



Head Master's Newsletter

24th May 2024

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Head Master's Update



Dear Parents and Carers

From Football, Hockey, Cricket, Tennis and Athletics fixtures to the English-Speaking Union Final at Cambridge University and UK Maths Challenge success at Bolton School; from PGL adventures to LAMDA success and further National titles in Esports – AGSB students have packed plenty in alongside their exam preparation!

Best wishes to Year 11 and Year 13 students as external exams continue. Well done also to all families as you support them!

Students in Years 7 to 9 have been working hard on their internal exams. I would like to remind students and parents that internal exams are important as they are a measure that we can use to mark progress, identify areas that may need improvement, refine help or support already in place, and further inform future subject choices. However, they are not the only measure of success, and they should not be seen

as an end goal. They serve a purpose in various ways. As with most things in life, effort matters a lot more, as it ensures good habits and a work ethic needed for when the formal external exams arrive.

The amazing AGSB PFA (with the assistance of Year 12 students) are preparing for the second AGSB 'Grammar Fest' Summer Food and Music Festival. The event is taking place on Saturday, 29th June between 4pm and 7pm. Expect live music bands with some great food and drink including: Wood Fire Pizza, Bakery, BBQ and Craft Beer. We are also having 50ft inflatables as well as a Rodeo, Astro games, Total Wipeout, eSports, face painting and much more. I do hope that you can save the date for your diary. All funds raised by the PFA are used to directly enhance the provision of education the students receive at AGSB.

I wish you all a very happy Bank Holiday weekend and a restorative week to staff and students.

Yours faithfully

Mr G A Wright, Head Master

History & Politics Society

Last week the History & Politics Society welcomed guest speaker Geraldine Coggins (Green Party candidate for Altrincham & Sale West) to the New Library. Geraldine is a Trafford Councillor for Altrincham Ward and is the Green Party's Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the Altrincham and Sale West constituency. She was joined by fellow Trafford Councillor for Hale ward, Jane Leicester.

Geraldine talked about her political life, becoming a Green Party member prior to the 2010 General Election, and subsequently standing to become the MP for Altrincham and Sale West in 2015, 2017 and 2019. Meanwhile, she was elected to Trafford Council in 2018, becoming one of the first ever Green Councillors in Greater Manchester alongside fellow candidate Dan Jerrome! Since then the party have gained 4 more seats in Altrincham and Hale.

The Q&A session after was filled with interesting questions, ranging from the local record, policy and performance of the party to the big national issues and the Greens' plans to tackle them.

On behalf of the society, I would like to thank Geraldine and Jane for an extremely eye-opening talk.

Barney W (12BN) Deputy President of the History and Politics Society



AGSB PFA Grammar Fest - Saturday, 29th June 2024 from 4pm



The Summer Festival is looking bright - come rain or shine!

Students, parents, and friends, escape the ordinary and join us for a sizzling good time – even if the weather's a bit of a dud. We've got epic games, delicious treats, and enough laughter to light up the night. It'll be the most fun you can have under (or out from under) an umbrella!

Book your tickets to the 🌟 AGSB Grammar Fest 2024 🌟 now.

Tickets are priced at £5 for an adult; £3 for under 18s and under 5s are free. You can also buy a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children) for £15.

Click [HERE](#) for more information and to buy tickets.

UKMT



Four Year 8 and Year 9 students took part in the UK Maths Trust competition at Bolton School last week. With over 20 schools participating, well done to Ans, Harshith, Charantej and Jayden who finished in second place!

They all worked brilliantly as a team and had lots of fun.

Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators 2024 - French

Many congratulations to Elliot and Ossian in Year 12 who have been announced as Winners of the Queen's College, Oxford University Anthea Bell Translation Competition for the North West region. Their translation of a piece of fiction was selected for first prize in this very prestigious competition with thousands of entries and they should be very proud of their success.

Well done to all of our younger students who took part and we look forward to the challenges of next year and growing our participation from AGSB.

Mrs V Brennan, Head of French



SEND Support



You can arrange an appointment to discuss a SEND issue, either at our weekly virtual SEND Clinic (Thursdays 1:30pm- 3:00pm) or at another suitable time.

