessons over the years. Mark loves the outdoors and will climb, walk, cycle or run up any mountain given the chance. He has completed the Helvelin triathlon twice. Mark has shared his interest with students leading expeditions to the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and Norway and preparing pupils for their Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

Mark has taken on a number of roles throughout his career at the school. He has mentored PGCE students during their placements at AGSB and supported newly qualified members of the Maths department through their first year. He spent 8 years on the PFA committee, raising much needed funds for the school. As STEM coordinator he set up a number of initiatives and trips to encourage pupils into careers in STEM subjects and has helped run the very popular STEM career fairs for many years.

In his role as Head of Department, Mark has developed the Key Stage 5 curriculum for the new A Level, guiding AGSB through the significant recent changes, and training staff both at AGSB and other schools for Edexcel. Mark leaves the school for a job at Urmston Grammar School, we wish him the best in his new role.

Kate Potter



**Jayne Rogers**  
(SENDCO 2012 - 2017)

Jayne joined the SEND Department in September 2012. She was working towards a Diploma in Teaching and Learning in Schools and did her placement with us part time. She quickly settled and was keen to join us permanently as a Teaching Assistant, once she gained her qualification. Jayne supported groups as well as individual students across the year groups. She was happy to join school trips, get involved in Activities Week and particularly enjoyed the challenges of Year 7 PGL - there is pictorial evidence somewhere!

Jayne was able to share her love of music by supporting keyboard and instrumental lessons. She played the clarinet in order to accompany and encourage some students. Jayne was also a regular member of the Staff/Student Choir and played her part at many performances both back stage and on stage. Jayne's enthusiasms extended to an informal role of social secretary on occasion.

Jayne was happy to embrace new challenges and successfully applied for the role of Form Tutor a couple of years ago when she joined Year 8. This brought a new dimension to her involvement in school and gave her the opportunity to develop a different kind of supportive role with students and colleagues. As an individual and as a member of the team, Jayne worked to set a good example. She encouraged her Form in raising funds for charity, even modelling in the Fashion Show herself.

Sadly Jayne was enticed away from us in November to work as an Operations Manager in industry. She was a popular member of the team and is missed. Happily, she is still in touch and has promised to support the choir whenever possible.

Lesley Saunders



**Claire Raffo**  
(English 2008 - 2017)

Claire joined AGSB as a newly qualified teacher in 2008. After establishing herself as a very effective, popular and witty English teacher and Form Tutor, Claire was promoted to 2nd in English and managed the work of the department in Years 7-9. In that role, she made several significant developments, such as introducing setting to help students of all abilities to access the subject at an appropriate level, and managing the transition to a new assessment system in the lower school. In addition to marking the English element of the entrance examination, she coordinated the lower school literacy intervention programme to identify and boost students' reading and writing skills.

She coordinated the department's work with trainee teachers, forging partnerships with Manchester University, providing training to PGCE students on how to teach A-level Language & Literature, and mentoring 'new' teachers during their placements at AGSB. Claire ran the school debating club for a several years, and regularly organised theatre trips for students, including visits to see 'Of Mice and Men' and 'An Inspector Calls' and many more.

She regularly mentored students in Year 11 to help them achieve their potential and worked with Sixth Formers on a range of Extend Project Qualifications where her broader knowledge of art, music and culture was of great assistance. After the arrival of her daughter Silva in 2017, Claire returned to AGSB in a part time role, and departed at Christmas, with all our best wishes, to take up a new role in the English department at Flixton Girls' School.

Martin Davies

# END OF EXPERIMENT



**Sally Passey**  
(Chemistry 2011-2018)

Sally joined AGSB in 2011 whereupon she set about trying to organise the Chemistry Department.

Although it was never going to work, she did better than many who had tried before.

Sally previously had a successful career at BT. She would regale the department with tales of high-profile events she had attended with clients. It is no surprise that she thought this far too much fun and decided to spend the next seven years in a dingy room with no direct sunlight surrounded by chemicals with varying levels of toxicity.

Her regular supply of impeccably-baked cakes were a firm favourite with the support staff as well as the Science Department, if Chemistry ever left any. She thoroughly enjoyed Tuesday lunchtimes when she would pretend to sing at the back of the staff choir.

Following John Newton's retirement, Sally added Health and Safety responsibilities to her remit and approached the task with her usual thoroughness.

On the occasions she escaped, she could be found pounding the streets and tow paths preparing for a Marathon. This training involved taking on all comers on the staff to take the coveted Staff 'Bleep Test' prize two years in a row.

It is difficult to overstate the hard work and good company that Sally brought to our small enclave in Chemistry and the wider school and how much she will be missed by everybody.

Marian Keall



**Marian Keal**  
(Science Technician  
Lower School 2011-  
2018)

Marian Keall – Technician  
Extraordinaire!

Would you believe when Marian leaves AGSB for her well-deserved retirement she will have been with AGSB over 10 Years!

Ever optimistic, cheerful and smiling she will be sadly missed. As lower school science technician, she always ensured teachers and pupils had the equipment and chemicals they needed for year 7 and 8 science lessons. However, her contribution to the school as a whole was massive! Many of you will have been with her on school trips. She was a regular at PGL and often played a vital role supporting Geology Fieldwork – even helping to teach soil erosion, one of her many specialities from her previous life as a “real” working scientist.

As a first aider she played a vital role, calm and reassuring, even when called out at 3am on a Geology trip! Her work for the PFA has helped raise thousands for the school and she has always been keen and eager to “do the right thing” for the boys at AGSB. Her cheerful face will be sorely missed and I hope that she continues to pop in over the years to say hello. I am sure you'll all join me in wishing her a happy and long retirement.

Steven Squire



**Ellen Butler**  
(English 2017-2018)

Ellen Butler joined AGSB as a newly qualified English teacher in September 2017, after training phases at Withington Girl School and Parris Wood High School in Manchester.

Although Ellen has not been at the school long, she has contributed greatly to the Model United Nations activity in school, organising the weekly ‘conferences’ and enjoying success in January 2018 at MUNHIGH, where the AGSB delegation, representing Japan, won various accolades. Ellen's classes will miss her lively lessons, and students and colleagues alike wish Ellen all the very best as she moves on to pastures new in her career.

Martin Davies

## Luke Kwan

(Publications Committee Assistant Editor Student 2011-2018)

In what is a first for the school magazine, I have taken it upon myself to include Luke Kwan as a leaver. Luke Kwan is an incredible Editor in Chief. He is the cornerstone of the Publications Committee and the seamless link between students and staff. He joined us as a photographer in Year 8 and will leave us this year as the man who determines the direction of the Publication Committee he is the leader of our group and decides on the direction we take. He runs the meetings in my absence and is not afraid to challenge people when they do not live up to his expectations nor is he afraid to tell me when I am wrong. He is the ‘go to’ guy for everyone within the committee and he is completely selfless. He helps with applications and interviews, he takes an active interest in all members of the committee and is always willing to listen.



In the last twelve months he has done all of the above in addition to working on his A level studies and an EPQ. He is an Arkwright scholar who is helping out with interviews of further potential Arkwright scholars. He and his team have won the Teen Tech award which was presented at Buckingham Palace. He is a finalist in the Land

Rover challenge after winning the regional final and beating last year's national winners.

He is an entrepreneur in the making and has been involved in producing a book on Manchester that was used in young enterprise and is now in print nationally. He does photo-shoots for people and has been internationally recognised for his imagery young photographer's competition held by the UCL and although all of these are separate from the publications committee it demonstrates how utterly incredible it is that he still has the time to do this job.

Whenever anyone uses the quote ‘I never had time’ I think of Luke. The most impressive thing about Luke is his selflessness, he will help anyone in the committee at any time. His time management is outstanding, even though he may have deadlines for his work, but this has not prevented him helping others. I honestly do not know how he does it! He is simply an inspiration. This is the sixth year that Luke has been a member of the Publications Committee. In a year that I should have taken the pressure away from Luke he was faced with leading the committee entirely in my absence. He has been an incredible appointment and someone that I and the committee will miss immensely.

Thank You for everything.

Alan Williams

# HM: TIM GARTSIDE



When I was approached to write a piece about Tim for the end of year magazine I asked around in different quarters for others to give their perspective on a man who has been part of the Altrincham community for the last sixteen years. I

talked to other Heads, to our recently knighted MP, wrote to St. Mary's Church and to Trafford Council, chatted with governors of AGSB and directors of the HET and the joker in me wants to say that none had a good word to say of him. Of course that was not the case, Tim is held in great regard and phrases such as 'hugely respected', 'the most humble of gentle-men', 'calm and generous with his time', 'courteous and unpretentious' paints the picture of Tim that all of us who have known him over the last decade and a half will recognise.

I was told that the theme of this year's magazine is DNA and wondered how I could tie that in with all the feedback I had received. Then, on clearing a few things from my parents' house, I came across a book my mother had read to me when I was a child. It was Munro Leaf's 'The Story of Ferdinand the Bull' with its simple but powerful story about being true to oneself. It occurred to me that it is a recurring theme in literature because of how important it is in order to lead a good life. Shakespeare's Polonius tells Hamlet "to thine own self be true", and Ibsen's Peer Gynt and Pip in Dickens's Great Expectation only find happiness when they accept who they are. As to its relevance to Tim, I believe that being true to himself is embedded in his DNA and that is to his great credit.

I first met Tim upon becoming a governor at the school in the January of 2003 and this coincided with Tim's arrival. Some feared then that Tim (and he would be

the first to concede to this) didn't have the requisite charisma to fill such a position but it was apparent to me and many others that what Tim brought to the post of Head Teacher was a quiet and humble dignity and a work ethic which was second to none. I cannot imagine the amount of 'out of hours' time he has invested into the school and other schools in the northwest of England but, in his commitment to education and to the betterment of young lives, he has given himself generously and never sought recognition or applause.

He has always been a joy to work alongside being, as he is, a team player who is open to hearing and taking advice as well as being more than able to lead from the front. Being Head Teacher at any school, but especially at such a high performing one, is not an easy job and it is not a role in which disagreements and disappointments can always be avoided. Not everyone will have seen eye to eye with Tim and not everyone will have agreed with all of his decisions but not everyone will have seen the consideration and the soul searching he has invested into his work that I have seen over the many years in which I have been privileged to know him.

He has also, over the years, become a good friend and the two of us have suffered the trials and tribulations of following Rochdale AFC. And we were there on that memorable Sunday in February this year, both stood in the Sandy Lane End at Spotland, both shocked into disbelieving joy as Steve Davies equalized against Tottenham in the FA Cup in front of an audience of TV millions! Decades of pain healed in that one moment of unrestrained joy! Tim recently told me, when I applauded his achievements at AGSB over his time with us, that he had been lucky. I am minded to quote the great South African golfer, Gary Player, who said, "Its funny but the harder I work the luckier I get."

Up The Dale!

Duncan Battman



# AN INTERVIEW WITH MR WRIGHT

## Where did you grow up as a child, and what is your best memory about the place?

I had a bit of a nomadic upbringing, my father was a medic and we were living in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, although I quickly lost my Geordie accent after we moved to Oxford when I was seven. My main memories were in Oxford, where I went to a school similar to AGSB, with a rigorous liberal education, as well as focusing on sports, arts and drama.

## What sports did you play?

Rugby, I have played for London Welsh RFC as well as cricket for the county. I also enjoyed being in the school choir.

## What is your worst experience in a previous job?

I would say that after being a royal marine for seven years, which included two operational tours in Ireland and the former Yugoslavia, my most unpleasant part was training for Arctic warfare, which took place in Norway at minus 30°C conditions.

## What team do you support and why?

I like Rugby Union and Rugby League. As a union fan I support Harlequins and as a league fan I support Wigan. However my loyalties may change to Sale Sharks after I move to Altrincham. I also enjoy following Newcastle FC results every Saturday.

## What were your favourite subjects at school?

Mainly history and politics, I have always been fascinated by Tudor history and modern British history. Over the years I also studied politics, and certainly I will be teaching some history to Year 7 when I join AGSB.

## Do you have any hidden talents?

I make quite a good chef, I have taken a few cookery courses with some high-profile chefs. I especially enjoy cooking seafood. I would say my best dish is classical French, crab or lobster.

## What made you want to become the HM at this school?

Every school I have worked in encouraged a liberal education, but AGSB particularly encouraged extracurricular team work and competition.

## How did you feel when you found out you were the new head of AGSB?

Mixture of emotions, elation, pride and excitement but also apprehension as I know what a huge job ahead I have.

## What is the biggest change you see coming to the school?

Over the first few weeks I aim to take stock and review the school's strengths, and build strong relationships. As well as working alongside the Hamblin Education Trust to collaborate with other schools, I would like to see incremental improvements. I do not aim to change the culture or ethos of this great school.

## What do you think will be the hardest part of the job?

I imagine Headship is not for the faint hearted as I will be running a large organisation. One of the many challenges will be funding and I hope to get the best value out of the limited money available to the school.

Mark Graham



# NEW BLOOD



<b>Name</b>	Zeena Albeldawi	Catherine Allen	Daniel James Birchall	Margaret Brickell	Ellen Butler	Charlotte Clark
<b>Place of birth</b>	Baghdad.	Wythenshawe, Manchester.	Wigan.	At home in Flixton, Manchester.	Surrey.	Burnley, Lancashire.
<b>What word would you use to sum up your DNA?</b>	Hard working.	Creative.	Human.	Flawless.	Serendipitous.	Books.
<b>What's the finest part of AGSB's DNA?</b>	Biology Team.	The Learning Support department and the excellent working relationships between students and staff alike.	Knowledgeable and helpful staff.	The ability of staff to encourage each boy to be unique.	You – the boys!	The articulate and enthusiastic gentlemen I teach.
<b>First job?</b>	Dental technician.	Kitchen Porter at La Boheme Restaurant in Lymm.	Paperboy.	Typist in a law firm in 1976.	Working for a wedding planning team aged 16.	Barista at Costa Coffee.
<b>Most embarrassing moment?</b>	Thank God I have been lucky so far for not having any!	Far too many to list here.	None	I don't have one and if I did, I wouldn't put it in the School magazine.	'I have to confess, when me and my friend... used to run through the fields of wheat.'	Making a disappointing macchiato for Manuel Pellegrini.
<b>If you could change one thing in your DNA to make yourself different, what would it be?</b>	It would be take life at ease.	Faster metabolism to slow down weight gain.	Removing the necessity of sleep.	Better eyesight!	Shoes.	Being more open to using a SatNav. I'm too proud and stubborn!
<b>What key morals do you try to live your life by?</b>	Use your struggles to grow stronger. Overcome anxiety with faith.	Be the type of person you would want to meet, try your best at everything you do, and remember that time waits for no-one.	Humble hard work.	Truthfulness, respectfulness, loyalty and forgiveness.	Life is too unpredictable for maxims! Maybe 'if you don't know where you're going, any road will get you there?' (Carroll).	Oscar Wilde said it best, "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."
<b>Any hidden talent(s) you'd like to share?</b>	Cooking.	I ski, I act, and I won a prize for star baker at my previous work.	None.	I used to be a ballroom dance teacher in my younger days.	My Ultimate Team is in Division I online.	Knowing the names of all 12 men who walked on the moon (in chronological order).
<b>What is your favourite TLA (Three Letter Acronym), other than DNA?</b>		OED – It contains many other acronyms and I am an English graduate after all!	PS4.	LOL.	Has to be AFC.	BFC (Burnley Football Club).

