

ags *Principal's* UPDATE

26th May 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

As another busy half-term comes to a close, I have been reflecting with gratitude on the last 12 months - having been appointed as Principal at AGS on June 1st last year. The school community continues to thrive off our most valuable asset - strong relationships between staff and students alike. I am, however, also delighted that our school community is working to grow and improve links with a wider range of neighbours and educational establishments; last Saturday, it was a real pleasure to talk to so many of you at the inaugural 'Alcester School Cup Cake Competition', between AGS and Alcester Academy (see photos below).

Exams (both internal and external) are now in full swing and I would like to thank all parents and carers for the support that you are giving with these at home. As the photos below show, however, AGS continues to both 'work hard' and 'play hard' and I would like to formally use this opportunity to thank all staff who continue to give their time to support students beyond the classroom.

Finally, although I am aware that many families will be balancing revision and relaxation this coming week, I do hope that all members of our community have a peaceful half-term week. If you haven't yet completed our annual parent and carer survey (found in the GroupCall message), I would be hugely grateful if you could please support us with this - your feedback is key to understanding how we can continue to improve and develop.

With all best wishes for the week ahead,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R Thorpe".

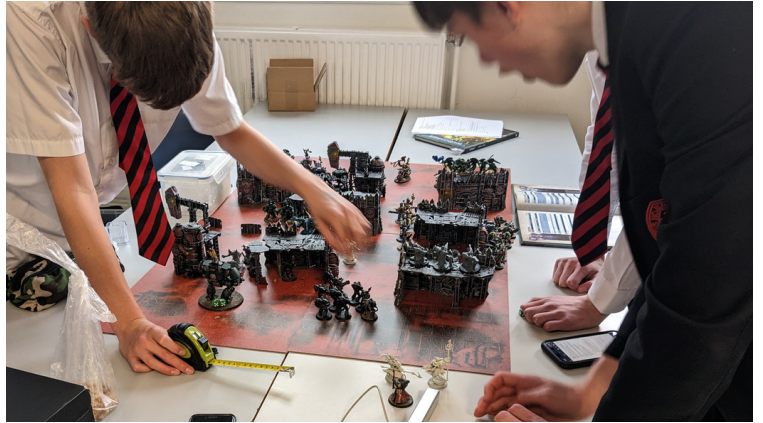
Ms Rachel Thorpe
Principal, Alcester Grammar School

This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures



This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures

Warhammer club



Condover Hall

Another amazing trip to Condover Hall for our year 8 & 9 Netballers. Fantastic Netball and brilliant activities. Well done to all involved.



This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures

Alcester Food Festival

It was wonderful to see 19 of our students enter the bake-off competition at the Alcester Food Festival on Saturday 20th May at the Town Hall.

The students cooked 6 cupcakes and decorated them to a coronation theme and presented their cakes for judging at the Town Hall, alongside students from Alcester Academy. Cakes were judged by BBC CWR radio host Sandra Godley, who rated them on flavour, texture and creativity.

Huge congratulations to Daisy Banner who won the junior AGS prize, Eloise Harris who won the Senior AGS prize, and overall competition winner Caitlin Banks. They were awarded their prizes by the Mayor.



'Youth Speaks: A Debate' National Final!

Sunday 23rd April: a significant date in many ways... St. George's Day, Shakespeare's birth (and death!) day, and in 2023, for the first time in over 20 years, AGS reached the 'Youth Speaks: A Debate' National Final! After months of hard work in rehearsals, three local, district and regional heats, Ola, Emily and Elisa found themselves participating in an oracular battle to be crowned the National champions of Rotary International's public speaking competition.

The judges took over an hour to deliberate following the debates, suggesting some serious debating was taking place amongst themselves! We didn't come away with the victory on this occasion but the girls were absolutely faultless and should feel extremely proud of themselves!



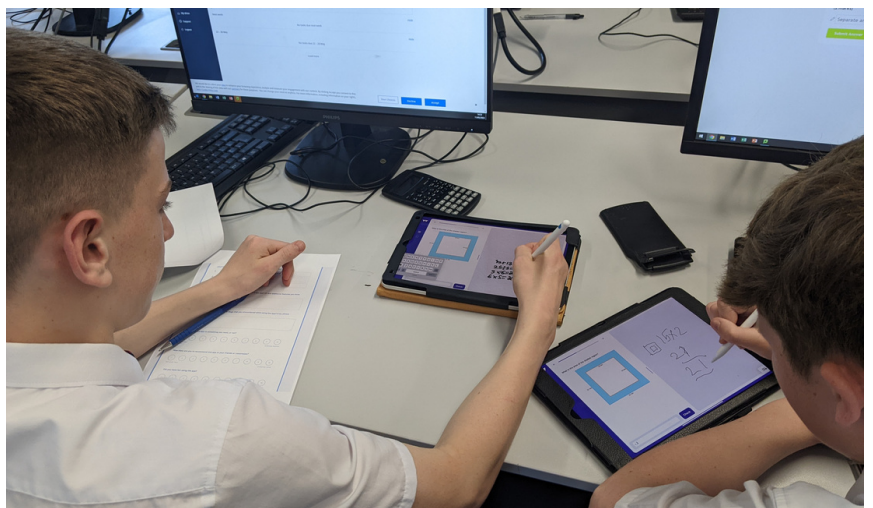
This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures

Year 8 Art Exam

We have seen a real variety of different skills in the exam pieces from Miss Dilks' year 8 group. The students have worked with a wide range of different media and techniques, such as acrylic paint, ink, pencil drawing, fineliner pens and mono printing.