Financial Support at AGSB

You can apply for Free School Meals [here](#).

You can find out more about Pupil Premium support for Y7-Y11 [here](#).

You can find out more about Sixth Form Bursary support [here](#).

Information on discounted and free public transport for students aged 11-18 is available [here](#).

Help with funding UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) is available [here](#).

For all Inclusion related queries, please contact acathcart@agsb.co.uk

Ms A Cathcart, Assistant Head (Inclusion)/SENDCo

Sporting Achievements

Taekwondo



Well done to Max P (10CO) and Soham B (9SI) who both achieved their Black Belt star grades from Trident Taekwondo recently. They are pictured here with their instructor, Master Miley.



Well done to Solomon J (7LE) who was recently awarded his Black Belt 2nd Star in Taekwondo

Lacrosse



Congratulations to Joe H (9CD) who was a runner-up as part of the Timperley U14 Boys' Lacrosse Team at the Northern Flags Plate Final held in Rochdale last month.

Sports News



Athletics

There were some incredible results, both individually and collectively at the recent athletics meeting at Longford Park, Stretford.

The junior boys achieved the top score in the North West and will qualify through to the Regional A Finals in June.

The intermediate boys achieved a point score of 383, just 17 points off the magic 400 points threshold, but they must wait to see if they qualify through to a regional A or B Finals.

Well done to all involved, I was super proud and the event was a pleasure to be involved with. I loved seeing the personal achievement and the team pride and support that the AGSB athletes showed! Fantastic!

Mr M Soulsby



Cricket



Another great win for the U14s, beating St Ambrose by 68 runs! Well done everyone.

It was great to see the boys playing cricket in the morning sunshine against The Grange School. AGSB took wins in the Year 8 and 9 games but The Grange grabbed a win against Year 7.

Special mention to Charlie R (Y8). retiring with 50 with the bat and getting a hat trick in the final over of the game!



Our U13 Cricket Team had another great win this week beating St Ambrose by 109 runs!



Cricket Tour of the Midlands

The Year 8 Cricket Squad embarked on their annual tour of the Midlands.

They played three cricket matches against Bablake School, Bishop Vesey's Grammar School and Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall. They enjoyed two convincing victories, however, unfortunately one match was a victim of the weather.

The boys also enjoyed Tenpin Bowling and lovely meal at the Khushi Grill.

Many thanks to Mr Meakin, Mr Rawson and Mr Parker for leading the trip.





Football

The AGSB U15 Football team are through to the Trafford Cup Final vs Ashton on Mersey or Wellacre (TBC). They defeated Sale High School in the semi-final 5-3 with goals coming from Rory L, Josh C, Jonah P (x2) and Max R.

We are confident these boys can defend their title!



Dates for your Diary



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

Forthcoming Key Dates are:

- 03.06.2024: School Re-Opens
- 03.06.24 -27.06.2024: External Exams
- 05.06.24-07.06.2024: Y12 Geography Trip to Keswick
- 05.06.2024-07.06.2024: Y12 Geology Trip to the Vale of Eden
- 06.06.2024: Regional Finals of the Translation Bee @ Lancaster Uni
- 10.06.2024 & 11.06.2024: Y12 Geography Trip to Manchester

- 10.06.2024-13.06.2024: Summer Sports Festival
- 14.06.2024: Y9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Weekend
- 21.06.2024: A Level Theatre Trip 'Death of the Salesman' @ Bolton
- 26.06.2024: Y8 Geography Field Trip to Llandudno
- 27.06.2024 -28.06.2024: U19 Chess National Finals at Nottingham Uni
- 28.06.2024: Y9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Weekend

AGSB PFA



Don't forget

The ever popular AGSB PFA Plant & Cake Sale is back again this year on **Saturday, 15th June 2024** between 12 noon and 2pm. Come along to the main entrance where all the stalls will be centred around the flagpole at the front of School.

There will also be a second-hand uniform sale. Please do come along, there will be something for everyone!