# NEW BLOOD



<b>Name</b>	Stef Connolly	Faye Cooke	Sophie Embleton	Olivia Frankland	Adam Gooch	Helen Haines
<b>Place of birth</b>	Oldham.	Bradford.	Manchester.	Manchester.	Warrington.	London.
<b>What word would you use to sum up your DNA?</b>	Happy.	Creative.	Loyal.	Useful.	Organised.	Greedy.
<b>What's the finest part of AGSB's DNA?</b>	Friendly and welcoming.	I feel that the school has a great reputation and has high standards, but the finest part of the AGSB's DNA in my opinion is Etiquette.	Positivity, there's a good energy within AGSB.	The people, Staff and Students.	Attitude towards learning.	Ambitious students.
<b>First job?</b>	Teaching English in Japan (JET Programme).	Pizza Hut as a waitress.	PA.	Babysitting Craig Charles kids.	Chef.	Worked in a bookshop then as a waitress at Pizza Express.
<b>Most embarrassing moment?</b>	An alarm was disturbing N12 and N13. Worried it might be a gas alarm, Site Staff came to my aid to discover the source of the noise was a malfunctioning timer.	Most likely falling over in front of a crowd.	Seeing my face printed and plastered over the side of a bus. I shall share no more!	I've blanked them all from my memory.	Vomiting down myself during a 10k race.	Too many to mention.
<b>If you could change one thing in your DNA to make yourself different, what would it be?</b>	Identify and improve my time-keeping gene.	Smaller feet.	It would be wonderful I totally disliked chocolate and enjoyed team sports.	To no longer need sleep.	Eyesight.	The ability to enjoy the present without stressing about the future.
<b>What key morals do you try to live your life by?</b>	Always give it a go, what's the worst that can happen?!	Everyday is a new day.	Treat others how you expect to be treated; try your best and "be more dolphin" – jump in the surf purely for the fun of it.	Be kind, have fun, consider your impact on the environment.	Manners maketh man.	Be kind.
<b>Any hidden talent(s) you'd like to share?</b>	Not hairdressing.....	I think this would be building flat packed furniture in record breaking time!	None.	Latte Art – I drew a good Cumberbatch in a coffee once (google image 'Cumberbatch latte art').	Really enjoy cooking and gardening, grow a lot of my own vegetables.	I've hiked the coast to coast long distance path; I make a mean roast dinner.
<b>What is your favourite TLA (Three Letter Acronym), other than DNA?</b>	PDQ.	IDK.	BTW.	BWF – I'm a bit badminton obsessed.	FBI I suppose.	BLT.

# NEW BLOOD



<b>Name</b>	Juliette Jackson	Juliette Jackson	Jo Lacon	Kate Lee	Jane Stedman	Cath Thompson
<b>Place of birth</b>	Bristol.	Bristol.	Timperley.	Manchester.	Salford.	Liverpool.
<b>What word would you use to sum up your DNA?</b>	Historical.	Historical.	Devonian (as in ancestry not geologic period).	Creativity.	Complexity.	Northern.
<b>What's the finest part of AGSB's DNA?</b>	Commitment to achieving.	Commitment to achieving.	Its legacy.	Range and diversity of students' talents and interests.	The musical talent in the school is just incredible.	Kindness and good manners.
<b>First job?</b>	Checkout Girl at a supermarket.	Checkout Girl at a supermarket.	Chambermaid.	When I was eleven I set up a small jewellery business. It didn't make me great fortunes, but I loved doing it and learnt a lot.	Selling shoes in Kurt Geiger.	Shop assistant at Argos.
<b>Most embarrassing moment?</b>	Wearing my slippers to work by accident!	Wearing my slippers to work by accident!	Asking David Beckham for his autograph in Tesco.	I thought my top would look really cool if I added little fairy lights to it. My only downfall was when I literally fell down the stairs onto the dancefloor.	Nothing I'm not still too embarrassed about to share here!	The first time someone mistook my children for my grandchildren – made me realise how old I am.
<b>If you could change one thing in your DNA to make yourself different, what would it be?</b>	I'd like to be willing to take more chances or risks.	I'd like to be willing to take more chances or risks.	I'd change my DNA to be able to maintain a constant temperature.	To not be so untidy.	I'd love to be able to sing (as it is, I'd make your ears bleed).	To have a good singing voice.
<b>What key morals do you try to live your life by?</b>	You can't change the past, you can only make the now and future better.	You can't change the past, you can only make the now and future better.	Kindness, fairness, honesty, consideration and always treat others as you would want to be treated.	Take the time to see things from other people's point of view.	Respect others. Always try to be kind.	Treat others as you would wish to be treated. Unless they cycle on pavements or drive through red traffic lights.
<b>Any hidden talent(s) you'd like to share?</b>	I have a talent for embarrassing my kids at sports events!	I have a talent for embarrassing my kids at sports events!	Talent loosely describes my love of learning to paint.	Working out early on 'who done it' in crime dramas, to the great annoyance of my partner.	I make quite a lot of my own clothes.	None.
<b>What is your favourite TLA (Three Letter Acronym), other than DNA?</b>	OMW.	OMW.	OMG I say it far too much !!	DIY. I recently replaced the shower thermostat. Unfortunately the video didn't tell me to turn the mains water off first!	TQ! (it's definitely the one I use the most).	LOL.

# MEMORIES: THE TIME OF MY LIFE

My first day at AGSB remains fresh in my memory - a day that started at around 11:00 am just the same as any first day and that consisted of English followed by R&P and Science. This set the precedent for my next seven years at the school. Looking back over my time at AGSB, what is even more remarkable than the speed at which the seven years have gone by are the many ways in which the evolution of the school has played an integral part in my development. What struck me at the end of my first year at AGSB was how impressive the various aspects of the school were and also how many new students were able to participate in these activities. In my first term, I had become part of the school council, played in the rugby team and joined the choir. As the year moved on, I was presented with other opportunities such as singing at the Bridgewater Hall in the Centenary Concert, taking part in a sponsored London 2012 Olympic Torch run with older boys and being chosen as sports ambassador for the Olympic fundraising initiatives. It seemed that with any desire to be involved in the wider school environment, the opportunities existed. I knew this came with a certain degree of fortune - I won the Olympic fundraising mile run when the leading group took a wrong turn on the course!

Over the next couple of years, different opportunities presented themselves. Ms DeJesus asked me to play piano for the choir when I started year 8, thereby kick-starting my serious involvement in music. Alongside this, Mr Dalby assigned the running of the Staff Choir to me after he left in 2013. This role reversal has been one of the most beneficial opportunities for me as a musician in these years and the choir has grown in membership and musicality, a testament to the staff who have committed to it alongside their busy schedules. In terms of sport, touring opportunities were presented to us: to the Isle of Man to play cricket and to the Netherlands to play rugby. The latter was not only a thoroughly enjoyable trip, it was highly beneficial to the team, which won 14 consecutive games, some against close rivals, upon returning from the continent. Furthermore, as part of the Barcelona trip and the battlefields trip, I gained the full benefit of the range of trips on offer. Approaching GCSEs, as much as the focus shifted to exams, I relished the chance to participate in a county athletics tournament straight after my GCSE Applications paper, and to coach the year 7 rugby team as well as playing for my own age group.



The academic demands of sixth form were a considerable step up after the long, ten-week summer of year 11 and the breadth of opportunities increased simultaneously. The highlights of the year included my involvement in the LAMDA drama showcase, the start of the Music Theatre Society and the highly ambitious and successful production of Jesus Christ Superstar. Now into my last term, the Upper Sixth has also been a year of firsts. As Head Boy, I was entrusted with running activities for younger years in the same Activities Week that I had been part of in years 7-9. I set up the school's Vocal Society, which has grown from 17 to just under 60 singers in two terms. I will be going to Canada on a two-week rugby tour this July. I played as part of a jazz trio in school events, and was also fortunate enough to watch the Swing Band win a platinum award at the NCBF finals with one of its youngest senior bands ever, which I feel embodies the evolution of school music. The range of music and number of lads involved has grown exponentially over the last seven years to give as many young musicians of all abilities the full musical experience. This type of development is exhibited by, but not limited to, music at AGSB, and is a chance for boys with all different skills sets to experience a range of activities. The opportunity to enjoy and to push themselves is remarkable.

The single finest attribute of AGSB has been the supportive nature of staff and students alike. Not only has this helped me academically, it has equipped me with assets for life. I value group co-operation because I played in rugby and cricket teams that worked together to achieve a common goal. I understand the importance of organisation because of running so many rehearsal and training sessions. I appreciate the value of role models, having looked up to older students, and now aspire to be equally inspiring. I will be genuinely sorry to leave AGSB in summer and have very fond memories of a unique school and the wonderful people within it.

Alex Patel



# THE GREAT CAROL BAKE OFF



Carol loved baking, so what better way to support her than a bake off - 'The Great Carol Bake Off'. The twelve contestants baked show cakes which were judged by the Headmaster, then auctioned off to the hungriest bidder.

The event was extremely successful raising over £1000, special mention to Luke Holland who raised £115 with his salted caramel cakes. The winning bakers were Mrs. Blaise, Janice McNab and Adil Ehsan.

Thanks to all who baked and also those who donated tray bakes and cupcakes, and big thanks to the contestants, Mrs Blaise, Mrs Bowden, Adil Ehsan, Janice, Mrs Williamson, Mrs Brennan, Mark, Luke Holland, Mrs Harvey-Voyce, Tej Pradhan, Miss Morgan and Mrs King.

The whole event was a pleasure to be part of, there was a real feeling of love and support for Carol from all involved in baking and buying.

I am deeply saddened by her loss but I know that we all did her proud.

Gill Williamson and Mark Graham



# 2018 FUNDRAISING RECAP

2018 was a fantastic year for fundraising within the sixth form and the school as a whole. Year 13 (with help from Year 12) have been involved with raising over £10,000 for some absolutely amazing causes.

Firstly, we raised £417 for Educaid who run an educational network comprising of free schools, teacher training, and tertiary programmes in Sierra Leone. They provide distinctive, personalised, top-quality, holistic education and support to vulnerable young people. This was done as part of a voluntary £3 donation made when paying for UCAS applications.

The Islamic Society, led by Faiz Salim, raised a stunning £2,227.52 for Doctors worldwide thanks to generous donations and the immense success of the Asian Food Sale.

2018 was a pink year – thanks to our

students! We painted Hale and Altrincham pink as part of Prevent Breast Cancer, starting by raising £410 with a Year 13 "flash mob" of pink. A team of "pink" superstars then helped to create a whole school event by making hundreds of pink bows to raise awareness of breast cancer which also included a sports afternoon, with special mentions going to Paul Allen, Ramon Davis and Dylan Morris. In total, we raised £1829 for Prevent Breast Cancer.

The power of cake to do good. A short notice event from which we hoped to help Mrs Bowden and the team from Sodexo to raise a few hundred pounds for Carol. It became one of our most memorable events. £1045 was raised by the event.

It was a busy year for Chad's Challenge with 4 events over the year. The first event was a Star Wars themed tea

party which raised £846 for the Willow foundation. The second event was the hugely successful ladies night with raised £2500 for the Christie. Billy Horton managed the event and it was a fantastic show of support by the local community. This was followed up by the Junior Chad's Challenge team running 2 arm wrestling events. One for the male teachers and one for the ladies! This year has taken the total Chad's challenge figure to a massive £82,500! 2018 marks the 10th anniversary of Chad's passing and to mark the occasion, Michelle Mulholland along with 9 others, will be running the Manchester 10K – raising thousands for the Christie in the process.

Luke Kwan and Gill Williamson



# ART GALLERY



JACK PASSEY



YANIS MEZIANI



JOSEPH STROUD



FABIAN RUTJES



HARRY SHERIDAN



SAMIH CHOWDHARY



JAMES HOPE



ADAM KING

# ROBOT WARS UK CHAMPION



We still had one last shot – the “Ten Robot Rumble” of which the last-standing team would claim the last Grand Final place. We decided to play this tactically and hang back until other teams had suffered more damage, and after a five-minute fight we finished off the remaining few robots to win! This put us into the final, where we managed to fight our way past the super high-tech Magnetar; Rapid which was built by a professional company for over £25,000, and Behemot who have had almost 20 years of experience in the competition. After these incredibly closely fought battles, we made it through to the championship fight, once again against Carbide, making a repeat of the final from the previous series.

To our amazement this fight went very differently from how it had done previously and we managed to damage their weapon enough to stop it from spinning by the end of the fight and scored lots of great flips with our weapon. We were both still running after 3 minutes – and we won by judges’ decision!

It was an amazing feeling to finally win the show which inspired me so many years ago as a young child! I remember the moment of being handed the trophy seeming very surreal, but at the same time a feeling I will never forget.

Michael Oates

Michael is an old boy of AGSB and can be found on facebook: [www.facebook.com/michael.oates.1884](https://www.facebook.com/michael.oates.1884)



Last year we were lucky enough to be invited back to take part in our third series of Robot Wars for the BBC, after making it to the grand final the year before. After having had our robot “Eruption” completely torn apart in the prior series, we had only a few months to rebuild and implement our upgrades ready to make another shot at the title! Having just about made the deadline, we returned with an improved robot with more spare parts than we’ve ever had before to make sure we were ready to take on the destructive spinners. When we made it to the event, we discovered that we were due to compete in the ultimate “Heat of Death” consisting of the competition’s top three seeds: ourselves, and Carbide and Aftershock – the two teams who had caused all our damage a few months earlier.

We started off by facing our best friends with their robot Aftershock, now the most powerful vertical spinner ever in the competition and one we were very worried about. Luckily enough we managed to launch it out of the arena in spectacular fashion, and a few fights later made our way through to the heat final of our episode against the reigning champions Carbide. Sadly, Carbide once again badly damaged our drive, and put us into second place for the heat without a place in the Grand Final.

# GARRY BINNS NATIONAL CHAMPION

Towards the end of 2017 I received an email from DATA (Design and Technology Association) regarding best practitioners in our subject. Category 10: Supporting Design and Technology immediately stood out as an opportunity to nominate Garry Binns in our department. This is part of what I submitted.

Garry Binns is an exceptional teaching assistant, he is a technician in name only. He inspires students and has a genuine interest in their development as a Design Technologist. He was a tool maker for twenty years and served his apprenticeship prior to this. This knowledge and attention to detail helps to make my lessons better, the students’ projects better and their results better. Garry was commissioned to look into manufacturing a clock for our school centenary. He is a keen horologist and the clock was designed by Garry. Every single aspect of the clock was manufactured by Garry and a team of specifically selected students. This was completed outside of classroom time with hundreds of hours spent manufacturing an amazing artefact that will last for many years to come. Garry and his new team of specifically selected students are now servicing the clock. Each aspect has been painstakingly disassembled, cleaned, polished and reassembled. Garry explains not only the function of the parts, but also the manufacturing technique used to create the part. This is inspiring a new wave of Technologists amongst our



students. He is also involved in the Land Rover model building competition. This is run with a team of sixth formers and there are no other members of staff associated with the task. Garry has given up his time for this despite 60% of the team not studying Design & Technology for A Level. I have watched Garry demonstrate a cutting technique with a Year 7 student when his only intention was to borrow a stapler from my room. I have seen him escort an upset student to the Head of Year because he wanted to make sure that he was okay. I have seen him manufacture a tool for a job to make a student’s practical piece easier to construct. I have seen him repair countless things for students because he wants to help. He is selfless and always puts the students first. Without Garry’s help the Design and Technology department would not be as successful as it is.

