



# SUMMER NEWSLETTER



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Page 1 - Year 10 Geography Trip
- Page 2 - AGS Maths Roadshow, Maths Challenge
- Page 3 - U13 Girls County Cricket Cup, U13 Basketball County Champions
- Page 4 - The Demon Headteacher
- Page 5 - Art, Media and Technology Showcase
- Page 6 - Getting to Know our Staff
- Page 7 & 8 - Careers Week
- Page 9 & 10 - Year 11 Prom
- Page 11 & 12 - Year 13 Prom
- Page 13 - Summer School, Year 6 Transition
- Page 14 - Founder's Day, Year 12 Geography Field Trip
- Page 15 - Well Dressing 2022

## WELCOME FROM MR KELLY

Welcome to our final newsletter of 2021-22; A school year which has begun to feel a bit more like those before 2020, and one into which we have packed lots of learning, lots of experiences and lots of enjoyment. This newsletter is starting to look a bit more like the ones we were used to, as the lifting of restrictions has allowed us to begin to re-enrich the curriculum with opportunities for students to explore, enquire, investigate, communicate, compute and create. I hope you enjoy the stories and articles which have been chosen to appear this time. You will get a glimpse into some of the school's many successes taken from the summer term 2022 and be reminded about what helps to make our school such a great place to work and learn.

## DIARY DATES

- 1st Sept** - INSET Day: Staff training
- 2nd Sept** - Years 7, 12 and 13 only return to school
- 5th Sept** - All years return to school
- 6th October** - Year 6 Open Evening
- 13th October** - Year 10 Parents' Eve
- 20th October** - Year 7 Parents' Eve
- 17th November** - Year 8 Parents' Eve
- 1st December** - 6th Form Parents' Eve
- 8th December** - Year 11 Parents' Eve



# Year 10 GCSE Geography Fieldwork: Burbage Brook



It was great to be out enjoying fieldwork again with our GCSE Geography students, and who better to kick-start fieldwork again with than our Y10 geographers? The focus of the day was to investigate changes in river profile along a transect of Burbage Brook and Year 10 were more than keen to get in the brook themselves and start taking measurements including: depth, wetted perimeter and velocity. The students worked brilliantly in teams to ensure that all of the data they required was gathered successfully. The trip was the first of two compulsory fieldwork days that GCSE students must complete and will be essential for students when sitting their fieldwork exam.

Mrs Harrison  
Director of Teaching and Learning - Explore Faculty

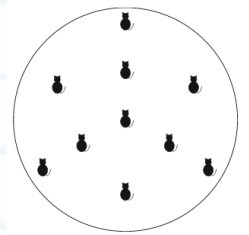


# Wirksworth Junior School

## Maths Visit



As the tail end of the school year draws nearer, we see ourselves look forward to next year. Several maths staff from AGS have been visiting some of our incoming year 7s in their current schools and working with them alongside their friends in year 5. Mr Richards, Mrs Smith and myself spent an afternoon at Wirksworth Juniors working alongside the current Year 5 and 6 students taking part in the Liverpool Roadshow. Quite a few year groups in school have already seen the activities – but for those who haven't, it is a marketplace of mini maths activities where students can go around and solve the problems throughout the course of a lesson. The question is: Could you answer them as well? Have a look at the question below:



### **The Wizard's Cats**

*A wizard placed 10 cats inside a magic circle.*

*Place three more magic circles so that every cat has its own space and is separate from every other cat.*

Mr Lomax

Assitant Director of Teaching and Learning - Compute Faculty

## Maths Challenge

Over February half term some students completed tasks for the MEM (Mathematics Education on Merseyside) which has been running Challenge and Senior Challenge take-home competitions in February half term since the late 1970s. These competitions attract about 2,000 entries annually, with Challenge aimed at Years 7 and 8, and Senior Challenge aimed at Years 9 and 10. A third competition, Open Challenge for students aged 18 and under, is organised by Liverpool Mathematical Society (LivMS). Three students at Anthony Gell were awarded certificates:

Year 9: Edward Wild, Highly Commended and awarded gift vouchers.

Year 8: Faraday Watson, Certificate of Merit

Year 12: Oliver Rodgers Certificate Winner

Mrs Smith

Teacher of Maths

### **Year 7 & 8 question**

#### **Whistler's Mother**

Anna Whistler was asked how old she was when her son painted her. She replied in the form of a riddle:

If to my age there added be,  
Half of it, a third of it and three times three,  
Six score and ten, the sum you'll see,  
So tell me, please, what age I be?