Mrs H Drake, AGSB PFA Staff Rep

Year 7 and Year 8 Summer Concert, Thursday, 4th July at 6.30pm



Parents and Carers of students in Years 7 and 8 have been invited to enjoy a short Showcase Concert taking place at AGSB on **Thursday, 4th July at 6.30pm.**

This will be an opportunity for Parents and Carers to hear the students play in a Concert, featuring large scale massed performance, singing and more. This year our pupils have made a huge amount of progress and we are very proud of what they have achieved and really look forward to sharing their progress with you.

The performance starts at 6.30pm and will last approximately one hour. The Concert will take place **outside** in the Quad, which is adjacent to the new School Library. Obviously, we can't predict the weather this far in advance, so please dress accordingly on the night.

Tickets for the event are available only on ParentPay at a price of £2 for adults. Child tickets are completely free of charge. It is, however, recommended that parents and carers purchase tickets well in advance of the event in order to avoid disappointment.

Pupils will need to arrive at 6pm, wearing normal School uniform. Please can you ensure that your child has a bottle of water, particularly if it is very warm.

There will be a tuckshop, selling refreshments.

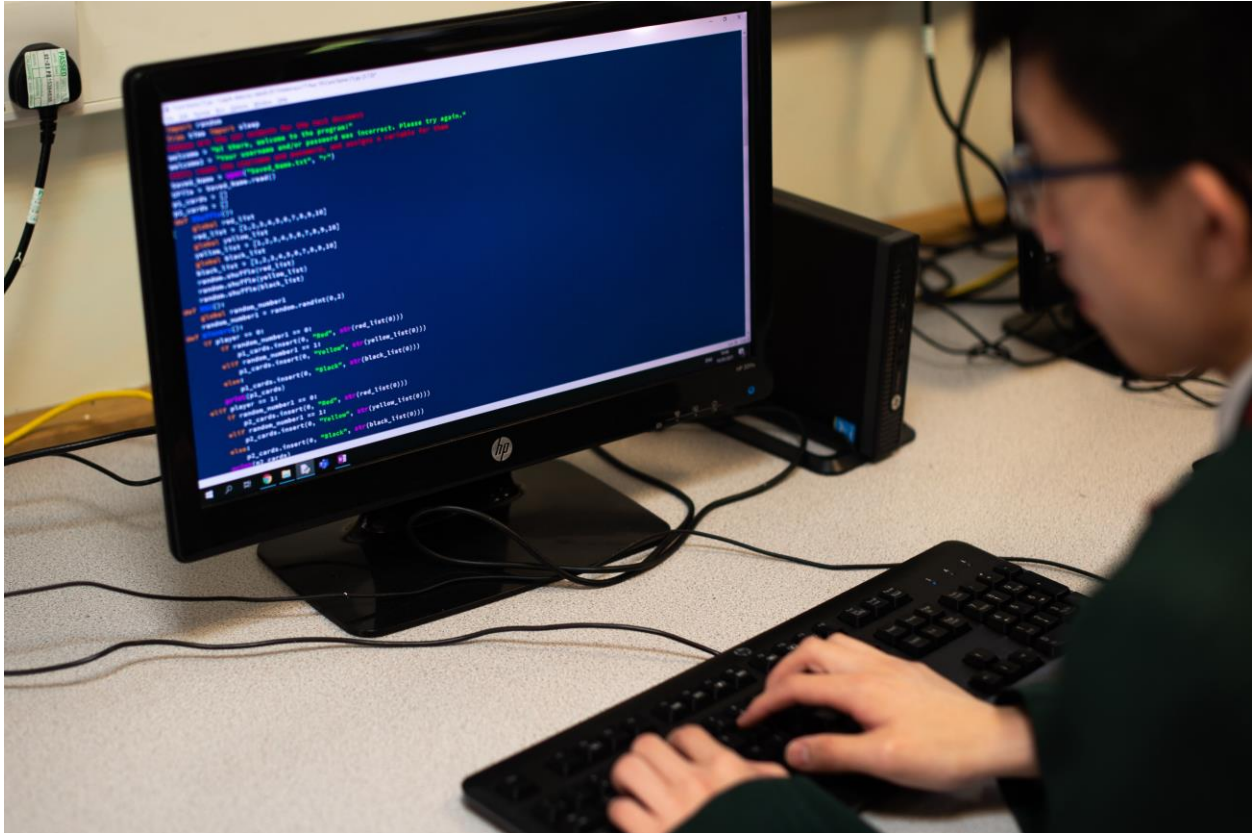
I do hope you can join us for this lovely Summer event, and we will keep our fingers crossed for some warm dry weather!