I was delighted to learn that Garry won the award beating over one hundred and twenty other nominees. As part of the celebration he was invited to London for a celebratory dinner held at The Savoy Place. During the evening Sir Paul Grant spoke about the importance of embedding creative subjects into the curriculum and highlight the incredible work of Garry and all the other winners.

Imagery credit Design & Technology Association and more information can be found at [DATA.org.uk](https://www.data.org.uk)

Alan Williams



# DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY GALLERY



**DEXTER HARRIS**  
ROTATING CUBIC STORAGE



**BENJI LOVELL**  
CIRCULAR STORAGE UNIT



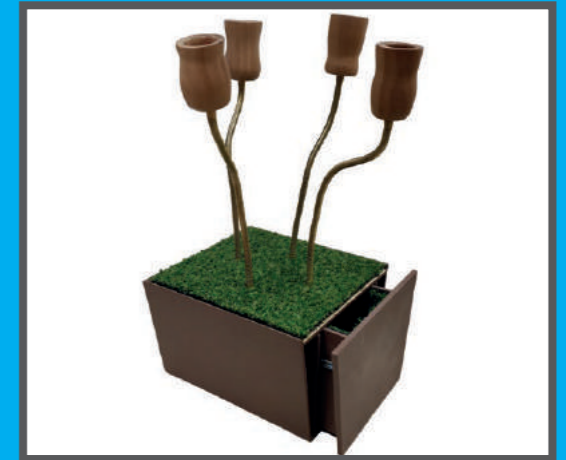
**LEO HOFFMAN**  
BLUETOOTH MODULAR SPEAKER



**HUSSNAIN KHAN**  
HUZZY TIN CAN ALLEY



**SHAFAE ALI**  
QUICK-RELEASE DRUM STAND



**CHARLES HORLOCK**  
20TH CENTURY INSPIRED STORAGE



**SUJANSAI KOMMURU**  
COIN SORTER AND COUNTER



**HAMZA-BIN-MAJID**  
SPEEDMASTER REACTION GAME

# MYGLOVE: STEM AWARD WINNER

Shortly before the October half term, I was privileged to be invited to Buckingham Palace together with Shafae Ali and Luke Kwan so that they could be presented with their prizes for winning the national final of the TeenTech Awards with their project, MyGlove. This is a competition that promotes innovation and design for students of all ages. HRH the Duke of York is the patron of this scheme and it is he who sent out personal invitations complete with the royal seal to each of our homes. This invitation arrived as part of a pack that described in detail where we must enter the Palace and at what time. We had a fifteen minute window. Failure to arrive during that window would mean no entry at all. These are Year 13 students so it could be a problem!

I had everything planned. We would stay in the Premier Inn Hub, a new hi-tech pod hotel near St Jame's Park and we would eat out at an Italian tapas style restaurant to celebrate the event. That night before the main event at the Palace, Luke Kwan declared that it was the best food he had ever eaten. This is high praise indeed since Italian is his favourite style of cuisine. Shortly after, Shafae polished off a whole seabass including the eyes. We then decided to take a walk, photographing some great views of the London Eye at night. We returned via a circular route and made sure that a souvenir key ring was purchased for Mr Suthard as promised. Upon our return to the Premier Inn Hub, I was treated to a demonstration of the "smart" features of this newly opened pod hotel. The tables in the lounge charged your phone if you

laid it down. You could control all aspects of your room with the hub app on your phone including the TV and the lighting. All very impressive.

It was then time for me to reveal to Luke and Shafae that I had managed to set up a business meeting in the lobby for the following morning with a representative from Guinness Asset Management with a view to gaining sponsorship for their next engineering venture - the Land Rover In Schools 4x4 Technology Challenge. After breakfast, the scene was set. Shafae and Luke set up the table and went through the pitch. We patiently waited. The potential sponsor arrived at 10:30am and the pitch was made. It was clean and professional. If it were on Dragons Den, they would have been throwing cash at this team of entrepreneurs. It would now be a waiting game. The sponsorship pack was to be emailed to the Chief Executive and we would check-out and ready ourselves for the walk to the Palace.

The weather was surprisingly hot for October and ice-creams were on sale. I couldn't resist a Flake 99 with Mr Whippy ice cream. The team declined my offer of ices likely due to nerves. We arrived with about twenty minutes to spare so that we could take some photographs outside of the Palace. When it was time to enter, we were directed to a gate which was guarded by armed police. We showed our cards and were waved in. The view outward is quite something. Thousands of people looking in, but there we are, looking out from the gravel courtyard of the Palace. I didn't expect to be



# FROM BUCKINGHAM TO BIRMINGHAM

walking in the front door of the Palace either. Once through the main courtyard, we entered and signed in. We were given royal badges to wear before we went upstairs to drink tea from royal cups and dip biscuits with royal crests on. Luke and Shafae insisted on visiting the royal conveniences before the prize giving to check out the royal quality. It was all quite royal.

My hero from the eighties TV show Tomorrows World, Maggie Philbin, started the presentation with a summary of how the awards have evolved over the last few years and how the competition is now going international with representatives from Bulgaria and Spain. HRH The Duke of York entered and talked at length about the contest and how important innovation is. Each prize winner was invited up to say a few words about their projects and receive certificates. The Prince was in good humour throughout. After the presentation, there was some time for an informal chat with other team members and guests. Shafae and Luke were in good form once again championing their invention.

After we left the palace and started our journey back to the railway station, thoughts turned to their next project and the regional and national finals that might lie ahead. That's a story for another page but it was exciting to receive the email saying that sponsorship was secured due to the impressive sales pitch combined with world class documentation. It was full steam ahead on the next challenge.

Robert Baker



A few months later, MyGlove was further developed and improved, looking more closely at the technology and practical applications. During this time, another engineering based competition opportunity arose; The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Competition.

The Big Bang competition is a national STEM competition which recognises and rewards young people's projects, providing them with the opportunity to build their skills through this work. Over 500 finalists from across the country showcase their projects at the NEC Birmingham at an exhibition that attracts over 70,000 visitors. Students who are competing for a range of prizes explain their projects to the public, company representatives and judges. This year, the project MyGlove, presented by Shafae Ali and Luke Kwan, was successful in winning the JCB Special Prize for Innovation. JCB has a world-renowned reputation for pushing boundaries and innovation; the award is given on the basis of a project in any engineering biased field displaying these qualities. As a result of winning, a bespoke trophy and gift bag were presented, an award of £500 to help continue the STEM journey of the project and an expenses paid week's work experience at the JCB World Headquarters.

Shafae Ali

# LAND ROVER 4X4 CHALLENGE

The Land Rover 4x4 In Schools Challenge requires students to design and manufacture a four-wheel drive remote controlled car from scratch in accordance to a set specification. The vehicle must then compete on a track designed by the Land Rover officials with the aim not being speed, but instead control. The competition is based on a variety of different aspects ranging from track performance to engineering knowledge.

First time entry for the school saw AGSB's very own "The Mancunian Way" competing. The team is made up of six Year 13 students who are passionate about engineering, this includes Luke Kwan, Shafae Ali, Will Atkins, Tom Watson, Chris Jurkowski and Ishan Jain. The first stage was at the North West Regional Finals at the end of January held at the JLR Halewood site. Within the professional class were last year's National Champions and fourth place World Finalists – a highly experienced team. Despite this, The Mancunian Way came first place and were now representing the North West at the National Finals.

Improvements suggested from the Regionals were the team's priority leading up to the next stage, which was going to be a two-day event from March 22nd to 23rd held at the British Motor Museum in Gaydon. The most significant change made was new anti-slip tyres made from fully biodegradable materials, improving the sustainability aspect of the vehicle.

After rigorous testing, the anti-slip tyres had lost their coating, and by the time they saw use on the track, they had now become 'slip' tyres. Track performance did not end well for The Mancunian Way, coming a grand 25th out of 25 teams. Despite this setback, the team managed to perform highly in other aspects of the competition, particularly in the presentation, gaining a much larger proportion of points compared to track. As a result, The Mancunian Way who started as the underdog, were placed 2nd in the country as well as winning Best Engineered Vehicle. The team has now gained a place at the World Finals, with the location yet to be decided.

Shafae Ali



# NETFLIX STARS

Back in October, 7 other boys and I had the incredible opportunity to sing in a mixed choir, along with the AGGS Chamber Choir, as part of a scene in an upcoming Netflix Original Show, "Safe". We only had one evening of practice with the girls' choir before two sessions of recording. For many of us, it our first opportunity to sing in a mixed choir.

The first recording session was an evening spent professionally recording the audio for the series. The song of choice was 'Weep O Mine Eyes', the most famous of the fifteen madrigals written by the English composer John Bennet. We then spent the following Sunday filming the scene, which will end up lasting around three minutes. It was definitely interesting to see what happens behind the scenes when filming a show like this even though there was a lot of waiting around in between takes. It was pleasantly surprising to see faces such as Amanda Abbington, most known for her roles as Miss Mardle in Mr Selfridge and as Mary Morstan in Sherlock, and Michael C Hall, most known for playing Dexter Morgan in Dexter, on set.

Filming for the show has been ongoing since early summer of last year and only finished in the final couple of months of 2017, and throughout that period various cast and crew members have been spotted filming all around the Hale and Bowdon area, so there may be a few familiar locations throughout the series.

Overall, it was a wonderful opportunity for which we have Ms DJ and the AGGS music department to thank; one that we will all carry with us for the rest of our lives.

"After his teenage daughter goes missing, a widowed surgeon in an affluent neighbourhood begins unearthing dark secrets about the people closest to him."

'Safe' premiered at the CANNESERIES Film Festival on 11th April 2018 and was released on Netflix May 10th.

Matthew Fairman



# BIOLOGY TRIP TO ORLANDO

On Wednesday 28th March, thirty boys from years 8, 9 and 10 left Manchester Airport to go on the first ever Biology Trip to Orlando, Florida. The aim of the trip was to develop our biology skills and knowledge, with some extra time to spend at the many attractions of Orlando.

On the first day we were given a tour of the Animal Kingdom. The tour explained how if one part of the environment was damaged, the effect would ripple through the animal and plant habitats and cause widespread further damage. We examined dinosaur fossils where they were found in Florida and talked about that as a group. This was followed by trips on the Dinosaur Ride and Expedition Everest rides at Animal Kingdom. After our tour we were given the rest of the day to explore the park, going on numerous rides such as the Kali River Rapids and the Primeval Whirl.

The next day we went on a long coach journey to Mote Marine Laboratory, one of the only privately owned marine research facilities in the United

States. We looked at how human disasters can have a catastrophic effect on sea life. Examples of this include manatees being wounded by motors on boats and dolphins getting caught in nets. We then moved outside to a little opening by the sea, where we waded into the shallows to try and catch some sea life for sampling. After this we talked about how each creature is adapted to its habitat and its survival instincts. After lunch in a nearby café, we went to the fascinating Mote Aquarium where we saw turtles, sharks and many more species of marine life.

On Saturday we spent a full day at the Epcot Centre, going on rides such as Mission: Space and Project Tomorrow. These rides showed us different experiences, Mission: Space showing us how it feels for astronauts to be catapulted into Space and how we are affected by G-Force. Project Tomorrow showed us how the world has been shaped and how humans have influenced it. After this we stayed at Epcot to watch the fireworks, which symbolised the spirit of humanity.



Next was an amazing day at Universal Studios, accessed via the Hogwarts Express. Some of the best rides included Hollywood's Rip Ride Rockit, Revenge of the Mummy, Hulk and many more. We were given the full day to explore the parks before dinner and dancing to Village People songs at the Hard Rock Café.

All too soon it was our last day, but before our flight we headed to Boggy Creek Airboat Rides in the Everglades, where we searched for alligators and other forms of wildlife. After this we listened to a presentation given by a Native American, talking about how he survives using techniques from hundreds of years ago.

Overall the trip was a fantastic experience which combined interesting biology with thrill rides and excitement. Hopefully this will be the first of many such trips and other groups will get to enjoy Florida as much as we did. Thank you to Miss Blaize, Mrs Ward, Mrs Farrell and Dr Thomas for a brilliant and exciting trip.

Isaac Cooper



# POLE STAR PLANETARIUM

On Monday 23rd January 2018, in the Coleman Hall, a large round silver shape appeared. What was it? A U.F.O.?

Actually, it wasn't that far from a U.F.O. In fact, it was a visitor to take us to space. Well, make us feel we were there. It was the Pole Star Planetarium, a fantastic dome in which we watched (in 3D) videos about the Moon (and how the Google Lunar XPrize was going to take us back), the Sun (and how it's going to expand and fry us... but don't worry, not for 5 billion years), and also about the I.S.S and what Tim Peake did up there for 6 months (learning to drink water).

Indeed it was a great experience, especially the 3D landscape we saw as the projector showed the videos on

the dome leading to us feeling immersed in the centre of the video- like virtual reality but for a big group. We saw many fantastic sights from the animated video (although in some places the video was just a bit distorted) and learnt a lot about the Moon, Sun and the ISS.

Finally, in the last part of the hour we had, we used Stellarium (a free program which is on the school computers to look at the sky) to take a short tour of the night sky identifying Orion, the Plough, Ursa Minor, Ursa Major, Polaris (the Pole Star), and finally we saw Cassiopeia. It really showed us interesting parts of the night sky like the planets and constellations.

Joshua Sarma



# ASTRONOMY CLUB: REVIEW



T. Coates on the Liverpool Telescope 2018

At the very beginning of the year, over forty boys from Years 8 and 9 piled into the PC2 to begin a new phenomenon: the GCSE Astronomy club. Each of them was holding intricate models of the moon. In fact, the amount of moons in that room alone was more than 2/3 of Jupiter's accepted moons. This was the first assignment in a busy year.

Twice a week, on Wednesday afternoon and at Thursday lunchtime, the Astronomy club meets. While having shrunk slightly (mainly due to the noise of forty boys making it hard to work!) the Astronomy club is still going strong. Indeed now it is much quieter than it was and so we are even more fascinated by the facts Mrs Gaydhani reveals, without the background of chattering. We have now learnt a lot more about subjects such



T.Arshad, 2018



J. Sarma on the Liverpool Telescope, 2018

as the different constellations, the four theories on the origin of the Moon and the Space Race.

We've also done interesting practical lessons like trying to make comets and making telescopes using different lenses, and part of our GCSE coursework is making two observations.

Another interesting part of Astronomy was the computer lessons. Once every half-term, we piled into the computer rooms to learn about the technology we used. We used two programs mainly: Stellarium, a very useful computerized and open-source planetarium we used to view the night sky in our lessons, and the Liverpool Telescope (<https://www.schoolsobservatory.org/>) which we used to request observations from the telescope and then processed with LTIImage, an image editing program. Some of the best images we had taken for us are in this article, although there will be even more over time, and many more interesting objects, like colour observations of distant galaxies.

