



# Principal's UPDATE

10th March 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

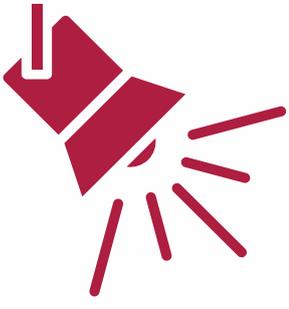
The fortnight since half term has been as busy as ever; my congratulations go to both Year 11 and Year 13 for completing their mocks in such a focused, mature and responsible manner.

On Monday last week Year 13 had a whole day focused on Philosophy and Religious Education, whilst 'The Word' festival, hosted by the English department last week for all year groups was also an immense success. Many trips out in recent days have had a careers focus, with MedSoc visiting Birmingham City University, a trip to both Keble and Worcester Colleges in Oxford, a visit to Edgbaston Stadium for students interested in Apprenticeships and a trip for Year 10 students to Ragley Hall's 'Focus on Farming' event. At lunch-times, clubs have been as busy as ever. The school library has now opened to Year 9 students and a full list of activities for the term is available to view [here](#).

This week I would like to ask you for your help with completing the annual AGS parent survey - in order that the data we collect can feed into the School Development plan for next year. Please do click [here](#) to complete a quick Google Form and to share your thoughts with us. Thank you in advance for your help. I also look forward to talking to Year 9 Parents and Carers at Parents' Evening on March 12th.

Best wishes,

Ms Rachel Thorpe  
Principal, Alcester Grammar School



# Language SPOTLIGHT

10 मार्च 2025

Language for  
this half term: *Marathi*

प्रिय पालक आणि काळजीवाहू,

मध्यावधी सुट्टीनंतरचे दोन आठवडे नेहमीप्रमाणेच व्यस्त होते; वर्ष 11 आणि वर्ष 13 च्या विद्यार्थ्यांनी त्यांच्या मॉक परीक्षा इतक्या एकाग्र, परिपक्व आणि जबाबदारीने पूर्ण केल्याबद्दल माझे अभिनंदन.

गेल्या आठवड्यात सोमवारी, वर्ष 13 चा संपूर्ण दिवस तत्त्वज्ञान आणि धार्मिक शिक्षणावर केंद्रित होता, तर इंग्रजी विभागाने आयोजित केलेला 'द वर्ड' महोत्सव, जो सर्व वर्ष गटांसाठी होता, तो देखील प्रचंड यशस्वी झाला. अलीकडच्या दिवसांत अनेक शैक्षणिक सहली करिअरवर केंद्रित होत्या, ज्यात मेडसॉकने बर्मिंगहॅम सिटी युनिव्हर्सिटीला भेट दिली, ऑक्सफर्डमधील केबल आणि वॉर्सेस्टर महाविद्यालयांना भेट दिली, शिकाऊ उमेदवारीमध्ये रस असलेल्या विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी एडगबॅस्टन स्टेडियमला भेट दिली आणि वर्ष 10 च्या विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी रॅंगले हॉलच्या 'फोकस ऑन फार्मिंग' कार्यक्रमाला भेट दिली. दुपारच्या जेवणाच्या वेळी, क्लब नेहमीप्रमाणेच व्यस्त होते. शाळेचे ग्रंथालय आता वर्ष 9 च्या विद्यार्थ्यांसाठी खुले झाले आहे आणि या सत्रातील सर्व उपक्रमांची यादी येथे पाहण्यासाठी उपलब्ध आहे.

या आठवड्यात मी तुम्हाला वार्षिक AGS पालक सर्वेक्षण पूर्ण करण्यासाठी मदतीसाठी विचारू इच्छितो - जेणेकरून आम्ही गोळा केलेला डेटा पुढील वर्षाच्या शालेय विकास योजनेत समाविष्ट करता येईल. कृपया जलद Google फॉर्म पूर्ण करण्यासाठी आणि तुमचे विचार आमच्यासोबत शेअर करण्यासाठी येथे क्लिक करा. तुमच्या मदतीसाठी आगाऊ धन्यवाद. तसेच, 12 मार्च रोजी पालक सभेत वर्ष 9 च्या पालकांशी बोलण्यास मी उत्सुक आहे.

