

July 2025

Dear parents/carers,

Thank you for your support throughout this academic year. We are already looking forward to 2025-26, with lots of work already completed with next year in mind.

2024-25 has been another very successful one for AGS and that is in a large part due to the fabulous partnerships which exist between staff in school and parents/carers like you. There is much to celebrate, as so many young people have achieved a great deal both in and out of the classrooms and teaching spaces. The next newsletter, which will be made available to you soon, shows some of the depth and range of experiences.

Exam results at GCSE and A Level were once again very strong in 2024, with students achieving excellent grades across our broad curriculum. GCSE results in 2024 were record breaking and our Sixth Form maintained its very good level of performance on a national stage. We are looking forward to seeing the 2025 results, and I am very pleased by the way our older students have responded to and been supported through the rigours of the examinations once again this year.

Our students have continued to impress us. They know more, can do more and can remember more in a range of subjects. They have developed their skills and learned to apply these better in a whole host of different situations. They should be very proud of their achievements and we, like you, are very proud of them.

Start of Term Dates

The return in September is staggered and allows families to benefit from the cheaper holiday prices which might be possible during the first week of September. Years 7, 12 and 13 will be back in school on Monday 8 September. All Year groups are back in school on Tuesday 9 September.

Please use the AGS website to make a note of the important calendared dates for the forthcoming academic year. The following link should take you directly to the <u>AGS Calendar</u>.

Curriculum Information Evenings

A key feature of our calendar are our Curriculum Information Evenings for parents/carers and students. There will be an information evening for Year 7, Year 10 and the Sixth Form in the autumn term, as these are key transition points for students at the beginning of each key phase of learning. While these events are mainly aimed at the year groups mentioned, parents and students from other years are welcome to attend; especially if you couldn't join us for these meetings last year. The intention is to use these relatively short (45 minutes), focused, sessions to speak with you as a group of parents/carers; to provide key information about the year ahead for the young people in that particular year group, and how you will be able to support them with this. It will also be an opportunity to answer any questions you may have, identify key milestones, talk about lessons, and let you know about any trips/activities which are planned. These Curriculum Information Evenings are scheduled to take place in the first few weeks of next term. We hope every student will have a parent/carer at the

Curriculum Information Evening for their Year group. Students are also welcome to attend, alongside their parents/carers. The presentations will take place in our school hall.

Improvements on Site

Whilst students and staff are away from school this summer, there will be a range of works happening on site. We are pleased to have been able to secure a considerable amount of funding by being part of Embark, to replace and refurbish several parts of our site. Works include new windows in Gell Quad, replacement ceilings in the link bridges of the school, removal of the canopy at the top of Gell area (for health and safety reasons), replacement flooring in School House and works to the stage area. There will also be general decoration of classrooms G1-4 and some communal areas, as well as preparation for some new wall wraps which you will hopefully be able to see on your next visit to school.

and Finally...

I will be asking every student to do the same three things throughout this coming year: be in school as much as possible, try their best in all that they do, and be kind to others. When all three of these things happen, we are able to create an environment in which young people make more progress, feel happier, and make the most of their precious time in education. We continue to want the best for all of the children and young people who attend AGS and, with your continued support, this is entirely possible.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful summer.

Very best wishes,

Malcolm Kelly Headteacher