As well as this, at Christmas, we were given the school's subscription to 'All about Space', a very interesting magazine previously stocked in the Library, which we are allowed to read for around 5 to 10 minutes before lessons. It's very interesting as it compiles recent developments, current science and future speculation.

Finally, we just need to thank Mrs Gaydhani for teaching us this brilliant course.

Joshua Sarma

# ESSAY COMPETITION WINNER



New College of the Humanities (NCH) is a prestigious academic institution in the centre of London, offering a unique liberal arts-inspired curriculum with highly personalised teaching. They started a competition for humanities students, giving them the choice of 3 essays to write:

- What is the future for globalism?
- Why do we need philosophers?
- Is Democracy the best form of government?

Year 13's Jonathan Burman chose the globalism essay, here is an extract from his conclusion:

"In 1999, Tony Blair declared the Westphalian nation state system to be obsolete, and ushered in a new, post-globalisation, "doctrine of the international community". Blair's declaration was premature, but it was not wrong; while the state-system continues to operate in a context of anarchy, globalisation is causing fundamental shifts in the geopolitical

landscape. The first is the legitimisation of intra-state military interference, a significant violation of the Westphalian order, and a practice which will become more widespread in this century. The second is a further shift in power, aided by technological advancement, to non-state actors such as terrorist groups and international social movements. The third, and most significant impact, is the growing collective effort to combat dilemmas such as climate change, disease, and the arms trade. Combined with increasing economic integration, these three major shifts will inevitably create a system of political interdependence in which, if it was not already, power will be truly intangible."

After being put up for scrutiny by a judging panel, headed by Professor A C Grayling (pictured with Jonathan), he finished in first place, earning £2000 for himself and an additional £1000 for the school. Discussing his success, Jonathan said: "Having long had an interest in global affairs, I thoroughly enjoyed the research and writing process for this year's New College of the Humanities essay competition, which was on the future of globalism. There were around 400 entries, and the awards were presented by Professor A. C. Grayling at an event in NCH's main building in Bloomsbury, London. For winning the first prize, I was given £1000 for AGSB and £2000 for myself. I would definitely encourage any sixth formers thinking of applying to study history or politics at university, to consider entering an essay competition — there are loads of them."

Tom Hurrell

# YEAR 9-13 PUBLIC SPEAKING

Throughout the year, the debating society has organised several public competitions for all the years in the school. One representative from each form was chosen to argue for or against their year's statement. The topics varied depending on age and these events were an incredible success. Mr Croxton and Mr Davies organised these events to give people among each year group, an opportunity to argue their case and have their say in many current affairs all across the world.

The first events for each year were such a huge success, that another set of debates were organised for each of the years, for different form representatives, to argue against other members of their year. Many of the boys involved said it was a great experience, to have their say in some very challenging affairs and to compete against their peers, which made it even-more exciting.

There are many talented speakers across all the years, which made the judge's decision very hard to make. The school has had many trips to the Houses of Parliament, to debate with other schools on different topics. We hope the upcoming years can live up to the standard set by the current Year 12's and 13's.

Mr Croxton and the Politics Society have really enjoyed holding these competitions and hope to carry them on into the next academic year.

James Legg



# UKMT TEAM CHALLENGE

Earlier in March this year, myself and three other boys went to Manchester Grammar School to represent AGSB in the UK Maths Junior Team Challenge Regional event organised by the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT). The UKMT organises national mathematics competitions for both teams and individuals in various age ranges from 11 to 18 years. Our team was made up of two boys from Year 8 and two from Year 9. Each had worked hard to pass the trial round where we were given an example question to see how well we could do.

There would be four rounds of challenges, and we would be competing against 28 other schools in the team challenge. The first round was a group round where we worked together to answer several questions. The questions got steadily harder, however, we were quite confident in ourselves and believed we had got off to a successful start with a good score. The second round was similar to the example test we had done at school, so we had some experience of this type of question. We had to complete a numerical crossword, and again we scored fairly highly. At the half way stage, so far so good, we were in contention for

a spot on the podium. The final rounds had the teams split into two teams of two. Questions were answered in relay fashion, with each team taking alternate questions. The final two rounds were more difficult than the first two, and we didn't think we had done as well as in the earlier stages.

After all rounds had been scored and double checked, the final results were read out. The top schools were announced in reverse order. Manchester Grammar School came second, and AGSB came first. We were delighted to have represented our school at the regional finals and had managed to come in first place.

Attaining first place in the regional finals, mean we are rewarded with a trip London in June where we will represent the North West as we compete against the other regional winners in the grand final. We have already started our preparations, and we are practising to win the national finals. If you are wondering how you would fare in the questions you can find previous year's questions online at the UKMT website.

Theo Tyson



# SIXTH FORM MATHS CHALLENGE

Every year, the UK Maths Trust holds a competition where teams of students from schools across the country compete to show that they are the best at maths, and every year we enter a team. We, as a school, never win. However, in November, we sixth formers decided to change that. Oliver Harding and Dylan Morris in year 13, and Joseph Wright and Yash Yeola in year 12, headed into Manchester and, under the watchful eye of Mrs McCourt, competed in the regional finals of the competition.

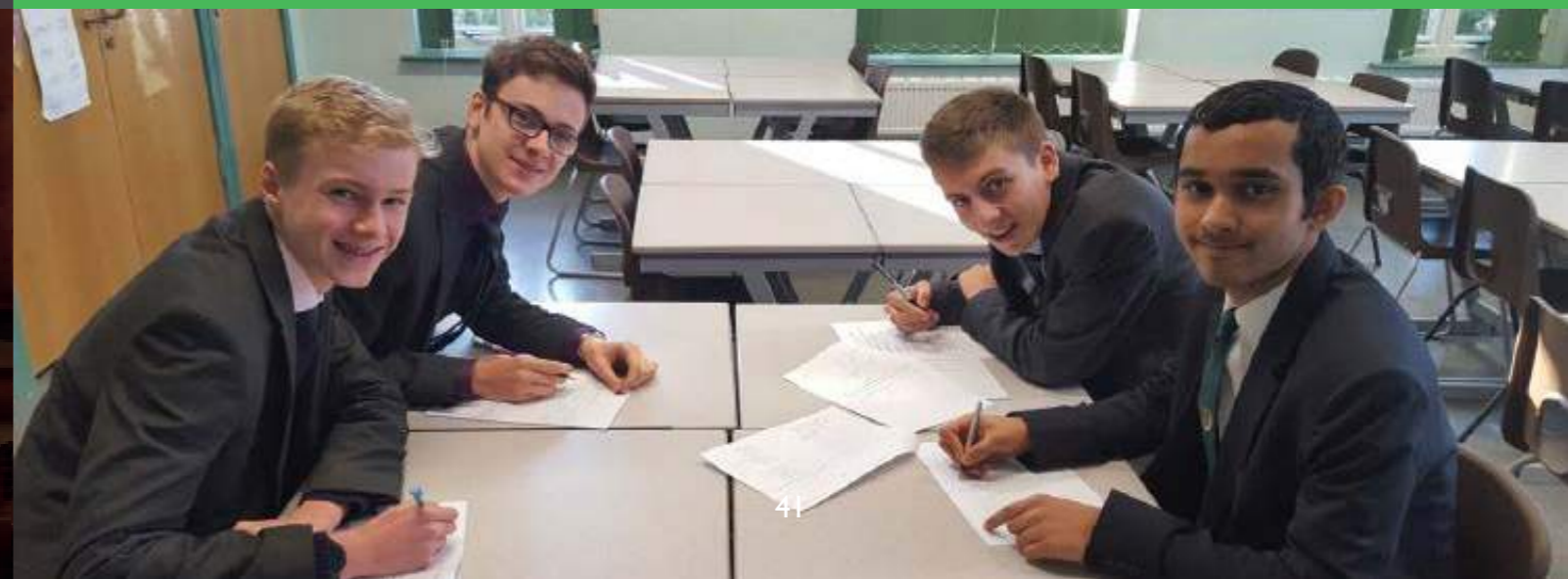
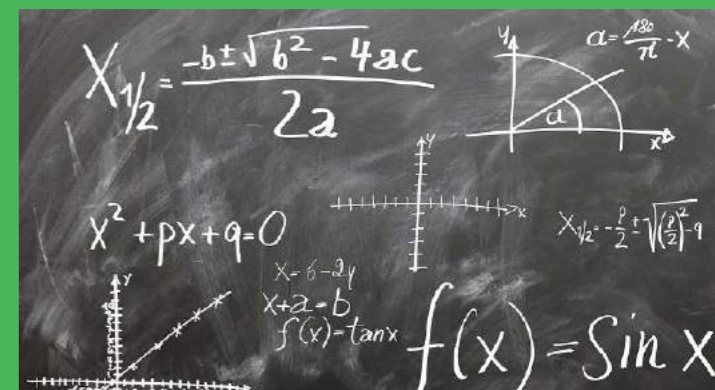
Over 20 other schools from around the area were present, and the questions weren't exactly easy. However, a lucky guess got us full marks in the first of the three rounds, and in the second we finished with a full 10 minutes of the 40 to spare, having dropped only 4 marks in a total of more than 60. After that, despite a less than satisfactory performance in the third and final round, we won! We were victorious in the regional finals, and so are due to compete in the national finals in London against more than 50 other schools in February. Below is an example of one of the questions from the final round. Two of us had 2 minutes to solve it for full marks. Good luck, and no calculators allowed!

$$x^2 + xy + y^2 = 24$$

$$x^2 - xy + y^2 = 0$$

Find the value of  $x+y$

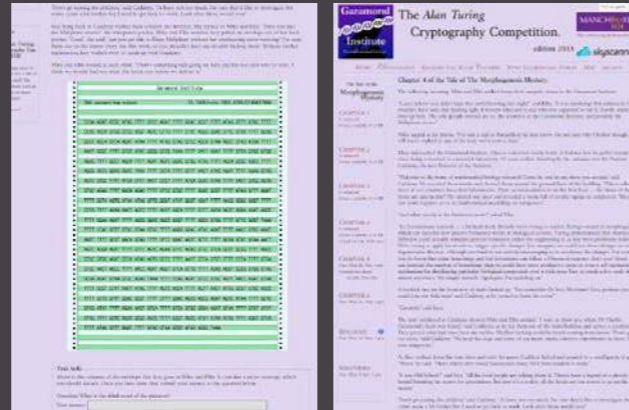
Yash Yeola, Dylan Morris, Joseph Wright and Oliver Harding



# ALAN TURING CRYPTOGRAPHY

Every year a number of our boys enter the Alan Turing Cryptography competition which is now in its 7th year.

It's a fabulous online competition which really stretches the most able students but is a fun and imaginative way to get students involved in the ever-increasing critical world of code-breaking. Students can either compete in teams or on their own and can use any resources at their disposal to solve the challenges as quickly as possible to gain maximum points.



There is also an opportunity for competitors to attend a code-breaking day at Manchester University in March. You can check out the competition questions yourself at

[http://www.maths.manchester.ac.uk/cryptography\\_competition/](http://www.maths.manchester.ac.uk/cryptography_competition/)

Mark Herrington



# GEOLOGY TRIP TO CYPRUS

On 4th March, 29 Geology students and 5 teachers headed off to Cyprus for a week of fieldwork. The Sunday morning flight left Manchester at 7am, which meant a 5am meet at Terminal 1 of Manchester Airport. Fortunately everyone was (somewhat) on time, and we made it through security and onto the plane with relative ease.

The flight was fairly comfortable and, upon landing in Paphos, we piled into our hire cars and headed to the villas. The villas were surprisingly luxurious, with a swimming pool, that we weren't allowed to swim in, and a hot tub. The hot tub, combined with the constant warm weather throughout the week, provided a much needed, refreshing change from the sub-zero temperatures that the rest of the school experienced back in Altrincham.

At that time of year Cyprus is practically perfect, with weather consistently sitting in the low twenties, but not quite warm enough for floods of tourists to begin flocking over from the UK. As we were staying in villas and not the usual hotel, there was little choice for places to eat in the evening. We visited the supermarket for some evening meals; the lack of planning meant that most groups resorted to stocking up on assorted frozen foods that could be thrown in the oven whenever anyone felt hungry. We ate out on four of the evenings, twice to a restaurant within walking distance of the villas and once we stopped in Paphos for a meal on the way back. On the Friday night, on the way back to the airport, we stopped at a pizza restaurant that is frequented by the

Geology Department as part of the trip every year, where a "regular" pizza proved too large for most.

During the day, we visited various locations around the island, some journeys lasting over 2 hours in the car. We were joined by tourists at some locations; such as at Aphrodite's Rock and the Baths of Aphrodite, which are coincidentally very similarly named but are located on opposite sides of the island, as well as the Visitor Centre and Museum in the Troodos Mountain Region, a UNESCO Global Geopark. Other locations simply involved pulling up on the side of the road to observe an exposed rock face.

However, perhaps the most fascinating locations we visited were the mines. We visited two mines on the trip, the first of which was the Mathiati Copper Mine in the centre of the island. This cone-shaped mine looked vast at first glance, yet it is even more impressive when you consider that the lake at the bottom hides almost 50% of the total depth of the original mine. In addition to this, we visited an asbestos mine in the Troodos region, the scale of which was so large that, from the vantage point at which we stood, the mine went on as far as the eye could see.

Overall, the trip was a huge success and it was fascinating to see all of the theory that we have been learning in the classroom out in the field, consolidating our knowledge and linking ideas and concepts that, just days before, seemed completely unrelated.

Matthew Fairman



# FRENCH DEBATING

On the evening of November 17th, two very calm but quietly apprehensive Year 13 students of French, Ben Cottrell and Eesaa Longden made their way to Cheadle Hulme School for the prestigious, annual Northern Schools Debating competition.

Upon arrival, they were thoroughly impressed with the beautiful school and as time for debating neared, the nerves appeared slightly, but remained well-under control, masked by the excitement, which permeated Cheadle Hulme School.

A record number of teams gathered to eye up the competition and study their copious notes, wondering what they had let themselves in for. That is to say, all except Ben and Eesaa who had adopted an admirable "Que sera sera" or "laissez-faire" approach.

This paid dividends for their style of delivery and they were very much required to think on their

feet under pressure. Having seen the tenacity and nail biting apprehension over previous years this flummoxed Mrs Brennan somewhat. It has to be said that they did themselves proud at Cheadle Hulme High School, facing the previous year's title holders, Bolton Boys and Wirral Grammar School for Boys to debate, "success is the source of happiness" followed by "wars are unavoidable" and "The world was better before the internet" in French.

Their sportsmanship, charming presence, courage and team spirit made for some engaging debating followed by lots of friendly academia related discussion with fellow competitors throughout the evening. The atmosphere was so convivial that we all stayed to support the finalists and witness the enjoyable finale. Well done to Ben and Eesaa, a credit to the school.

Victoria Brennan



# FRENCH EXCHANGE

This year, nine AGSB students from Years 9 and 10 took part in the French Exchange. On the 14th December, the nine exchange students arrived from Saintes, in South-West France, to get a taste of English culture and improve their language skills in English. Throughout the week they were staying with their host families in Manchester. They experienced many different cultural and historical sites such as Liverpool and its museums, the centre of Manchester, where they received a guided tour from the English students, Altrincham and many other places. The French Students also spent a day at AGSB, and attended all our lessons and experienced what an English school is like compared to their school in France. The French students found our school very interesting, with aspects such as our uniform and the size and age of our school was intriguing to them. One French student described our uniform as "beautiful," whilst others were surprised at how big our school was, and how much history it had.