Kind regards.

Mr M Monument

Director of Music

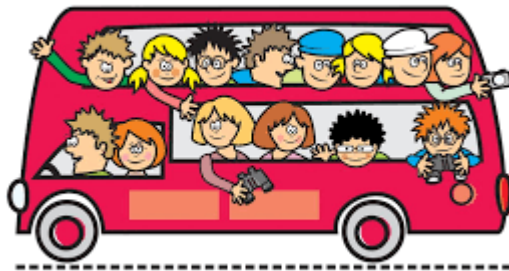
Information for Parents



Don't forget that our website is a constant source of news and information.

[Letters & Information for Parents can be found here.](#)

School Trips



Dear Parents and Carers

We have recently reviewed how enrichment trips are being run and have found that the fairest way on most trips is to randomly allocate places. (*This does not apply to curriculum trips where a trip is obligatory*).

This now means that Parents and Carers **do not** have to rush to fill in the Trip Form immediately they receive the information letter. You will have chance to discuss the trip with your child **before** completing the Form.

We have noticed an increase on Forms being completed and for the pupils then to be withdrawn by parents only after repeated chasing from the School to establish if your child still wishes to go on the trip. This does take up a lot of administrative time and leaves other children left queuing or on waiting lists etc.

As we now use an algorithm to allocate places, there is no need to rush to fill out the Form if you are unsure.

Please can we ask you, in the first instance, to discuss with your child if they wish to go on the trip. **Only when you are sure, please complete the relevant Form before the deadline date.**

This will help everyone; staff, parents, and children and ultimately create less disappointment.

Thank you for your support.

Trips Administration Team

Trafford Tech4All



Trafford Tech4All makes digital affordable for everyone ...

<https://images.app.goo.gl/bz63LjrsmA4fZCHy7>

Trafford Council and Community Computers are opening a series of Trafford Tech4All pop-up shops providing:

- Heavily discounted, high-spec laptops for £60
- Free data SIM cards
- Low-cost broadband plans
- Online safety support from Greater Manchester Police

The pop-ups will have devices available for residents to purchase at the following locations:

- St John's Centre, Wednesday 29 May, 1 – 4pm
- Lostock Library, Wednesday 12 June, 3.30 – 6pm
- Altrincham Library, Thursday 27 June, 2 – 5pm
- Sale Waterside, Wednesday 3 July, 2 – 5pm

People will be eligible to purchase an item from one of the pop-ups if they are in receipt of a form of financial support or are a low-income household. A full list of criteria is at: [Eligibility | Community Computers Shop](#). Proof of eligibility and Trafford address is required to purchase.

If you don't want to purchase a device, you can still come along to find out about digital skills training, how to keep your kids safe online and support with the costs of getting or staying connected at home.

Reporting an Absence

If you need to report a Pupil Absence, please use the ARBOR App to do so. For Special Leave Requests, please complete the online form on our website which can be found under the Parents section [HERE](#).

Contact Information

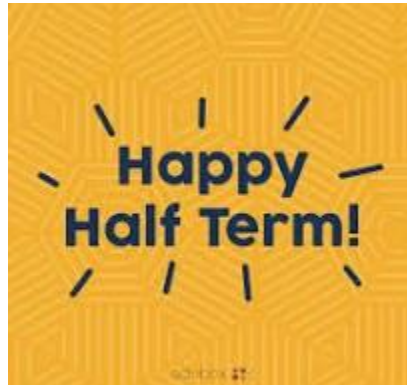


If you need to contact the School:

Telephone: School Office: 0161 928 0858

Email: agsbadmin@agsb.co.uk

Finally, we wish all Parents, Carers, Students and Staff a very happy half-term break! Remember, School re-opens on Monday, 3rd June.



AGSB House Sponsors



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