The future of education is here thanks to Ex-Student Rhys Mahon!



Rhys is currently pursuing a degree in computer science at the prestigious University of Warwick. In his final year, Rhys has developed a new educational app as part of his dissertation project. The app, designed for iPads, allows students to write their answers and utilises a sophisticated process to check their work. Students who have tested the app have found it to be highly engaging and effective, and are excited to see it implemented in classrooms in the near future.

This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures



Bronze DofE- Malvern Hills

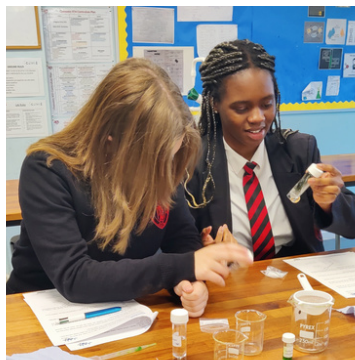
A great effort from each of our 14 Bronze DofE teams who coped admirably with a torrential downpour and some tricky navigation to successfully pass their assessed expedition in and around the Malvern Hills.



University of Birmingham visit

This week the Chemistry department were lucky enough to receive a visit from PhD students from the University of Birmingham School of Chemistry! Students took part in interactive, practical workshops, investigating how polymers derived from seaweed can be used to prevent cancer.

Thank you all for your fantastic engagement and excellent practical skills!



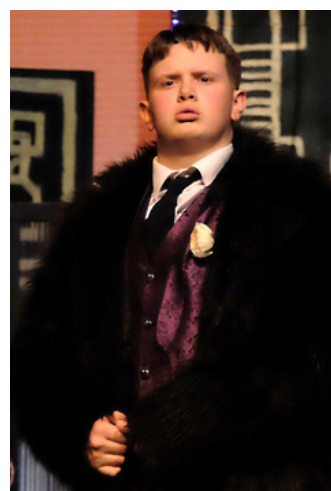
News and Notices

National Youth Theatre

The Drama department is delighted to announce that after a brilliant workshop and audition day in February we have had 3 students successfully gain places in the prestigious National Youth Theatre.

Artie Dobson, James Yates from Year 12 and Dan Hughes from Year 13 will all now take part in an intensive summer workshop and will be able to participate in their productions all over the UK. The programme is incredibly selective and this is an amazing accomplishment and demonstrates the exceptional talent that these 3 students have.

Well done all of you, we are exceptionally happy for you.



A fantastic 3-1 win to the U16 girls Football team!
District cup champions!



Warwickshire Schools Athletics Combined Events

Minor boys competition (80m, LJ, Shot, 600m)
finishes with Andrew 15th, Francisco 6th and Darryl
as 2023 champion- amazing results!



**SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE**

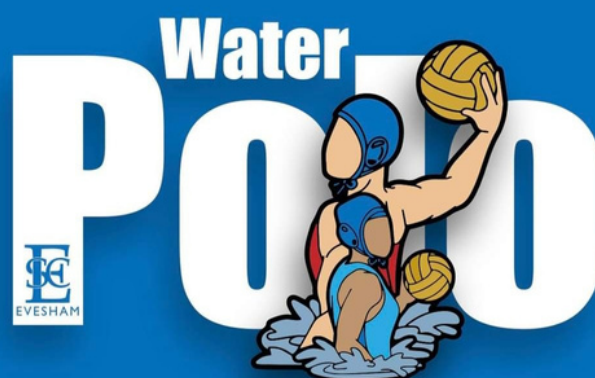
**LOVE
YOUR
LIBRARY**

BE A SUMMER READING CHALLENGE VOLUNTEER

We need young people 13-19 to help run the Summer Reading Challenge.

If you enjoy talking about books & reading and can volunteer for 10-15 hours this summer then scan the link below to apply:

Warwickshire Library & Information Service - Summer Reading Challenge sign up



Sunday Evenings, 4-5.30pm
CHIPPING CAMPDEN SCHOOL POOL - GL55 6HU

STARTS WEEKLY FROM
SUNDAY 23rd APRIL 2023

To sign up scan here:



THREE AGE GROUPS TEAMS:
INTRODUCTORY: Players born in 2012 and later
JUNIORS: Players born in 2011 - 2009
SENIORS: Players born in 2008 and earlier

(MUST HAVE PASSED LEARN TO SWIM GOLD AWARD)
Equipment provided

For more info contact us via:
Eveshamswimmingclub.co.uk
click on membership enquiry

'Alcester Grammar School is a thriving and happy place'
OFSTED, 2022

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ALCESTER GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Open Evening

THURSDAY 29TH JUNE 2023

17:00-20:00

Find out more and register your attendance
www.alcestergs.co.uk



Ofsted
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High achieving, friendly, co-educational grammar school

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DON'T**

WALK



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DogFest

The action-packed festival for dogs

Ragley Hall | Warwickshire

10-11 June

DOG WALKS | HAVE-A-GO ACTIVITIES | EXPERT ADVICE
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