On 1st February 2018, it was time for the second part of the exchange: the trip to France. After a short flight and coach ride we arrived in the beautiful town of Saintes, where we stayed for a week with our partners' families. On our first

day (Friday), we spent the morning in various lessons in the French School, College Edgar Quinet, a very interesting school that we found very different from AGSB, as it was a much more modern, smaller school than ours. Lessons such as English, sports, history and geography gave us a real insight into French schools. In the afternoon, the French students gave us a tour of the beautiful town of Saintes, where we saw many interesting sights such as the Roman Amphitheatre, the church, the river Charente and much more. We then spent the weekend with our partners' families. On Monday, we visited the beautiful Chateau la Roche Courbon and its gardens, where we experienced an amazing part of French history. On Tuesday, we visited the beautiful coastal city of La Rochelle, where we visited the aquarium, then explored the beautiful, historical old town.

Overall, the trip gave us a great taste of French culture and let us develop our French language skills and inspired us to continue to study French in the future.

George Nash



# SPANISH EXCHANGE

On 30th January 2018, twelve nervous English lads set off in the school minibus to Manchester airport. Skip forward 6 hours and we were pulling up in front of Colegi Sagrada Familia, a crowd of Spanish people awaiting us. The next 20 minutes was the part we were most dreading; the meet and greet. After a few tense minutes of handshakes and awkward Spanish kisses, which included Theo accidentally head butting a poor girl called Marta, we set off to our temporary homes for the week.

The next seven days consisted of many great trips; including the Camp Nou, a visit to El Carmel, Barcelona's highest peak with amazing views. We saw Gaudi's impressive cathedral, La Sagrada Familia and Salvador Dalí's surreal works of art. When Tuesday came and we were set to leave, we felt as if we had known our families for years! Over the past week we had grown to become great friends with all of the Spanish exchange partners and their families, and, surprisingly, our Spanish did improve a lot! I would definitely recommend the Spanish Exchange trip to anyone taking Spanish for GCSE. Thanks to Miss Mattison for organising and Mr Cummins for helping out on the language side of things.

Alex Toal



# MFL YEAR 7 SPELLING BEE

On Wednesday 7th February all of Year 7 gathered excitedly in the Coleman Hall for the yearly MFL Spelling Bee. Winners from each class had been given the task to learn 100 words in Spanish, French and German. If this task wasn't hard enough they then had to learn how to spell them using the alphabet for each language. If this wasn't hard enough they then had to spell as many as they could in one minute. This was a very tough task and all the students tried very hard. Congratulations to the winners (Gautham Ravisankar, Yusuf Naeem and Rohan McCabe, with the winning student getting 17 points!), who will go on to represent the school at the Regional Final.

Rashenda Chapman



## BERLIN TRIP

The history trip for the Year 10 GCSE classes took us on an eye-opening journey through Berlin. The four days we spent in the city were packed with tours and travelling which allowed us to learn about the Cold War and the Holocaust in an entirely different way to regular lessons in the classroom. The second day was a perfect example of this as we split into groups and went on guided tours during which we saw the famous Brandenburg Gate but also stood above the infamous 'Vorbunker' (where Hitler spent his last days); what stood out the most that day was undoubtedly the Holocaust Memorial and the museum beneath it, as the ingeniously designed memorial and the heart-breaking stories in the museum were very poignant and will linger in our minds for a long time.



This day ended on a lighter note at the fantastic Ritter Sport chocolate shop and a fun trip to the Bowling Alley in Alexanderplatz – we returned here on the last day to go to the dome on the top of the giant radio tower – but, due to the number of people not matching how many people were allowed per alley, I ended up facing the teachers (I lost, badly).

The other 2 trips we went on that I will never forget were Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp (on the third day) and the Stasi Prison (on the fourth and final day), both displayed the twisted nature of some of the cruellest people in history and both were designed meticulously to make life a living hell for those who had to suffer through living in these conditions. It was good that we visited the former on a freezing cold day, as even though we piled layers on top of us, the deep chill was rough; it made us realise how hard winter must have been for those who were prisoners in just thin pyjamas.

Overall the trip was fantastic, I doubt anyone who went on it will ever forget the incredible journey we got to experience.

Matty Curry



## GOETHE INSTITUTE VISIT

The German Department was happy to welcome back a speaker from the Goethe Institute, for the third year running. Alex Bleistein works within the Cambridge University Department of Engineering as a German language teacher and so was very keen to inform pupils about the importance of studying German.

Alex ran sessions throughout the day in Coleman Hall whereby pupils were asked to work in teams at problem solving against the clock. Alex was able to pass on his knowledge of German companies and their strategic role within Europe in a highly entertaining yet informative way.

A few myths were dispelled along the way... Pupils learned that, outside of the USA, Germany was

our largest trading partner as well as learning that German was the most spoken language in Europe.

Each session ended with an add up of scores and the winning team was awarded various Goethe Institute prizes to take home. Of course everyone was able to take at least one prize home with them as Alex replenished the Haribos constantly throughout the day.

It was great to see so many pupils realising how many real opportunities were out there for them if they were to pursue their language learning. Alex Bleistein was an inspiring ambassador for the Goethe Institute and we hope to see him again next year.

Lynn Smith



# GEOGRAPHY AT AGSB

## Geog Soc

It was a packed Autumn term for the Geography department, including a variety of trips, visits and visits by guest speakers. Successful field trips this term have included all Year 9 students visiting Salford Quays to study regeneration and Year 12 students going on a residential trip to Cumbria to study post glacial environments.

Students have also enjoyed 'Geog Soc' lectures; most recently Mr Harrop visited school and gave a fascinating talk on his recent expedition to the North Pole and challenges of climate change.

## Tectonic Hazards Conference

On Wednesday the 29th of November, the A Level Geography cohort journeyed to Manchester University for the Tectonic Hazards Conference.

The day involved 6 speakers, including university professors and former chief examiners. They shared their latest research and top tips for answering exam questions.

The keynote speaker was Professor Iain Stewart, the geographical equivalent of Brian Cox, he has presented various TV shows for the BBC. His lecture was very poignant as he spoke about his research into the North Anatolian Fault, part of which runs next to Istanbul.

His research suggests Istanbul is due a major earthquake (7.0 or above) within the next 20 years. He pointed out how poor building regulations and overcrowded areas in Istanbul will make an earthquake in this part of the world a major disaster, killing thousands of people.

Overall the conference, was entertaining (what could be more entertaining than earthquakes and volcanoes?) and educational, with the key message being that natural hazards aren't dangerous without human involvement!

Matthew Bromley and Paul Allen



# YEAR 9 TRIP TO SALFORD QUAYS

Over two days in early November, the whole of Year 9 visited Salford Quays on a Geography Field Trip. The trip was looking at how Salford Quays has changed since it was opened by Queen Victoria in 1894.

We looked at how Salford Quays became the third busiest port in Britain during the early 20th Century, through the subsequent spiral into decline and dereliction from the 1960's to the 1980's. We also considered the recent regeneration of the Quays and how they have been redeveloped into a popular residential area and become attractive to companies like the BBC and ITV, who have located their studios and local headquarters there, as well as home to museums and leisure facilities, even including a water sports centre.

Before leaving on the trip Mr Bromley outlined the history of the Quays from the highs in the industrial period to the lows of the 1960's. We then did further research, including looking at maps of the Quays from three different time periods.

When we got to Salford Quays we split into groups and explored the area ourselves, investigating the history and developments at specific places scattered along the waterfront, including the Detroit Bridge (built in 1895), the Lowry Outlet Mall (built in 1999) and the Millennium Bridge (built in 2000).

After having lunch in the Lowry Outlet Mall, we went off on our own to find facts about the area and its regeneration. We noticed how this has been undertaken sympathetically with its history, for example the bollards that were previously used by the ships delivering goods to Manchester were still there.

Overall, the trip was a big success and gave us a unique insight into the history of our region and the how a rundown area can be successfully regenerated. Thanks to Mr Williams, Mr Bromley and Mrs Weil who made this trip possible.

Isaac Cooper



# MUSIC FOR YOUTH

On 15th March this year, you may have noticed something unusual, or perhaps an unusual hush descending upon the working day. Nearly 3 whole forms from Year 8 – from 8BE, 8EE, 8MA, 8SA and 8CK – left the school at 1pm! This left a large gap in classrooms, as anyone in a set affected by this noted.

The reason for this strange absence was the Music for Youth Regional Finals held in Rochdale Town Hall, an elaborately decorated Grade I listed Gothic Revival building. This was a competitive event designed to



showcase the skills of all involved. However, this year AGSB contributed some very special bands to the competition: the Class Ensemble, String Orchestra and the Concert Band, who practise as part of their normal Music lessons. This is the first time a year group in our school have continued playing in their bands into Year 8, making them good enough to participate in the competition.

You might be surprised to know that AGSB is the only secondary school in the country which has implemented this policy of teaching everyone in Year 7 – and now 8 – how to play an instrument, despite widespread reductions in national funding for musical education. The teachers (Ms de Jesus, Mr Myers and Mrs. Jarratt) stood in front of their respective bands and explained to us why this is so important. It allows everyone in the school to develop the skills needed to play an instrument in only two years. Indeed we can apply a lot of the theory and practice we have assimilated to learning another instrument if we choose to. More importantly, the skills of practising until perfection can be used in other subjects where you have to learn things in a similar manner. If you need something to be absolutely perfect – the pronunciation of a foreign language, or a cricket bowling technique for example – practising repeatedly as we do in Music can help a lot. The skills of playing an instrument can be applied elsewhere, and you should not forget them.



After explaining this, the three bands played in turn and you could tell that the audience really enjoyed listening to the pieces played. They were extremely interested to know that members of the String Orchestra, playing some really quite complicated and fast pieces, had no experience of either the violin or cello, and in most cases nothing beyond the basics of musical theory, when they picked up their instruments in their first Music lessons in Year 7. You could tell that the listeners were extremely impressed. However, even more impressive was that the musicians all really enjoyed it. In fact it was their first performance in these groups outside school and they all savoured the experience, although probably less so the long bus ride home!

All in all it was a fantastic experience and one the boys would love to repeat. It was really interesting as was some of the information about how unique our Music lessons are. (Be thankful for them! It's only because of them you don't sit down and do musical theory for an hour each week instead!) We definitely need to sing the praises of our wonderful teachers for their help. They are the ones who spent their time and effort in lobbying for your time playing an instrument in class. So let me end this article on that note of thanks!

Joshua Sarma and Taiyyib Arshad



# MUSIC THEATRE SHOWCASE

On 1st May 2018 the Music department embarked on a remarkable journey and produced beautiful music from classical hits from productions such as The Lion King, Hamilton, Jesus Christ Superstar and others. The production included singers and musicians from multiple year groups from across the school and a variety of instruments such as trumpets, saxophones, clarinets, electric guitars, drums and pianos. The Vocal Society performed amazing songs from the music department's greatest hit last year: Jesus Christ Superstar.

For many 6th formers, this was the last production that they would have been able to participate in, however they made the most out of it and produced

an unforgettable night for both themselves and the audience.

The Coleman Hall was packed with excited audience members and they weren't disappointed, as the time and effort invested in this production was clearly shown. A combination of spectacular solos, amazing conducting by Head Boy Alex Patel and great leadership from Mrs Jarratt, Ms DJ and Mr Myers as well as the rest of the team, made for a phenomenal performance, and we hope to see more spectacular productions during this year and years to come.

Shiven Aarya



# BPIF AWARD WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 24th May the Publications Committee had a very special visit from the BPIF, British Printing Industries Foundation, to run a half day workshop. The workshop was part of a prize that the Publications committee received in the Shine School Media awards last year.

Martin Dalziel (a representative from BPIF) gave us an introduction to printing, including different printing techniques and how to differentiate between them. We were also given some staggering statistics about printing in the UK. Below are just some of the things we learnt: The UK is the world's fifth largest producer of printed products. Printing in the UK makes a colossal turnover of £13.8 billion. In 2017, the number of employees in the printing industry was 116,000 people and they work for 8,400 different companies across the UK.

There are lots of different printing processes, the ones that were covered on the course are listed as follows: PAD printing, lithographic printing, photogravure printing, flexographic printing, digital printing, screen printing and letterpress printing. We also learnt how these different printing processes worked and what types of materials each process usually printed on. All colour printing techniques use the colour model CMYK (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Keytone, which is black).

Printing can be web fed – meaning the material is fed in a long sheet through the plates – or fed sheet by sheet.

Most printing techniques are now bringing in computers, however, the first was digital printing, it introduced computers to printing. It is debatable whether computers are improving the printing industry or bringing it down: less people need jobs now as you just have to set the printer off and put the right plate in and then the technology does the rest, so only a couple of people are needed to man one whole machine when dozens were needed before.

During the workshop, all of us in the room were given linen testing microscopes to inspect the pages of a magazine. We tried to spot separate spots of ink to identify the method of printing used to make it. After we took in all the information, we were tested to see if we could tell what type of printing technique was used to create a certain print on an object. After that, our workshop with Mark Dalziel was over, we all took away the information of the fine arts of printing and we learnt what process takes place in the making of our school magazine.

Ibrahim Jamal



# MUSIC'S MAGNIFICENT YEAR

For the Music department, the 2017/18 school year has been incredible. I spoke to Miss De Jesus and Alex Patel and asked them a few questions:

## 1. What was the highlight of the year for the Music Department as a whole?

DJ: There are so many to choose from! Personally, if I had to choose, it would be the Musical Theatre Showcase Evening.

AP: The middle night of the block of spring concerts seemed to be the perfect showcase of accomplished curriculum work with the class band, extra-curricular pursuits with the swing band and student-run projects such as the vocal groups. The night also featured 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' with two full year 7 forms – I can't remember another musical event since the Centenary Concert in 2012 where participation numbers have been so high

## 2. What was the highlight of the year for you in the Music Department?

DJ: Seeing students develop in confidence no matter what level they are playing at. Also, managing to post the GCSE coursework off on time! (A big 'thank you' to Mrs. Capel.)

AP: Has to be the school's Music Theatre Society Night in May. It was my last official performance for the Music Department and was a really nice send-off for myself and the other Year 13s.



## 3. What do you think is the biggest accomplishment for the Music Department at festivals and concerts?

DJ: Being awarded the platinum award at the National Concert Band finals held at the RNCM.

AP: I am very glad I was able to watch the Swing Band win that Platinum award at the NCBF Finals in April, with such an impressive age range and featuring many lads of all ages with whom I have worked. It seemed a just reward for all the time, energy and skill Mr Myers invests in this ensemble.

## 4. What has been your favourite concert/show to produce this year?

DJ: Definitely the Musical Theatre Showcase Evening and the three concerts featuring 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat'.

AP: Tough one! Again, I would probably go with that middle night of concerts in March. Everything seemed to come together nicely at the right time and I was particularly proud of the level of performance achieved by the Staff Choir and Vocal Society, who were a pleasure to conduct/direct this year. The reviews of all evenings were among the most complimentary I've ever received.

