

AGSB LATEST NEWS – MAY 2017



Dear Parents,

1. Best wishes to all our students in Years 11, 12 and 13 who have now begun their public examinations. They have worked hard over the past few terms to learn the knowledge and to develop the skills which will help them to succeed very well.

NB: our pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 have internal exams at this time of year. These exams are also important because teachers and you, parents, will make judgements based upon how the boys do compared with others in their form and year group. Even more importantly, internal exams help to develop through revision a rich reservoir of subject knowledge to draw upon when the time comes to take public exams. They also begin to develop the skills such as revision and exam technique in preparation for even bigger challenges at age 16 and 18.

2. **Please note that on Monday 12th June, School will be closing earlier than usual, at 2.25pm.** This is because teaching staff will be attending a training session after the P4 lesson that day as part of their continued staff development.

Therefore, if necessary, please make appropriate arrangements to collect your son earlier than usual. If you are unable to do so, he will be able to remain in School until the normal time to do his homework in the Library.

3. IT Developments: Altrincham Grammar School Developments has agreed to contribute just over £100,000 to develop our IT systems over the next three years. At a time when school finances are tight this is an excellent contribution which will ensure continued school development in this crucial area and which will benefit every pupil and member of staff in their work. If you are a parent who contributes to AGSD (and most of you do) thank you for helping to make such a significant contribution possible.

Head Master

SIR BRADLEY WIGGINS AND THE SKODA ADVERT



Eagle-eyed viewers of the recent Skoda Kodiaq adverts may have spotted some familiar locations! A film crew was on site during a Saturday in March to film Sir Bradley Wiggins in scenes taking place on the School playing fields and outside the 1912 exterior of the main building.

To see the advert in full, visit YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5njKnzpxks>.

BOYS LEAVING THE SITE DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Please remember that boys in Years 7 to 11 are not allowed to leave the School premises between 9am and 3.25pm except for medical or examination reasons (for which we require a note from parents in advance). Thank you for your understanding.



SIXTH FORM

Chad's Challenges Tea Party Friday 23rd June – request for support!



Yes it's that time of year again, when we look forward to the **Chad's Challenges Tea Party**. This year, we are inspired by the Sith and Jedi of Star Wars. We will have our **"Y12 Form Star Bakers v Mr Hall Bake Off"** in the same week and will auction their yummy creations at the Tea Party.

The Chad's Challenges team will also be working hard to freshly bake treats for the event. If you would like to donate ingredients (including sugar/flour/eggs/chocolate/butter/margarine/decorations/flavourings) for the event please contact Mrs Williamson gwilliamson@agsb.co.uk.



Many thanks for your support.

Sixth Form Leavers

Year 13 students have now embarked on their study leave and will be working hard to prepare for the main exam period after half-term. On their last day they managed somehow to fit into their old green blazers for the day, this year teaming them with beachwear. We started their celebrations officially at break time, with students snacking on Freddo chocolate bars, whilst Mr Murray led a quiz including questions about their peers and staff at AGSB.

Matthew Beaudin was the winner of "Teacher Play Your Cards Right", being awarded the leavers trophy!



There followed a "Keepy-uppy" football competition between the Head Boys, which surprisingly was won by Ali Al-Zubaidi! Staff then joined the students and Sixth Form Team to share an excellent lunch provided by the Sodexo team.

The event concluded with thoughtfully worded speeches from Mr Murray and our Head Boy, Tom Burke who also thanked Julie and Janice who have looked after the students during their time at School, providing wholesome treats and guidance from their Sodexo servery.

Good Luck to Year 13 for their exams and for whatever they have planned for the Summer and beyond.

DROPPING OFF YOUR SON AT SCHOOL

Following some recent incidents, can I remind parents of the following important considerations to observe when dropping off or picking up your son from School:

- * **Please do not block the entrance** to The Grammar car park if you drop your son off there (there are double yellow lines clearly marked on the road):



- you should **slowly** drive straight into that car park and pull up further down outside The Grammar building itself
- **please do not stop suddenly just inside the car park!**

This will ease congestion on Marlborough Road and enable staff cars to enter The Grammar car park safely without having to block the entrance.

- * Please also take **care when pulling up** near the entrance to the School's car park at the North end of Marlborough Road (near the Bowdon Hotel). This is a car park for AGSB staff and Sixth Form students only and all need to have clear access to the gates in front of the service road. **Please refrain from parking or turning round in this area.**

I am sure you will appreciate our concern to make the immediate environment as safe as possible for all pupils and staff and to avoid causing traffic congestion when it is not necessary.