### **Year 9 & 10 question**

#### **Napoleon Crossing the Alps**

Napoleon's route through the Alps involved travelling through the Grand St Bernard Pass, a climb of 6km and a descent of 4km. His army travelled twice as fast downhill as it did uphill and the whole journey took 8 hours. How long did it take him to reach the top?



# U13s Girls County **Cricket** Cup



The U13 girls cricket team played in the County finals which took place at Repton School. AGS finished as runners-up in the competition, narrowly missing out on going through to the regional rounds. The team have been enjoying training since Easter, with some of the students being very new to cricket. In the final two games we beat Repton School but lost against Ecclesbourne. The opposing schools awarded Alyssia Finn as 'Player of the Tournament'. A special thank you goes to Tom Wanford (Y12) who umpired both games with confidence and professionalism.

Mrs Sadler  
Teacher of PE

# U13s **Basketball** County Champions



Well done to our Year 7 and 8 boys basketball team: Jimi Else, Kaden Marshall, Jack Hudson, Lewis Spencer, Will Brown, Joe Edmunds, Toby Kirkland, Sam Gaskin, Rory Young, Isaac Woolsey and Tyler Smart. In the county championships they beat St Thomas More School 68-8, QEGS 97-8 and then went on to beat West Park School in the final 61-15.

Mr Pover  
Teacher of PE



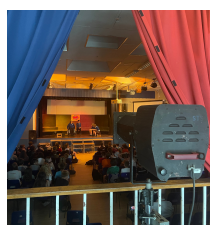
# The Demon Headteacher

On Monday 11th July, Anthony Gell school got a new head teacher, just for one night and she was scary...but brilliant as were the whole cast! On that night, for the first time in quite a few years thanks to Covid, we were finally able to welcome family, friends and the general public to come and watch a school show. It was truly lovely to see things getting back to normal and students being able to show off their amazing talents.

The cast were excellent, from the plucky students trying to work out what the demon headteacher's evil plan was, to our brilliant backstage and technical crew of students who helped to keep everything moving. I would like to give special mention to the staff who helped bring all of this together, it really is a team effort and without staff and students pulling together a show like this could not take place!

Thanks everyone for all your hard work, you were fab and watch this space for the next show in December – School of Rock!

Tina Hampton  
Drama Teacher

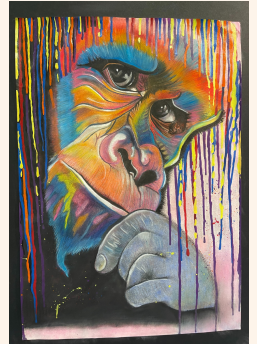
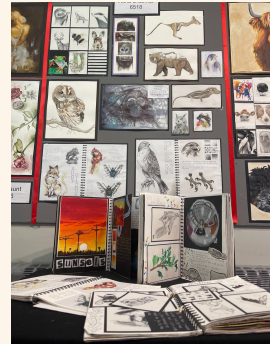




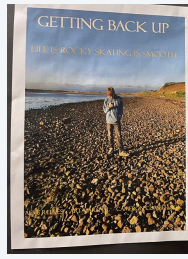
# Art, Media & Tech Showcase

The showcase took place on Wed 6th July. The showcase consisted of a large display of work from three curriculum areas which celebrated the achievements of students. This year's new addition to the showcase was the Restoration Club's work which included stools, chairs, tools and a bike.

Art had a large display of GCSE and A level work along two corridors, with projects ranging from portraiture to landscapes, and from animals to surrealism.



Media Studies had 6 large boards of stunning GCSE and A level work displaying outcomes which were very professional and well executed.



Technology displayed lots of photographs and folder work, as well as mock designs of tables and chairs in wood.



The Wirksworth Rotary Club were represented by two members who presented 7 awards on behalf of Rotary .

Technology: Winner- **Evie Bellingall**  
Highly Commended - **Ebony Rock**

Media: Winner- **Art Marshall**  
Highly Commended - **Nathan Thomas**

Art: Winner- **Elizabeth Stocks**  
Highly Commended - **Olivia Lynam**

Music: **Ruby Bisset**



Congratulations to everyone who had work displayed. Well done to the award winners and thank you to all who attended, and everyone involved. We are looking to include much of this work when AGS becomes a venue for this year's Arts Trail in Wirksworth on 10th and 11th September 2022.