George Thornicroft



# FROM BROADWAY TO BOWDON

From Hamilton to Hansen and Saigon to Shrek, AGSB's Musical Theatre Society has brought Broadway to Bowdon.

Following the success of Jesus Christ Superstar last year when firm friendships were formed from the shared fun/fear/madness of performing Lloyd Webber's renowned rock opera, Musical Theatre Society (MTS) was born.

Now with more than 30 members, MTS productions have featured hits from Hamilton (the musical about American Founding Father, Alexander Hamilton, and currently the hottest ticket in the West End), plus a version of Joseph and His Technicolour Dreamcoat.

Our 'Joe' (as it was a shortened version of Joseph!) was adapted by MTS's wonder woman, Mrs Jarratt, who, hot on the heels of directing JC Superstar, combined the Bible's best bits with bananas and hundreds of Year 7s.

Having been Judas in JC Superstar and Judah in Joseph (enthusiastically delivering 'Benjamin Calypso' in a dubious Jamaican accent), and being with MTS from the beginning, I cannot speak highly enough of the incredible support and inspiration of the Music Department.

Both Mrs Jarratt and Miss de Jesus are at the heart of everything we do: encouraging, supporting, listening to our mad ideas and working 'above and beyond' to help us deliver moments we'll always remember. With Mr Myers, the multi-talented team seemingly play every instrument that exists to a professional standard and are committed to encouraging music of every genre.

One other person deserves special credit: Alex Patel has been instrumental (no pun intended) in all musical events at AGSB and I'm sure he'll be a star at Cambridge from September where he will be studying Music.

So what's next for the MTS? At the time of

going to press, MTS and members of the school's bands will be performing Twelfth Night, a musical based on Shakespeare's play and written and composed by Dylan Morris. Another of the pioneers of MTS (and Caiaphas in JC Superstar) and trombonist in AGSB's Swing Band which took the top slot at the National Concert Band Festival, Dylan wrote the musical last summer and the 'world premiere' of a couple of the songs were featured in the recent musical evening.

Music is alive at AGSB: from being given an instrument as you join the school to inspire performance (and encourage practice!), to choirs, ensembles, bands, Vocal Society and MTS. Nothing beats performing in front of an audience and while academic results can be seen as important, the benefits of performance, having the confidence to take to the stage, being part of a cast or group, plus an appreciation of music, broadens the individual and are superior skills for life.

Monty Harrison-Stirling



# FAITH: ISLAMIC SOCIETY AWARD

On a largely positive note, it comes with immense pleasure for me to be able to report on the recent news regarding the AGSB Islamic society. Having been through the school and simultaneously having witnessed the growth and development of our society, I had never realised and properly appreciated what we have here at AGSB until now.

The Islamic society has been around for around 20 years and has consistently been able to offer Muslim students a space to pray as well as a place to engage in Islamic activities with more emphasis on the former. During my first few years at the school, there wasn't too much organisation or activity within the society and it looked like the society was losing its purpose. Amazingly, things took a real turn after this; with a strong committee set in place, the society gained a much more solid, organised structure. This began with regular weekly activities and developed further with the addition of competitions, guest speaker talks and most notably of all, the annual charity campaign.

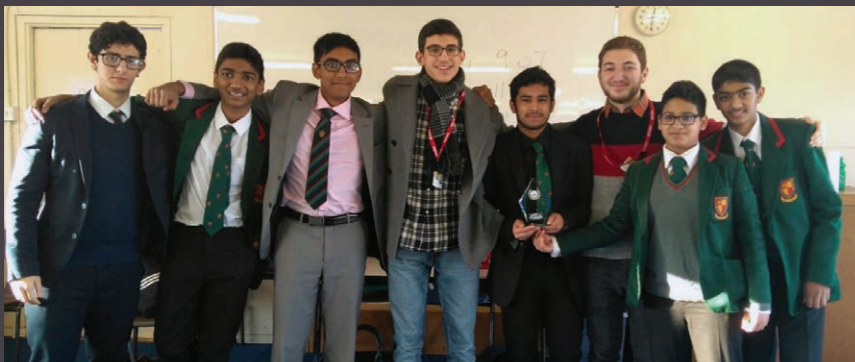
It was soon after all this progression that the Federation of Students' Islamic Societies (FOSIS) discovered us and, to our surprise, were rather impressed. In fact, they were impressed enough to nominate our society for one of the four awards at their 2017 annual winter conference. FOSIS, for those who don't know, is an organisation which supports Islamic societies all over

the UK and Ireland, the vast majority of which are university societies. The annual winter conference is an event whereby representatives from most university societies and a handful of college/school societies (such as in ours) can meet up one weekend and interact through workshops and other training sessions.

As Vice President of the AGSB Islamic society, I was present at this event held in Aston University, Birmingham, to represent our school. Here I was able to network and discover many new people from a diverse range of backgrounds, including students from the Dublin Institute of Technology who had gone through the effort to fly over for the weekend.

The experience was incredible and inspiring, yet there was one other event that completely took me by surprise and shocked me - our society somehow ended up winning the award we were nominated for: the 'Most Promising ISOC' award. With our school's name being shown amongst prestigious universities like King's College London and University of Kent, who also won awards that day, I was completely overwhelmed. Being nominated was unbelievable enough, but to beat the rival universities and to actually win the award blew my mind and the minds of those from our society away. A fruitful weekend for our Islamic society indeed.

Faiz Salim



# ASIAN FOOD SALE

Many people gathered for the Islamic Society food sale which was held on 26th and 27th March in support of the Rohingya Crisis. The money raised was donated to a charity named 'Doctors Worldwide' which specialises in providing medical care to poor countries in the world. In addition to providing healthcare, this remarkable organisation also teaches healthcare and first aid skills to people in the regions they assist. The Islamic Society decided to help fund one of the projects of this organisation by hosting an Asian food sale.

Doctors Worldwide launched their 'human resources of refugee health programme' in response to the Rohingya crisis. The aim of this campaign was to train local Bangladeshi doctors as well as cover the critical issues such as diseases, mental health and gender-based violence. They aim to train 60 frontline health care workers and doctors (including local doctors) who are working through 4 local health facilities. This will impact the lives of an estimated 90,000 people.

Members of the Islamic society provided all the food. There was a great variety of food including samosas, wraps, drinks and many other different cuisines. Students poured in from all ends of the school to purchase the food at reasonable prices and a total of £2227.52 was raised for the cause.

I spoke to Faiz Salim, one of the leaders of the project,

and this is what he had to say. "I was really pleased and satisfied with the outcome. We gathered awareness of the sale as we displayed many more posters. These posters were much better than last year's as they were more colourful and interesting to view. Our presentation displayed more information and I feel this is what made people want to know more. The event itself had a better queuing system than last year. The food was to a very high standard, just like previous years. We received many donations but not enough for Monday. The lowness of stock on Monday was compensated by the amount of stock on Tuesday. Doctors Worldwide were pleased by our efforts and provided t-shirts and collection buckets, free of charge."

In total the school raised an impressive amount of £2227.52 which was all donated to Doctors Worldwide. Overall, the event was a huge success and everyone was very proud.

Taiyyib Arshad



# CANADA SKI TRIP

The long journey to Canada started very early for 43 tired boys and 5 teachers as we made our way to AGSB for the 5:30am coach journey to Heathrow. We grabbed breakfast on the way and arrived at Heathrow, excited but still a little sleepy. Once checked-in and through security, it was almost time to board so we made our way to the gate. All boys and teachers made it to the plane on time and we took off for Montreal. We had spectacular views of Greenland on the way and landed on time in Canada 4:30pm local time, just 19 hours after leaving AGSB. A short 5-hour coach ride and we were at our hotel in Mont Saint-Anne, Quebec, ready for a sleep.

Our first day in Canada started with a very tasty protein-packed breakfast to give us energy for our first day of skiing. We then collected our ski equipment with great efficiency, and with everyone kitted out in under 20 minutes, we headed out onto the beautiful slopes ready to show the locals our amazing skills!

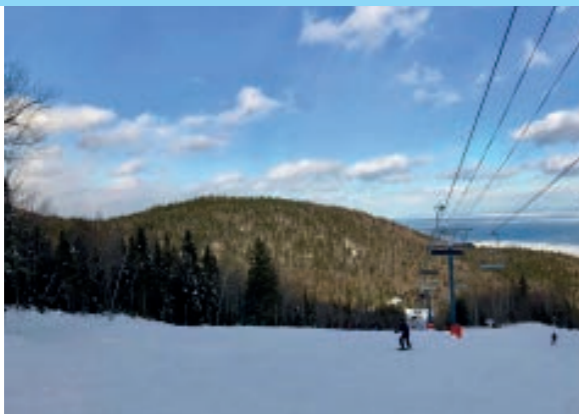
It wasn't long into our first day of skiing that we all realised what a fantastic trip this was going to be. A great mix of slopes for all abilities and short queues for the lifts meant we were going to have plenty of fun. Many of us also found out quite quickly that we might not actually have the skills we thought we had. It was going to take a day or two to

get our ski legs back, but we were all enjoying it and getting better by the hour.

After our evening meals, we would hear about everyone's adventures, or misadventures, and have nominations for muppet of the day. The ultimate muppet of the day got the privilege of wearing a pink dinosaur onesie, which some wore with pride and others did not.

After skiing on our second day we went bowling in the city of Quebec, as if we really weren't tired enough already. There were some real pros, including Mr. Rawson and Mr. Lowe, and then there was Dinoman, in his pink onesie, who played a shocking game of bowling but seemed to be very happy with his outfit.

Sunday was our final day skiing in Mont Saint-Anne, and we were all sad to move to another ski resort, not knowing how good the next one might be. In the evening, we watched a film at the in-house cinema, which the year 7s especially enjoyed as they could not stop laughing every time there was something even slightly rude. A few other people took the opportunity to get some extra sleep during the film and had to be woken up when it finished – skiing can be very tiring!



Le Massif resort was about 30 minutes from our hotel, and we spent the journey looking out of the window hoping that this new resort would be as good as Mont Saint-Anne. There was absolutely no need for us to have worried as this was another excellent resort. The views were amazing, with many long, wide runs for us to enjoy.

Tuesday was our last day of skiing in the beautiful mountains of Quebec. The next stage of our trip was to be in Toronto where it would be easier for most of us to communicate than in the French-speaking part of Canada. We had another early start as we had to travel back to Montreal airport. Along the way we visited a mall, where one boy managed to get lost and hold the whole coach up. Fortunately for him, the muppet of the day awards had now finished. The final victim was Ethan, who happily wore the onesie all the way through security and the flight to Toronto.

The flight was just an hour long, which made a pleasant change from long coach journeys and trans-Atlantic flights. It felt like no time at all and we were soon settled into our new hotel at Niagara Falls. We spent the evening at the Hard Rock Café, where we all enjoyed our meals watching the rock music videos playing on the many screens throughout the restaurant.

On the final day of our tour, we went sightseeing around Toronto. Our original plan was to go up the Skylon tower; however it was too cloudy, so we went to Niagara Falls instead. The views of the Falls were amazing, and luckily for us, the weather had improved from the extremely low temperatures earlier in the year, when the falls were frozen, so we could see the crashing water. We even had a clear view of the United States from across the river.

Later, as we were told that the clouds had disappeared, we made our way to the top of the 158-metre Skylon tower; however, the views were very disappointing as all we could see were clouds. We had to imagine the wonderful view we could have had of Niagara Falls, and look at the postcards in the gift shop instead.

It had been incredible to see Niagara Falls, but unfortunately, this was the last item on our itinerary and it was time to make our way back to Toronto airport for the flight home. The airport was very close and we were soon carrying our heavy bags filled with stinky clothes, happy to hand them over to security to be stored well away from our noses.

We all had an amazing time. It had been seven very full days, with lots of travelling, but it had been well worth it to see Canada. All the boys loved the skiing and everyone improved over the five days. We boarded the plane for the long flight back to Heathrow, sad to be leaving the snowy slopes of Canada, but full of happy memories of a great trip.

Many thanks to Mr Rawson and the other 4 teachers for making it such a fantastic trip. Hopefully they enjoyed it as much as we did! If you get the chance, I would definitely recommend going on a ski trip during your time at AGSB.

Theo Tyson



# YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Young Enterprise is a not-for-profit business and enterprise education charity in England & Wales. Young Enterprise work with young people and supports them to develop the employability skills that employers demand, by delivering enterprise and financial education programmes in schools.

After intense discussions which lasted several weeks, and a drop out from the Deputy Managing Director, we finally identified something that is nearly always requested by schools and that is personalised printing - specifically hoodies. The team collectively thought that a good business venture would be to supply different schools with hoodies. I think that school hoodies are more than just mere souvenirs. They're timestamps highlighting a period in life when students left their secondary education behind and marched into adulthood armed with qualifications and the intention to go forth and make their mark on the



world. As we all know, school's not always easy. It's the culmination of years of toil, sacrifice, important life experiences. In short, it's an achievement that should be marked accordingly.

School hoodies marks the occasion perfectly. Students wearing the same hoodies enjoy a shared, collective experience reminiscing and feeling proud of their accomplishment in school.

A school hoodie is a great way of telling people how proud you are to have gone to AGSB. It tells people that you're educated – that you're an achiever. Wearing the hoodie gives you a sense of identity, of belonging. There's a reason why many Old Boys cherish their AGSB ties for years! They're proud of their secondary school days.

Remember when you found your primary school class photo? Nostalgic feelings of a bygone time were sure to swell inside. Well, school hoodies can provide the same effect.

It's important to remember where we come from, and be grateful for all those who helped us along the way. Reflecting fondly on past experiences can lift a low mood, reminding us that life is to be enjoyed.

Just as the emotional bond to hoodies cannot be overstated, so too is their practicality of keeping you warm and comforted on those chilly nights when ice blankets the landscape.

Made from 80% cotton and 20% polyester, our hoodies are sure to keep you warm and cosy. Nestle down in an armchair, warm mug of cocoa by your side and hoodie on your back and you'll soon forget the freezing temperatures.

Sami Rehman

# TENNIS & BADMINTON

## U15

The under 15's tennis team has been practising tirelessly over the past few months to tune their skills and be the best they possible can ahead of their major tournaments. They practise twice a week together and each member trains up to six times separately.

The sheer amount of dedication to their sport means the team is looking hopeful to compete and climb the stages of the Cheshire and National Cups this year. All of the players have years of experience which has helped them learn a variety of skills that they can hopefully showcase in their matches.

Awais Khawaja

## U16

This year our school badminton team entered the National Schools Badminton Championships, as we always do. We came in with high expectations as we had a strong team and because of our previous successes we weren't willing to lose. Each match



between schools would consist of, two singles matches and three doubles matches. The first school we played against was Bury Grammar School. In the end we pulled away with an easy victory beating them 5-0. The next match was against Bolton School, it was going to be the toughest of them all, as three out of the four players in their team, played for Lancashire, where as ours only had two county players. Chris and I both played singles and had beaten their players very easily, so all we had to do was to win one doubles match. The first match was extremely intense, but the opposition had started to dominate about eight points into the match. The second doubles match was just as intense, however in this one we were leading for most of the match and at the interval we were 8-6 up. Unfortunately due to a lack of experience playing as a doubles pair we had lost the second match 15-12. It was all down to the last match, which was nerve wracking. Throughout the match we were the dominant pair. After some tiring rallies we were on match point. We had three match points and due to some unforced errors, we had lost 15-14. I would like to thank Henry Smith, Chris Kattakayam, Alex Mills, Will McMahon and Mr Cammack for getting us to the position we had achieved.

