20 July 2022



Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for the support you have provided throughout this year. With your help, we have been able to achieve a great deal; in a school year free from lockdowns and school closures, whilst still needing to be responsive to the adaptations which have proved necessary.

Although many are now using the term 'post-COVID', those of us with children of our own are still well aware that the impact of the pandemic on the health and education of this generation is far from over. We have made adaptations this year in light of this and we will, with your support, continue to provide the quality of care and tuition necessary to help every young person through the various challenges and opportunities which lie ahead.

A large number of AGS students sat examinations this summer and completed coursework which will result in formal qualifications. Staff worked hard to provide the best we could for all of the students who coped admirably with the first set of externally assessed exams in three years. We knew our students would approach these exams with determination and commitment, and we know just how talented they are. We look forward to celebrating even more of their successes with them when results are published next month.

Students in every year group can reflect on 2021-22 with a great deal of pride and satisfaction. We awarded a record number of positive behaviour points this year and more students than ever have received awards and rewards. Those of you who follow the school on Twitter will have seen news of some of the rewards.

We have been delighted to see the gradual return of activities which form part of our enrichment programme, as we know how much these add to a young person's education. These activities, which often take place outside of lessons, have continued through to the end of the year; with AGS students heading to various venues home and abroad. We are hoping to expand on these in 2022-23, with a possible link being created with a school in Japan, along with other exciting trips and activities. This will include the return of the AGS ski trip in February 2023 for a record number of our students (with over 100 students booked on this trip).

Wood Street, Wirksworth, Derbyshire DE4 4DX Headteacher: Malcolm Kelly A year which started with a great deal of uncertainty, and with restrictions still in place, is finishing in an optimistic fashion; allowing us all to look ahead with confidence and positivity. 2021-22 has been a good year for AGS, 2022-23 will be even better.

Students in Years 7, 12 and 13 return to school on Friday 2 September. They will be joined by students in Years 8-11, when all are back in school on Monday 5 September.

On behalf of all of the staff at AGS, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and happy summer.

Thank you for your help in making AGS a great place to work and learn – we couldn't do this without you.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kelly Headteacher