# Getting to know our Staff



Phoebe Machin

**What is your role at AGS?**

My role is to provide administrative support to all curriculum areas within school.

**What university did you go to?**

I did not attend university. Once I left school at 16, I completed my A-Levels and then came to AGS. Here I completed my intermediate BA apprenticeship and I am coming to the end of my advanced BA apprenticeship.

**Why did you want to become an Admin Assistant?**

I wanted to work with children in an education setting, in a job where no two days are the same. I love that I am able to use my organisational skills to help ensure the school runs efficiently. In the future, I am hoping to work more directly with students.

**What do you do in your spare time?**

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my pets. I have a rabbit called Theo and a Bichon Frise called Milo. I also love spending time with friends and family.

**If you had to summarise AGS in three words what would they be?**

Inclusive, unique and caring.



Gian Cacace

**What is your role at AGS?**

I am a business studies teacher.

**What university did you go to?**

University of Nottingham.

**Why did you want to become a Teacher?**

I had some success in helping my younger siblings with their GCSEs and this made me curious about a career in teaching.

**What do you do in your spare time?**

Anything based around experiencing music; I play the guitar and go to gigs and shows any chance I get. I'm interested in cooking and trying new recipes; I then try to cycle off anything I've eaten that is too indulgent! I get away to travel in the holidays and in recent years I have combined this with hiking. I've become slightly obsessed with completing "El Camino de Santiago" and its various routes.

**If you had to summarise AGS in three words what would they be?**

Vibrant, expressive and scenic.



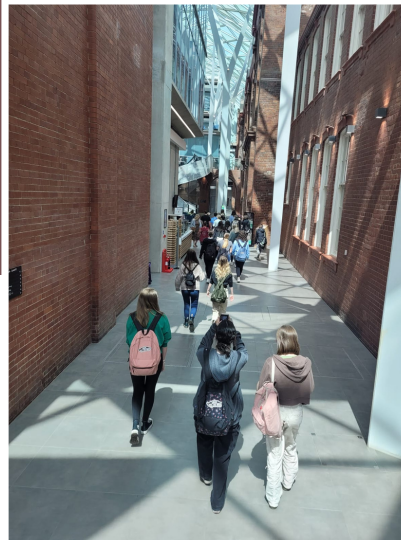
# Careers Week

Years 10 and 12 have had a range of fantastic opportunities during our Careers Week 2022. We have had more than 30 visitors in school delivering careers talks and representing a huge range of jobs and careers. Staff from the Department of Work and Pensions have also visited school and gave talks about apprenticeship pathways. The University of Sheffield have talked to Year 12 about Higher Education options.



## Careers Talks

## University of Sheffield Visit





Students have taken part in a 'virtual work experience' this term, where they have been able to explore a huge range of career pathways that are bespoke to their own personal interests. The virtual work experience platform will be available to students and families all through next year as a support for them while they choose their next steps and we will be in touch with parents and students with login details before the end of the term. A small group of Year 10 students had a bespoke CV writing session while students in Year 12 all registered for UCAS so they can start university applications in the new school year.

# Derby College



## Visit to Derby University

All of Year 10 had the opportunity to visit either a local college or a university to see what their future may hold in terms of their educational next steps - we enjoyed taking students to Derby College, the University of Derby, the University of Nottingham and the University of Sheffield. A great careers week has been had by all and we look forward to continuing to support all of our students as they take these all important next steps.



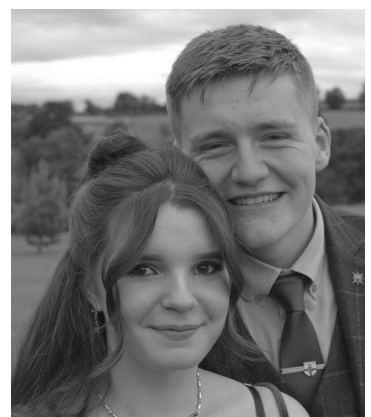


# Year 11 Prom

Over 130 Year 11 students came together at the beautiful Shottle Hall on 30th June to celebrate their achievements at Anthony Gell to date.



Students arrived in all their splendour with a wonderful array of transport modes and beautiful outfits. They were supported by an army of parents, wider family and other loved ones who turned out to share in this very special time.







The weather held out for us all evening while students enjoyed a wonderful meal, a professional photographer, and hitting the dancefloor for the traditional disco. A great time was had by all and we look forward to seeing Year 11 again when they are back in school to collect their results on 25th August.