- * Governors Jones, Young and Bradley have held a series of productive meetings with local residents, representatives of Altrincham Prep School and the Bowden Hotel, and the Trafford Traffic Management Officer concerning **parking and traffic issues on Marlborough Road**. We hope that within the next 12 months or so following a review of road use changes will be made to improve traffic flow at busy times.

PFA

PFA Ball, 8th May

The PFA were delighted to welcome 149 parents, teachers and friends to their May Ball on Saturday 6th May, held at the Marquee Room at Bowdon Rugby Club. The event was a resounding success, and those attending dined well in the company of friends and danced the night away to the Jackson Kay band, raising almost £2,500. We would like to thank all who came, those who helped with the organisation, and the local businesses who donated raffle and auction prizes. A great night was had by all and we look forward to welcoming even more of you at next year's event.

*The PFA is here to raise money for the School to benefit your sons and also to help parents get to know each other. If you would like to help us organise these (and other) events or have other fundraising ideas, our next committee meeting is on **Monday 5th June at 7pm** in the School Library. We would welcome any parent or friend of the School to join us - we would especially welcome those who have not been previously*

Best wishes, Nick Davis, Chair, PFA, aqsb_pfa@hotmail.co.uk

SPORT

Football

Trafford Cup, Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 all Trafford Cup finalists

First XI Greater Manchester champions

A highly successful season. The boys have played with a determined and competitive attitude throughout the season. Their conduct at training and matches has been exemplary and they have been a credit to the School.

There have been many achievements. The First team made to the English Schools Final, losing to an excellent Millfield team. They went on to win the Greater Manchester Cup for the second consecutive year. Years 7 and 10 progressed to the last 32 in the English Schools (from an entry of over 700). Years 7, 9, 10 and 11 have all progressed to the Trafford Schools finals (yet to be played).



On Saturdays, the School has 8 teams, resulting in over 100 boys representing the School. A total of 137 matches have been played and the boys have managed to win 102, a win percentage of 75%.

Finally, many thanks to the teachers and parents that have managed teams. Thanks also to the parents for their magnificent support for the boys at matches.

Mr O'Flynn

Hockey (indoor and outdoor)

Double National Finalists!

AGSB's U6's Hockey team topped off an incredible season ranked 3rd in the country. They are Cheshire Champions, North West Champions, North of England Champions and National finalists in both the Indoor and the Outdoor version of the game.



In late January a team, consisting of 5 age grade internationals (James Mazarelo, Ben Entwisle, Matthew Bellin, Ben Nicholson and Ben Robinson) travelled to Whitgift School to compete in the National Indoor Hockey finals. The standard of the competition was incredibly high and AGBS narrowly missed out on progressing from the group stages, having won one, lost one and drawn one. It was a wonderful experience for the lads and they were a credit to the School.



In April they again travelled to London, this time to the Lee Valley Hockey Stadium in the former Olympic Park, to compete in the National Outdoor Finals. The squad comprised Nick Henshaw, Benji Lovell, Will Brown, James Valley, Ben Nicholson (Capt), Joe Schaefer, Ben Entwisle, Harry Whittaker, Luke Holland, James Mazarelo (GK), Ed Farelly, Billy Kavanagh, James Simpson, Matthew Bellin, Nat Khan and Oliver Evans (GK). They lost only one game in the

whole tournament on their way to securing a Bronze medal in the 3rd/4th place play-off. Again they were brilliantly behaved and performed admirably throughout.

The u16's Hockey lads truly are an incredibly gifted team and a fantastic set of young men!

Mr Soulsby



SODEXO

independents

by sodexo*

THE "LUNCH BUNCH" MENU CHOICE

Please note that there will be no Lunch Bunch offer for the last half-term of the year due to days out and activities. The Lunch Bunch offer will therefore resume in September. For more information please contact the General Manager at Patricia.bowden@sodexo.com.



CASH LOADING MACHINE IN THE STAMFORD HALL

The pupil cash loading machine in the Stamford Hall has now been upgraded to accept the new £5 note and the new £1 coin.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Remember to keep an eye on our [School Calendar](#) for information on upcoming events.



Key dates are:

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| * Friday 26 th May | School closes at normal time for half term |
| * Monday 5 th June | School opens again at normal time |
| * Monday 5 th June | PFA Meeting , 7pm |
| * Monday 12 th June | School closes at 2.25pm for Staff Training |
| * Wednesday 14 th June | Year 9 exams begin |
| * Mon 26 th to Wed 28 th June | Celebration Concerts |
| * Thursday 29 th June | Open Evening (School will <u>close at 12.20pm</u> today) |

Looking ahead:

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| * Friday 30 th June | Book Return Day (School <u>opens at 10.50am</u> for pupils) |
| * Thursday 13 th July | Junior Sports Awards Evening |
| * Thursday 20 th July | Term ends at 12.20pm for the Summer break. |