Prithvi Sekar



# FOOTBALL

## 1ST X11

This year the first eleven had one of their best seasons. They played nineteen games won eighteen and only lost once. The rest of the games resulted in victory. They scored eighty two goals and only conceded thirteen.

Currently they are finalists in the Greater Manchester Schools Cup. This is the competition they have won for the last three years and have been finalists five times.

The only game they lost was against Thomas Telford School in the quarter final of the English Schools Cup, which they were finalists in last year.

They are currently the strongest school team in the North of England and are in the GMFSA cup final. The top scorer was Dylan Scanlan.

Anish Das

## 2ND X11

The second team have had an outstanding year, developing their teamwork and skills as well as playing 10 matches so far.

They lost three closely contested

games and another game ended in a draw, but their dedication and determination paid off as they went on to win six matches during the season.

The team managed to score an impressive 38 goals throughout with the top scorer being Adam Meziane. Furthermore, their excellent defensive strategies meant they only let their opponents score a total of 17 goals.

The team have had some great leadership from their captain, Harrison Job, and from Mr Birtwell who has been supporting and organising the events.

Awais Khawaja

## YEAR 9

On Sunday 4th February, 29 boys left Manchester Airport for Barcelona, home to one of the best clubs in the world, FC Barcelona, as well as La Liga side Espanyol. How would our Year 9 footballers match up in these conditions?

The squad contained enough players to field two teams each day, one played the first match and the other team played the second match on each day.

The first day of the tour was full of

activities. We attended a training session led by Espanyol coaches where we enjoyed Spanish football drills like a 'rondo'. Later we went to central Barcelona and walked the length of Las Ramblas, stopping occasionally for a quick photo of the city or to look in the shops selling souvenirs from Barcelona FC balls to little Las Ramblas fridge magnets.

Our first tour matches were against CD Almeda. We walked out into the stadium, to the stirring Champions League music. The first match was an exciting but controversial game. Despite dominating most of the match a questionable last-minute penalty saw the game end 1-1. The second team's match was much harder, against a more physical team. The game ended in a tough defeat. Overall, everyone went back to the hotel in high spirits, looking forward to another day of football and fun.

On the second day, after a breakfast including pancakes and sausages, we had another good training session. We then had a good amount of free time before playing our second matches against UE Sant Fost. The first team's match ended in an easy 5-1 victory. The second team played against a much stronger side and despite battling hard, Altrincham did not come out with the win.

On Wednesday we had a fun training session with crossbar challenges and matches. Then it was off to the centre

of Barcelona for more activities. First, we went bowling and some fantastic scores were posted, with Raf Hutton getting four strikes in a row and ending on a total score of 180. After, we set off to Camp Nou, the home of the world-famous Barcelona Football Club. We went on a tour of the entire stadium, looking at the history of the club and how they transformed from a small local team to a European superpower. We were able to experience the stadium atmosphere through virtual reality headsets and we could take panoramic pictures from an open-air commentary box. We looked at the trophies that Barcelona have won over the years. After the tour we were allowed to go to the official Barcelona shop, where the boys stocked up on everything from Barcelona shirts with their nicknames on them, to little keyrings of the club's crest. Finally, we set off for our tapas meal, where we were showered with Spanish dishes. After thoroughly enjoying an almond-encrusted ice cream we set off back to our hotel.

The miserable weather did not stop us enjoying our final day in Catalonia. In the morning we enjoyed our final training session and prepared for the final set of matches on the tour against EF Vildecavalls. We arrived to see a massive stand and lovely AstroTurf pitch. After the captains from both matches exchanged gifts, the first team kicked off with great anticipation that they could maintain their unbeaten run for the whole tour. After a dominant first half AGSB were ahead. After mixing the team for the second half, goalkeeper Jake Worrall finished the game as a striker. The game finished with a convincing victory. The second team to play came up against

a harder team but were determined and put in a strong performance led by captain Angus Bailey. The game was fantastic to watch and whatever the score was the boys kept their heads up. Overall, the games were good fun and it was all smiles at the end when both teams took a team photo together.

At the end of the trip, four awards were given out, two 'Players of the Tour' and two 'Clubman of the Tour'. The two players of the tour were Emy Ojimue (striker) and Sam Ryder (defender). These two players had performed brilliantly for all three matches. The first player to win Clubman of the Tour was Abdul Rahim, who had previously hurt his knee but continued on with the tour, helping out at any opportunity. The next Clubman of the Tour was Alex Edwards, who had been a great laugh throughout the tour and had been a great person to tour with.

Overall, the tour to Barcelona was fantastic, with everyone enjoying it. Thank you to Mr O'Flynn, Mr Heathcote and Mr Cammack for making the trip possible.

Isaac Cooper



has been extremely successful. We have advanced to the latter stages of all three cup competitions which include 9 and 11 aside Greater Manchester Cups and the Trafford Cup. We have also gone unbeaten in all of their friendly matches on a Saturday morning, beating the likes of King's Chester, Wilmslow High School and Bolton School.

We have improved massively as a team from last year and hope to continue the form into the next season. We've had a few close calls and some great matches this season, one of which was in the 11 a side Greater Manchester Cup. We played extremely well winning 3-0; Mr Heathcote commented that it was the best performance he's seen across all year groups this season. Another match in the Greater Manchester Cup saw us going 2-1 down with just one minute to go, but one last push up the pitch granted us a corner from which we scored from bringing things level and then going on to win in extra time.

I think we showed great determination and desire to come back and win and this attitude has shone throughout the season and is one of the main reasons why the team has been so successful this year.

Ted Graves

# RUGBY

## 1ST XV

The first team has had a rather impressive season. They played fifteen matches, of which eleven were won and only a single one resulted in defeat.

The team scored 368 points in their fifteen games whilst only conceding 102 points.

Anish Das

## 2ND XV

The second team's performance was almost flawless this season. They played thirteen matches, winning twelve and losing only one.

They scored 214 points whilst only conceding 83.

Anish Das



## YEAR 9

Our rugby season commenced with a very convincing win versus Cheadle Hulme school (very much a rival of ours!). This gave us a good basis to work with for the upcoming season.

Soon approaching was our tour to Holland. This is an annual tour for Year 9 where you play three matches against three Dutch teams. We won all of our matches, one of only four AGSB teams to do so in the history of the tour. We all had a great tour with 'Player of the Tour' Charlie Wardle, 'Try of the Tour' James Legg, 'Tackle of the Tour' Jacob Reid, 'Clubman Award' Jude Wright and 'Best Tourist Award' Alex Mills.

Our season after that was very impressive with only two losses out of our seventeen fixture friendlies. Finally, our season ended with the county sevens competition in which we came third in the plate. This was overall a very impressive achievement for everyone involved and only beaten by some very strong opposition.

Thanks to Mr Rawson for all his hard work and effort that he has put into the team.

James Legg

## YEAR 7

This year there was an impressive turn out for year 7 rugby trials. Many people that trialled had never played rugby before and by the end of a few sessions they were in the starting team.

During the winter months we enjoyed a fair few successes and gradually improved our method of play as the matches continued. However, we learnt from our mistakes in the games we lost. In the final few games of the winter season we finally applied Mr Soulsby's two men past, pick and go method.

As the rugby season drew to a close we looked towards the fast-approaching sevens season. After two out of the three sevens tournament we were going to were cancelled, the final tournament rested on our shoulders.

We enjoyed victories and defeats during the competition and finally placed 4th after losing to some very skilled teams. Many thanks to Mr Soulsby for coaching us throughout the rugby season.

Josh Legg

# BASKETBALL

## U14

Semi Final -

This match was Ashton against Altrincham Grammar in the semi final of the Trafford Cup with Altrincham winning by a score of 33-30 with the 33rd point for Altrincham being scored in a golden basket overtime after Ashton scored a 3 point shot to bring it to golden basket. Altrincham were now in the final of the Trafford Cup which then leads to the Greater Manchester Cup if they won. This game was for the most part in Altrincham's hand but excessive fouling that led to free throws meant that as the game progressed the deficit got smaller and smaller between the teams.

As a result of this, during the last 30 seconds or so a shot was made that took the game to a 'golden basket' which Altrincham quickly scored in to take them to the final. Man of the match was awarded to Alex Erlam for Altrincham.

Final -

This match was Sale Grammar against Altrincham Grammar in the final of the Trafford Cup and Sale came out on top in a close game up until the final moments of the game where the game finished 48-41 to Sale who will go on to the Greater Manchester Cup rounds. This game was fairly one sided for the first few minutes of the game with Sale having more than a 10 point advantage. However, Altrincham managed to bring the deficit down to three points by the end of the first half.

During the second half the game was very even with both teams scoring and as the game reached its final minutes the momentum that seemed to be in Altrincham's favour switched and Sale scored a 3 point shot that put the game out of reach and Sale went on to win. Man of the match was awarded to Alex Erlam for Altrincham.

Alex Erlam



# HOCKEY

## U13

The hockey season has slowly drawn to a close and we have had a lot of success within the U13 age group. Our first tournament was between all of the teams in the North West and we won every game, having won the final on penalties against Kings School Chester.

By doing this we had secured a spot in the regional tournament, now against the teams in the North. We arrived at the Northern final and am pleased to say that, again, we won every game and had now earned a place at the national finals. We trekked down to Nottingham to play in the nationals with a spring in our step. However, we did not come back with the same attitude as we had lost 3 won 1 and drew 1.

Overall, we had a very good season and special thanks to Mr. Soulsby for organizing these events for us and Albert for coaching us throughout the year.

Josh Legg

## U14

This year the U14 hockey team has had tremendous success under new coach Albert Marcano. Our first competition of the year was the North West regional finals. We won all of our group games meaning we progressed on to the final against Sandbach School. We won 3-1 with goals from Rory Hobbs, James Legg, and Oliver Aloul. This meant we progressed to the North of England Finals. This was a much more competitive tournament drawing 2 and winning 1 of our 3 group games. There were no semi-finals or finals though and the tournament was decided on goals conceded. We

had conceded the least goals so became North of England champions and giving us qualification to the national finals down at the Lee Valley Hockey Centre.

On Sunday 22nd April, we travelled down to London the day before the national competition. We had 3 group games which were against Felsted, Uppingham and Whitgift. Our first game was against Whitgift, the favourites, where we put up a great performance to deny both sides a goal. The score finished 0-0. Our second game was against Uppingham where we won 3-1 with goals from Oliver Aloul and Harvey Walker and Ted Graves. Our final match was against Felsted. This decided our fate in the competition. Unfortunately, we lost 2-0 to a strong opposition who we were unlucky to lose against.

Overall we placed 4th in the competition which, on reflection, was a very respectable standing.

Thanks to Mr Soulsby for organising our tournaments and Albert for coaching us throughout the season and leading us to tremendous achievements. We hope to have him as our coach for next season.

James Legg



## U16

As a team, we have had lots of success this year, winning both the North-West and North finals as well as making the final of the Cheshire Cup.

We won the North-West competition after winning our group and then proceeding to beat Neston in the final on flicks. That win sent us through to the North finals, where we won all our games, sending us through (as Northern Champions) to the National finals. Sadly, we could not complete a clean sweep of trophies, coming out as runners-up to Sandbach in a tightly contested 1-0 defeat in the Cheshire Cup final.

We were not very successful at the National finals, not making it out of the group stages. However, we have still had a lot of success this season and are striving to improve upon our achievements next season.

Kyle Panchal-Taylor



## U18

New team, new coach, same result. Another outstanding year of hockey for the senior squad. We have also played senior indoor for the first time, becoming North West and then North Champions.

We were not extremely successful at the indoor National finals however a few players, new to the sport showered great improvement alongside some solid performances from the more experienced players.

The outdoor season was also impressive as we again ruled the North. We won the trophies for the North West, North and Cheshire competitions. Hopefully next year we will enter the senior knock out cup so we can have another crack at the national championship.

Ben Nicholson



# • OLD BOYS VS 1st XI

On Wednesday 28th March, AGSB held a rugby and a football match between the 1st XI and the Old Boys. The events took place side by side on the windy Wednesday and were full of action. With regards to the score lines, the Old Boys won the rugby 28-12, with 'man of the match' going to Nick Jones - an old boy who left the school two years ago. Even though his departure was a recent occurrence, he was still booed off by the home crowd as if he were the enemy. However, in the football match, the tables then turned with the 1st XI winning the game comfortably 6-1. The 1st XI dominated for large periods of the game, with Douglas James – Taylor picking up a brace and Jack Blundell, Will Webb, Dylan Scanlan and Harry Sheridan scoring a goal each. 'Man of the match' went to Will Webb - a student who is currently in Year 12.

Kyle Panchal - Taylor

# • FOOTBALL



# RUGBY



# IAN WHITE - A TRIBUTE

It is with great sadness that I write to inform the school of the death of an old classmate of mine Ian White. Ian and I first met as eleven year olds playing football against each other – him for Bowdon Vale and me for Heyes Albion. In those days, he was a fast and very direct right winger with a fearsome shot but under the wise eye of Roy 'Piggy' Wilson Ian would turn into the backbone of our school team's defence in what many will remember as a very good side – with stars like Andy Price and Tim Jenkinson.

Ian was a quiet lad, especially when in the company of many, but take him to one side and he had a clever and wicked sense of humour and could cut you down with a sharp barb of his gentle wit if you ever got above yourself.

An excellent mathematician Ian was one of only three of us to study further maths in that year group and he took his numerical knowledge on into his university and work life.

Ian was also a very talented golfer and he and I shared many happy times together on Sale Golf Course and even on a couple of holidays up in Powfoot in Scotland. The 17th hole at Sale is a terrific 100-yard par three and I will never forget Ian winning a bet with me that he could hit the green from the tee using his putter – not only did he do this comfortably but he even went on to sink the next putt for a two.

I last saw Ian in Altrincham at the end of June and we discussed a coffee for when I returned from a three-week holiday to Canada – we never had that coffee. A lesson to all of us – don't put off 'til tomorrow ...

Duncan Battman



# OLD ALTRINCHAMIAN'S DINNER

This year's dinner was held on Friday 9th March in Stamford Hall at the school and marked the 104th year of the Old Altrinchamians Association.

77 guests attended including the existing Head Master together with former Heads, Keith Nodding, Brian Purves, and David Wheeldon. Guests were welcomed by an excellent musical ensemble comprising Luke Rink (drums), Henry Smith (guitar), and Alex Patel (keyboard).

Association Chairman, Christian James, welcomed guests and proposed a toast to the Association followed by a toast to the Queen. The theme for this year's dinner was to mark the retirement of Tim Gartside as Head Master of the school after 16 years, following his appointment as Executive Head of the Hamblin Education Trust.

Christian introduced the new 'Rafflemeister', Jake Harrop, who had taken over the job from Christian having served 10 years in the role. Sodexo then served an excellent four course dinner and between courses the prefect's table sold raffle tickets to guests, raising £520 on the evening.