Mrs Lowe  
Assistant Headteacher



# Year 13 Prom

We welcomed our Year 13s to their prom at Makeney Hall to celebrate the end of the exams and their time at AGS. It was wonderful to catch up with students and wish them well for their futures.



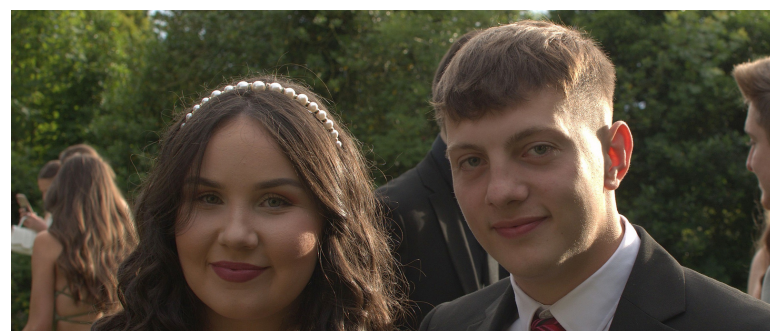




Makeney Hall, as always made the event a memorable evening for both students and staff to enjoy, and with an excellent mix of good food and dancing.

Good luck to all with your future plans.

Mrs Butt  
Sixth Form Learning Mentor





We will be running BSL workshops as part of this year's summer experience, for our new year seven intake. Students will learn how to sign the alphabet and their names. They will also learn how to sign colours. The two topics will be demonstration and repetition led. Several fun, creative, physical, and timed competition activities will enhance their learning - with the odd Haribo for winners! Activities will include:

- ✿ Create your own name plaque
- ✿ Match the sign to the colour worksheet
- ✿ 'Colour splat' hunt
- ✿ Flash card pairs game
- ✿ 'Name' hangman
- ✿ Colour island game
- ✿ Final Finale - I Can Sing a Rainbow



## Year 6 Transition



...And so the journey continues from primary school to secondary school, with our second successful transition event of the year. Students enjoyed experiencing a range of subjects. In science students experienced the delight of being in the lab, exploring the effects of different coloured sugar solutions which created amazing density rainbows; PE saw some up-and-coming basketball stars. Even more activities were enjoyed at lunchtime with Boomwhackers being bopped in music, cool moves created in dance and yummy food tasted in Tech – treats to ensure all senses were stimulated. A big highlight for many was the canteen where students' taste buds were tickled with a variety of delicious dishes at lunchtime. The students left at 3.30pm smiling and saying they couldn't wait for September. We look forward to welcoming them back so they can aspire and achieve under our care and guidance.

Mrs Pickford  
Head of Pastoral Care



# Founders' Day Service

Ex students, some of whom who attended school in the 1940s and 50s when AGS was known as Wirksworth Grammar, joined present day governors and trustees from the Anthony Gell Foundation for our Founders' Day service held at St Mary's church, Wirksworth. The group of ex-students also enjoyed lunch together at the cricket club in Wirksworth whilst they reflected on their school days. The Founders' Day service was led by David Truby and included several contributions from current AGS students (photos below).