शुभेच्छा,

*R Thorne*

श्रीमती राचेल थॉर्प  
प्राचार्य, अल्सेस्टर व्याकरण शाळा

# This Fortnight at AGS

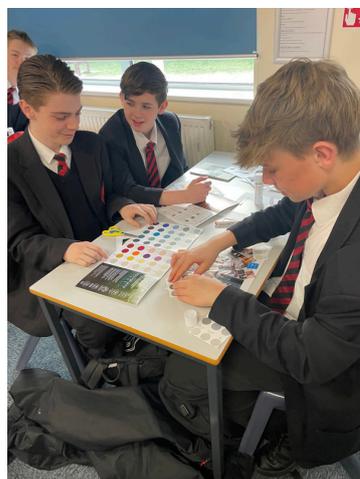
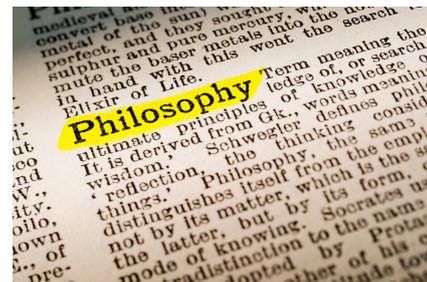
Year 13 Philosophy for Life Day - Monday 3rd March

At AGS, we are committed to fostering personal development and expanding our students' knowledge beyond their individual A Level subjects. On Monday, our students took part in an enriching day of philosophical, theological, and ethical exploration, engaging with profound concepts from Hindu and Buddhist Dharma to the philosophy of Gottfried Leibniz.

Throughout the day, students honed their oracy skills in interactive sessions covering a range of topics including; AI and business, as well as inclusion and diversity. The event concluded with a thought-provoking session on medical ethics, delivered by our guest speaker, Simon Jenkins, Associate Professor of Medical Ethics at The University of Warwick.

We were incredibly proud of our Year 13 students, who approached the day with curiosity, insight, and enthusiasm—a true credit to AGS and our DHB ethos. Thank you for your continued support in nurturing their intellectual and personal growth.

Mrs Hemus



Year 9 life session - decorating a bedroom!

# Sports Update

## Basketball

The Sixth form basketball team are through to the quarter finals of the national U19 basketball cup having beaten Moulton College 58-43. The next round is imminent and we will be playing Myerscough College at home. **Good luck!**

## South Warwickshire Champions!

Huge congratulations to our Year 7 Netball team. We are so proud of their hard work and dedication.



## Hockey

A brilliant day at the England Hockey Tier 3 Finals, witnessing some truly fantastic hockey. Our team's 6th place finish is a significant achievement and a direct result of their unwavering work ethic. We are very proud of them.



# Year 10 - 'Focus on Farming'

This week, Year 10 Food Technology pupils were invited to take part in this special event at the Ragley Hall Estate. The day was filled with activities and demonstrations that linked to the curriculum including beekeeping, butchery, seeds and grains, rainwater harvesting, farm machinery and forestry.

Local producers provided tasty food samples and pupils learned about the many career options in the agriculture and horticulture industry.

Thank you to LEAF (Linking Environment and Farming) and Ragley Hall for inviting us!

Mrs Perry



# Year 9 Ski Trip Andorra



I hope that all students and staff have now fully recovered from what was a fantastic week away in Andorra!

With 85% of the 94 students who attended the trip never having been skiing to a resort before we had unprecedented success... All ski groups managed to hit some green and blue runs by the end of the week, ride a chair lift and visit the 'Kids Forest' which I hear was great fun!