The after-dinner formalities commenced with the presentation of the Old Altrinchamians golf trophy to last year's winner, former pupil and current Director of Rugby, Scott Meakin. A toast to the School was made by the Chairman with a response by the Head Master who this year doubled up as the guest speaker with a theme 'the best of times, the worst of times'.



Mr Gartside recounted his humble beginnings from being brought up on the terraces of Rochdale Football Club and beginning his teaching career in Oldham, before moving to Cambridgeshire, then Newcastle-under-Lyme, then onto Southend before being appointed Head at AGSB, where the streets of Hale and Bowdon are no longer paved in the gold he'd heard about but instead riddled with pot holes!

It was with some trepidation and with low expectations that a relatively young TG applied for the role of Head Master and following a second interview was amazed to be offered the job. Perhaps his biggest surprise was how good a school he had been appointed to lead and thanked the former Heads sitting alongside him, for laying such strong foundations. TG found the pupils were not only very bright and enthusiastic to learn, but also exceptionally polite (and if they weren't, they soon learned the importance of good manners!). He recounted former Head of Geography, John Barton, saying to him that one of the unique qualities of AGSB was not only academic success but also having fun and trusting the boys, because that in turn leads to further academic success.

TG could recall numerous 'best times' over the last 16 years; the exam scores and the position of the school in league tables have just got better and better. At A-Level last year the school achieved 81% A\*, A and B grades with over a quarter of the subject entries at A\*. This year the school has received nineteen Oxbridge offers, and over twenty boys will be going on to study medicine.



The school is in the top ten of boy's schools in the country. This is at both at A-Level and GCSE, and just as significantly, the progress of pupils from primary school to GCSE and onto A-Level, places the school amongst the very best in the whole country.

Under his leadership, the school has grown by about 30% in pupil numbers and the number of applications for pupils to join the school has almost doubled, with over 1,100 currently applying for the places available.

Perhaps the biggest way in which the school has changed during his tenure has been in terms of sport. 16 years ago the Head of PE, Jon Hughes, and his colleagues would battle though with very muddy pitches and a limited sports hall, but with a few strokes of good luck and many more of good judgement, the school applied for and received £2.8 million funding from the Department for Education, plus additional money raised by parents and private enterprise, allowing the development of the new Grammar sports hall, tennis courts and astro-turf pitch. As a result of this, the Sports Department has grown in size (and now includes two Old Altrinchamians). Great success has been achieved, not only in the more traditional sports of rugby, football and hockey, but also a much broader band of sports including table tennis, tennis, badminton and even indoor rowing,

demonstrating that the provision of good facilities really does encourage the enjoyment of sport, not only to those attending the school, but also to the wider community who have the ability to use the facilities outside school hours.

Music at the school has developed enormously over the last 16 years, and now boasts one of the strongest music departments in the country, having won 25 Gold and Platinum awards in national competitions, mainly thanks to inspirational teachers such as Colin Myers and Len Dejesus. Every Year 7 & 8 pupil now learns a musical instrument with much of the funding coming from the Old Altrinchamians Association and PFA. This culminated in perhaps one of the highlights of the year, with the excellent production of Jesus Christ Superstar.

The Centenary celebrations of the school in 2012 were perhaps the highlight of TG's tenure, which included the support from numerous Old Altrinchamians from many previous generations of the school.

So what about the worst of times? Thankfully these were very few. There have been times when the school hit the headlines for the wrong reasons, on the rare occasion where a pupil has had to be excluded from the school, but by far the saddest occasions are when a pupil has died tragically young. The Head

Master referred to three young pupils, namely Chad Mulholland, Robert Anderson and Will Menzies who died in the past ten years. Whilst these are clearly the worst of times, out of despair sometimes great things have come, and Chad's Challenges has now been running for 10 years and has raised over £60,000 for Cancer Research. In memory of Robert Anderson, the school has held fundraising days in 2011 and 2012, one of which was marked by the visit of the Duke of Gloucester, raising large funds for Asthma UK.

Also listed under the 'bad times' heading were incidents at Old Altrinchamians Dinners, the first being at the 2012 Centenary Dinner when there was a memorable outburst from what appeared to have been a former Shakespearian actor lambasting our choice of guest speaker. More recently, a guest speaker's political slant proved too much for a couple of diners whose heckles were still heard down the school corridor as they were frog-marched out by our esteemed Treasurer.

The Head Master thanked the Old Altrinchamians for their super support throughout his time at Head Master with particular mention to Peter Morton (OAA President), former Chairmen, Mike Gittins and Colin Bamford, and Rowland Longshaw who organised the Old Altrinchamians dinner for over 25 years prior to his death a few years ago. The Head Master thanked Old Alts

as an organisation with a proud history, a brilliant support to the school, and so many pleasant, thoughtful and intelligent people, but stressed that whilst he was moving onto his new role as Executive Head of the Hamblin Education Trust he looked forward to continuing to working with the Old Alts.

Following the Head Master's speech, Christian James thanked the staff and honorary guests who attended, with particular thanks to Hilary Gartside who had supported the Association and all the dinners for the last 16 years.

Christian concluded with his 'ambitions statement' to make the Association as engaging and relevant to as many past pupils as possible, and highlighted the list of other events taking place during the year.

Diners retired to the Sixth Form Common Room at approximately 10:30pm to enjoy what was left of the Dunham Massey Brewery offerings. A great evening was enjoyed by all those who attended.

Steve Perrett



# SIXTH FORM LEAVERS

## Name:

Pranav Acharya  
Sa'ad Aftab  
Karam Agha  
Karim Akram  
Sam Akrell  
Omar Ali  
Faris Al-Kayssi  
Ali Al-Zubaidi  
Oscar Armitage  
Usman Arshad  
Daniel Atherton  
Lewis Barratt-Wilson  
Charlie Batra  
Matthew Beaudin  
Reece Bell  
Jonny Bewley  
Amay Bhamidipati  
Samyak Bhansali  
Charlie Biddlecombe  
Jack Billington  
Henry Blease  
Billy Blundell  
Dominic Bond  
Jamie Boocock  
Sam Bown  
Robert Buchanan  
Tom Burke  
William Burr  
Sam Bytheway  
Ronan Chambers  
Dennis Chan  
Isaac Chan  
Bilal Chaudhry  
Zhenlin Cheng  
Samuel Chow  
Jack Connor  
Sumay Dasgupta  
Ross Dunleavy  
River Edis-Smith

## Destination:

Lancaster University  
University of Salford  
University of Manchester  
University of Manchester  
University of Sheffield  
Queen Mary University  
Gap Year  
Gap Year  
University of Birmingham  
Oxford University  
Barclays Apprenticeship,  
University of Leicester  
Gap Year  
Gap Year  
University of Bath  
University of Bristol  
University of Sheffield  
University of Manchester  
University of York  
Leeds Beckett University  
Newcastle University  
University College London  
Employment  
University of Warwick  
University of Leicester  
Coventry University  
University of Cambridge  
Imperial College London  
University of Gloucestershire  
University College London  
De Montford University  
South Bank University  
Brunel University  
Newcastle University  
Gap Year  
University of Hull  
University of Leicester  
Newcastle University  
University of Surrey

## Course:

Physics  
Fashion Design  
Engineering  
Dentistry  
Civil & Structural Engineering  
Medicine  
Working as a Tutor for YIPIYAP  
  
Economics  
Economics and Management  
Barclays & MMU Digital and Technology  
Geography  
  
Work Experience in Dental Hygiene  
Mechanical and Electrical Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering  
Bioengineering with a Year in Industry  
Medicine  
Chemistry (with a year in industry)  
Sport and Exercise Science  
Accounting and Finance  
Economics  
Property development  
Economics  
Economics  
Physiotherapy  
Medicine  
Computing  
Sports Journalism  
Geology  
Architecture  
Petroleum Engineering  
Product Design Engineering  
Medicine  
Working as a Tutor for YIPIYAP  
Geology  
Medical Biochemistry  
Business Management  
Mathematics with Music.

Ben Egan  
Jack Entwisle  
Mustafa Estwani  
Oliver Evans  
Patrick Evans  
William Eyre  
Sam Farrell  
Jacob Farrelly  
James Feetam  
Joe Fisher  
Patrick Fitzgerald  
Kyle Gale  
Edward Galley  
Danial Ghafoor  
George Gibbons  
Callum Goel  
Jack Goodison  
Cameron Grime  
George Hallwood  
Joe Hambleton  
Sami Harb  
Benjamin Hargreaves  
Joss Harrison  
Joseph Haslett  
Mubrook Hassan  
Terence He  
Mark Holland  
Luke Holt  
Ben Howells  
Mohammed Humadi  
Rhys Ingham  
Alexander Jackson  
Anthony James  
Cameron Jamie  
Daniel Jones  
William Jones  
George Kashimawo  
Yash Kaushal  
Kamran Keig-Momin  
Thomas Kelly  
Marc Kendrick  
Eesaa Khan  
Daniel Kupusarevic

Oxford University  
University of Liverpool  
University of Manchester  
University of Manchester  
University of Manchester  
London School of Economics  
University of Leeds  
Oxford University  
University of Warwick  
Oxford University  
University of Sheffield  
University of Leeds  
Loughborough University  
University of Manchester  
Cardiff University  
Loughborough University  
University of Sheffield  
University of Cambridge  
Imperial College London  
Gap Year  
University of Manchester  
Nottingham Trent University  
London School of Economics  
Newcastle University  
Gap Year  
Manchester Met University  
University of Leicester  
Queen Mary University  
University of Cambridge  
University of Manchester  
Sheffield Hallam University  
University of Manchester  
University of Nottingham  
University of Leeds  
University of Cambridge  
University of Nottingham  
University of Manchester  
Gap Year  
University of Warwick  
Leeds Beckett University  
University of Manchester  
Lancaster University  
University of Hull

Law  
Geology  
Language, Business & Management  
Mathematics  
Computer Science  
Economics  
Management  
Geology  
Mathematics  
Medicine  
Politics  
Business Analytics  
Economics  
Medicine  
Geology  
Chemical Engineering  
Mathematics and Statistics  
Economics  
Geology  
  
Genetics  
Business  
International Relations  
Medicine  
  
Electrical & Electronic Engineering  
Law  
Medicine  
Engineering  
Engineering  
Law  
Mathematics  
Mathematics  
Medicine  
Economics  
History  
Medicine  
  
Economics  
Sport and Exercise Science  
Medicine  
Business Analytics and Consultancy  
Politics and International Relations



# SIXTH FORM LEAVERS

Athavan Kuralarasu  
James Lau  
Dominic Law  
Sean Liu  
Young Lu  
Rob Mackintosh  
Francis Madden  
Yezan Malallah  
Max Malkin  
Rishav Manta  
Charles McCann  
Lewis McCauley  
Charlie McDonnell  
Callum McGoldrick  
Alexander McInnes  
Joe McMahon  
Michael Mo  
Ben Moore  
James Moores  
Benjamin Moss  
John Moss  
Ritvik Muthuswamy  
Faizan Nadeem  
Hassaan Naeem  
Vishnu Nair  
Krishan Nandapalan  
Nicolai Nealon  
Samuel Nicholson  
James Nightingale  
Tim Palmer  
William Pavey  
Matthew Perry  
Alex Philippakos  
Tom Quealy  
Benedict Ralph  
Saif Rattoo  
Hasan Raza  
Oliver Reeves  
James Richards  
Thomas Richardson

Gap Year  
Newcastle University  
University of Sheffield  
University of Cambridge  
University of Bath  
University of Sheffield  
University of Cambridge  
University of Manchester  
University of Leeds  
University of Bristol  
Oxford University  
Gap Year  
Gap Year  
Manchester Met University  
University of Bristol  
University of Sheffield  
Royal Holloway University  
University of Cambridge  
Sheffield Hallam University  
Imperial College London  
University of Leicester  
University of Leeds  
Gap Year  
University of Leeds  
Imperial College London  
Newcastle University  
University of Warwick  
University of Bath  
University of Manchester  
University of Sheffield  
University of Surrey  
University of Sheffield  
University of Warwick  
Newcastle University  
University of Bristol  
Keele University  
University of Warwick  
Leeds College of Music  
Swansea University  
Gap Year

English Literature  
International Relations and Politics  
Medicine  
Electrical and Electronic Engineering  
International Relations and Politics  
Psychological and Behavioural Sciences  
Medicine  
Geological Sciences  
Mathematics  
Law with French Law  
  
Employment  
History  
Mechanical Engineering  
Computer Science  
Geology  
Engineering  
Human Geography  
Geology and Geophysics  
Biological Sciences (Biochemistry)  
Economics and Mathematics  
  
Chemical Engineering  
Aeronautical Engineering  
Medicine  
Biomedical Science  
Natural Sciences  
Science  
Economics and Politics  
Electrical and Electronic Engineering  
Mechanical Engineering  
Economics  
Business Management  
English  
Pharmacy  
Economics  
BA (Hons) Music (Jazz)  
Mechanical Engineering

James Riley  
Alex Robertson  
Myles Robinson  
Mo Saed  
Zain Sarwar  
Michael Schroeder  
Owen Scragg  
Michael Senkiw  
Tom Shillito  
Ewan Simpson  
Raj Singh  
Aarambh Sinha  
Ashwin Sivakumar  
Ed Stacey  
Ben Stewart  
Matthew Stewart  
William Streuli  
Arya Tandon  
Simon Taylor  
Simon Thornton  
James Tombs  
Luke Townsend  
Callum Townsley  
Harrison Ward  
Greg Warren  
Abraham Wilfred  
Nathan Williams  
Ben Wise  
Joseph Witchalls  
Jordan Wong  
Gordon Yong  
Anthony Yum  
Rai Zhang

University of Sheffield  
University of Manchester  
Manchester Met University  
University of Leeds  
Gap Year  
University of Edinburgh  
University of Edinburgh  
Gap Year  
Newcastle University  
Durham University  
Sheffield Hallam University  
University of Manchester  
Gap Year  
King's College London  
University of Chester  
Arts University Bournemouth  
University of Sheffield  
Oxford University  
University of Hull  
Imperial College London  
University of Surrey  
Lancaster University  
Gap Year  
Oxford University  
University of Bath  
University of Manchester  
University of Chester  
Gap Year  
Imperial College London  
University of Manchester  
Durham University  
University of Salford  
University of Bristol

Economics  
Biochemistry and Spanish  
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Geology with a Year Abroad  
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Accounting and Finance  
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Maths  
Chemistry

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Maths  
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Music  
Business Studies : Economics

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Maths  
English  
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Chemistry  
Physics  
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Maths

Technology & Computing  
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Business Studies : Economics  
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Physics  
Biology  
Computer Science

MFL  
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Geography

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Finance Assistant  
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Library Assistant  
Administrative Assistant  
Receptionist  
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Admissions Officer  
Finance Officer  
Head Master's PA  
Sixth Form Administrator, Aspirations  
Coordinator  
Chief Finance Operating Officer : Hamblin  
Education Trust

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Science Technician (Biology)  
Science Technician (Biology)  
Science Technician (Lower School Science)  
Science Technician (Chemistry)  
Science Technician (Chemistry)

Technician (Food & Art)  
Technician (Technology)

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ICT Technician  
ICT Technician

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