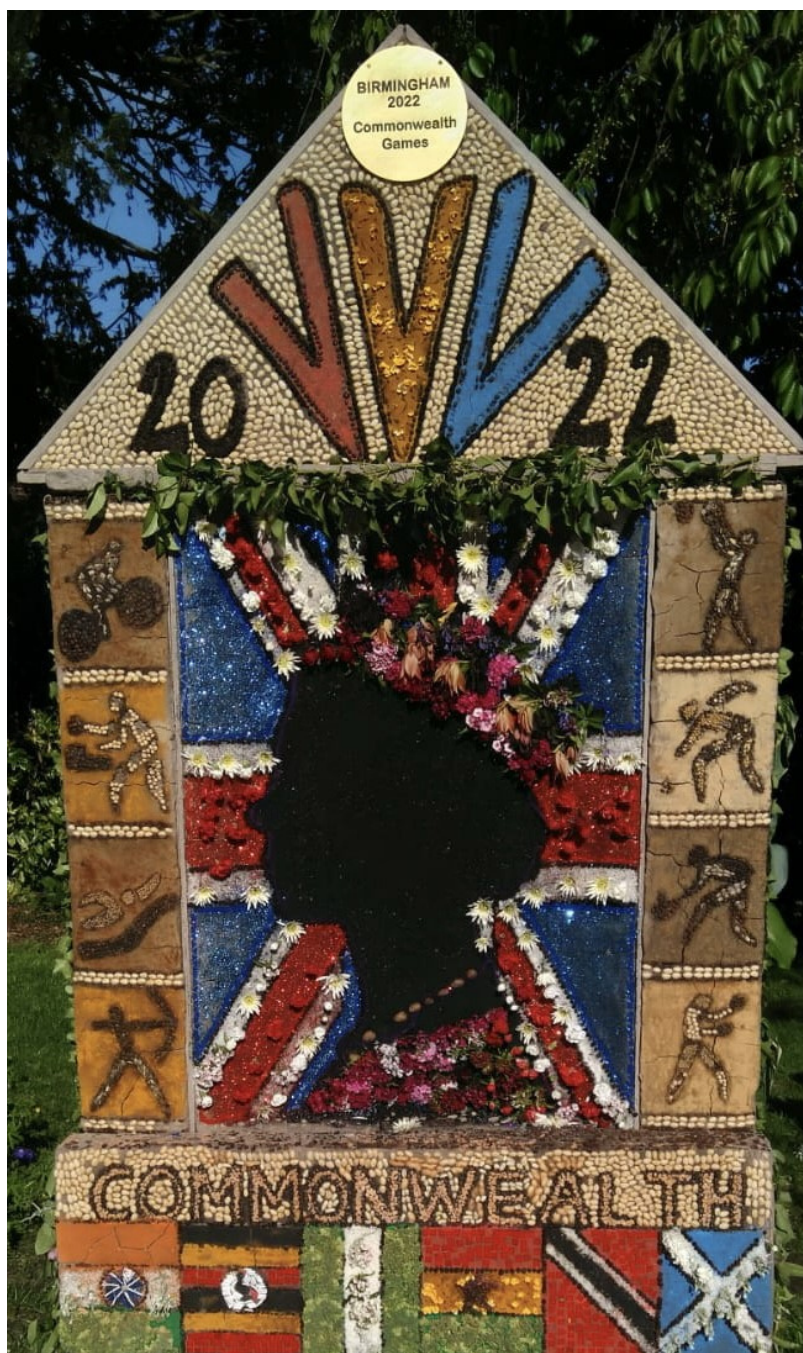
## Year 12 Geography Trip to the Lake District

During May, the Year 12 geography class went on a field trip to the Lake District. Here we walked to Easedale Tarn and collected data on corries, roche moutonees, striations, drumlins etc. We visited Maryport, a town that has undergone deindustrialisation, looked at rural rebranding in Grasmere and Keswick, and went to Windermere to hear about the work they do in the National Park. Specifically, we heard how they manage this environment and some of us even went swimming in the lake. Our field trip provided a great experience to learn whilst out in the landscape. I think everyone would agree that having the opportunity to see examples of what we had been learning about in the classroom was invaluable and this has greatly supported our learning and understanding of the topics and the subject. In the evenings we got the chance to explore the local area and got to know other members of the class better through activities like quizzes, board games and movie nights. Overall, I found the trip to be really enjoyable and it has created many memories as well as expanding my knowledge, supporting my geography A-level and being a great starting point for my coursework.





# Well Dressing 2022



Our theme for this year was a celebration of 'The Commonwealth Games 2022'. Year 7 students designed the well as part of a homework competition. The winners this year were Freya Wilson, Katie Shorter, Tayjun Holroyd and Millie Swindell. Students worked with staff to collage the materials onto the well over a period of a week. The money raised will go to a school called 'SRI MEDHANKARA MAHA VIDYALAYA PITIWELLA' in Sri Lanka. The goal is to buy them a television for their classroom. Special thanks goes to the staff, students and governors involved.

Mrs Bailey - Art Teacher

## Maths Solutions

### Whistler's Mother

$$130 = a + \frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{3}a + 9$$

$$121 = a + \frac{6+3+2}{6}a = \frac{11}{6}a$$

$$\text{So } a = 66$$

### Napoleon Crossing the Alps

Lets  $s$  be the uphill speed, then the downhill speed is  $2s$

Total time is

$$8 = \frac{6}{s} + \frac{4}{2s} = \frac{12}{2s} + \frac{4}{2s} = \frac{16}{2s} + \frac{8}{s}$$

$$s = 1 \Rightarrow 6 \text{ hours for uphill}$$

### The Wizard's Cats