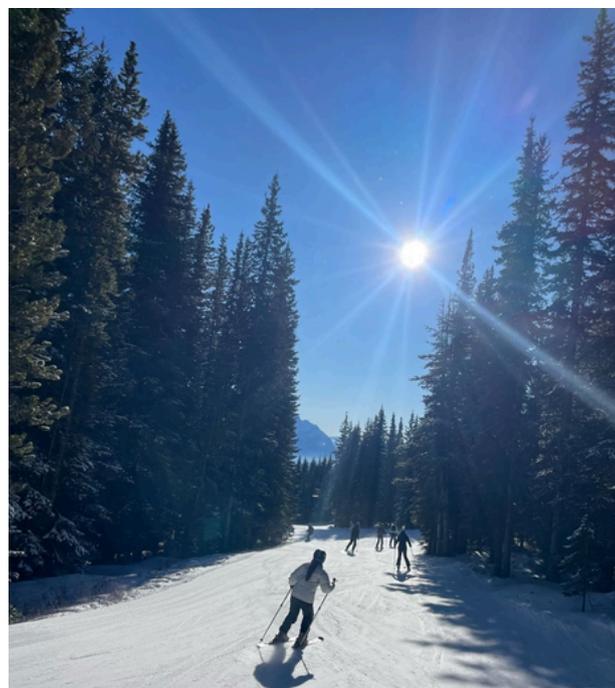
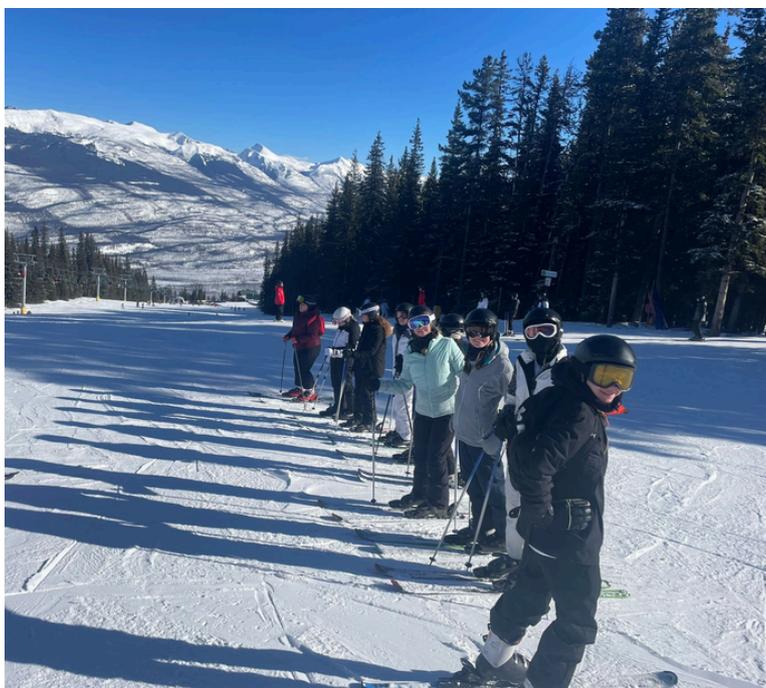
All students showed resilience, determination and a sense of humour throughout the week leading to the staff having to only on rare occasions sit out with any students. It was evident that the students enjoyed themselves on the slopes and participation in the apres' activities was just as successful - swimming, bowling, bum boarding, quizzing... we certainly kept them busy!

Thank you to all for making my first ski trip in charge so enjoyable and I hope to see many faces out on the slopes again sometime soon!

Miss Albutt



# Year 13 Ski Trip Marmot Basin, Canada



# House Update

We can hardly believe that the new House System is coming to the end of its first year. What a year it has been too. At this point in time over 135,000 house points have been awarded and over **£5,684** raised for charity as well as copious amounts of fun, encouragement and healthy competition.

On Friday 28th February the SALT (Senior Ambassador Leadership Team) application process was introduced to Y12 students during their LIFE session and the applicants for the 2025-26 SALT team have begun to pour in! Watch this space!

## Pancake Race

Blue skies and ... frying pans greeted our team of Y9 and Y12 House reps as we represented the school during the annual Alcester Pancake race, an event all involved really enjoyed. There was a wonderful sense of outreach and camaraderie as we were able to cheer on other local schools before taking part in a House relay (the first time in the Pancake race's history that there had been 4 legs of the race!) **Willow** team came first and **Alder** second but we were all winners looking at the photos!

## Mrs Bremner-Smith





# INTERNATIONAL PI DAY COMPETITION

Get Ready to Celebrate Pi Day with a Bang!  
Join us for the annual International Pi Day competition and showcase your Mathematical and problem-solving skills

## 14TH MARCH 2025

AT BREAK AND LUNCH

### YOUR MISSION:

- THERE WILL BE 27  $\pi$  SYMBOLS HIDDEN AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE.
- YOU CAN FIND THEM IN CORRIDORS, ON WALLS, AND ON DOORS.
- NO NEED TO ENTER CLASSROOMS!
- ONLY SEARCH DURING BREAK AND LUNCHTIME.
- EACH  $\pi$  SYMBOL HAS A NUMBER AND A LETTER.
- WRITE THE LETTER UNDER THE CORRESPONDING NUMBER IN THE GRID BELOW.
- BE ON TIME FOR ALL YOUR LESSONS! LATE STUDENTS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED!

**SEE THE MATHS DEPT FOR AN ENTRY SHEET**

# AGS Friends



We held our third AGSF lottery draw on Tuesday 4th March.

The 5 winning numbers were:

- 1st prize of £80 - no. 105 - Hamlyn Family
- 2nd prize of £40 - no. 103 - Hamlyn Family
- 3rd prize of £40 - no. 85 - Clarke Family
- 4th prize of £32 - no. 145 - Garstang Family
- 5th prize of £32 - no. 10 - Joanna Lane



Total funds raised to date - £1027

Congratulations!

## AGS Friends Quiz Night!

Who will win the title **AGSF Quiz Champions 2025?**

**Fri 4th April**

**Bar, refreshments and raffle**

Enjoy a family evening fundraising for AGS Friends  
Teams of 4-8 people - prize for best team name!

Doors open 6.30pm Quiz starts 7.15pm  
in the Theatre, Alcester Grammar School

Tickets available [here](#)

Y6 and under free

Adults and Y7 and over £5 each



SCAN ME



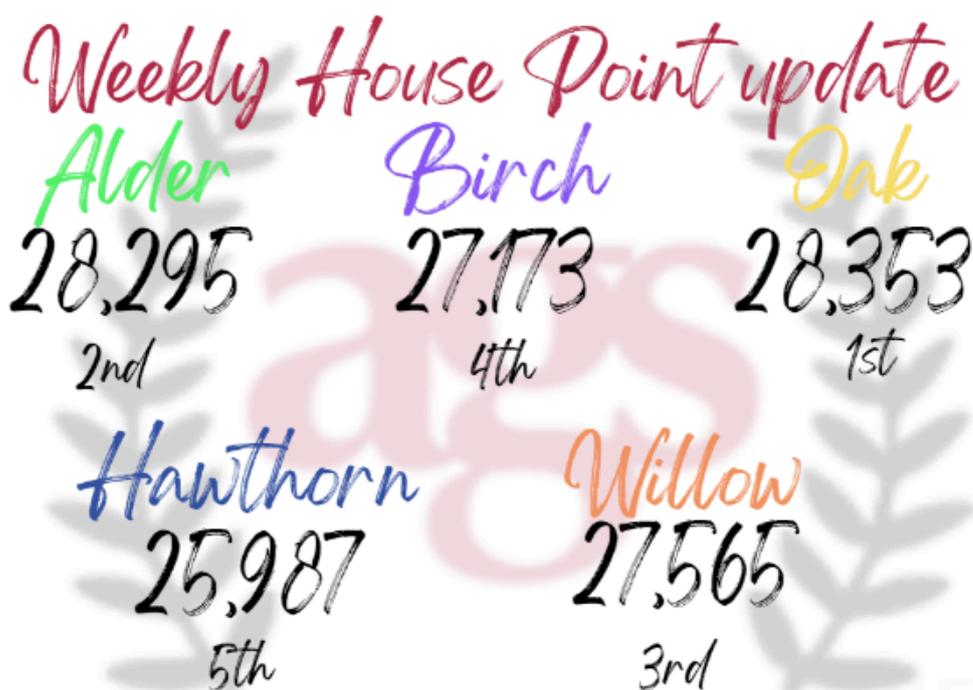
**Somebunny's got to win!**

# News and Notices

## Message from Mrs Shipway

We are trialling new arrangements at lunchtimes which means all students should have a space to be able to sit and eat rather than their usual, varied spots around the school, such as stairwells and corridors.

This change aims to provide designated spaces for different student activities, including running, eating, and quieter spaces, while also improving health and safety across the site. The new arrangements ensure that every student has a suitable space for social interaction and return to lessons in a clean and safe environment.



**THINKING OF TEACHING?**

"I joined the profession because I love my subject and am passionate about equality, diversity and inclusivity."

"I am never bored! Every day and lesson is different."

"Regular holidays help me to manage stress and workload. I was able to come back to work full time (after having children) with the knowledge that I can spend every holiday with them!"

**GET INTO TEACHING**  
getintoteaching.education.gov.uk