



# Principal's UPDATE

**16th October 2023**



Dear Parents and Carers,

With just over a week of the half term left, it was a pleasure to welcome so many Year 7 parents into school for the Year 7 information evening. The year group has settled remarkably well and we are delighted that they have an average 'happiness score' of over 9 out of 10. This week I have also had the privilege of walking around school to observe students across all year groups in lessons and it has been fantastic to see so many students taking true responsibility for their own learning - a key theme that we have been pushing across the school since September.

I would particularly like to draw your attention to pages 7 to 10 of this update, which includes exciting information about some changes to catering in school from after half term. I am delighted that from November 6th, ABM Catering will be taking over food provision in the school and we are looking forward to some new and inspirational food offerings! As part of this change and in an attempt to speed up queuing times, from January 2024 the school will be moving to a new safe and secure alternative biometric authentication system using facial recognition. For the majority of students in years 9 - 13, then you have already given permission for the school to use student biometric data for the school's cashless catering system until they leave the school. As facial recognition is an alternative form of biometric data, the consent you have already given will continue to be valid for as long as your child remains at School, unless you withdraw your consent. If however, you are a student in Years 7 and 8 or if you joined the school in any year group after the start of term, then we do not currently have your consent and you will need to complete [this form](#), by 31st October - [Consent Form Link](#). For further information or to withdraw your consent, please click [here](#).

With all best wishes for the rest of the half term,

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

Ms Rachel Thorpe  
Principal, Alcester Grammar School

# This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures

Music clubs are in full flow!



## Swimming Relays

It was great to have the opportunity to take some AGS swimmers to the regional round of the English Schools Swimming Association (ESSA) relays gala at Warwick pool on Friday 6th October.

The local schools always provide tough opposition but we more than held our own. Our junior girls were 2nd in their freestyle and medley relays, junior boys came 2nd (medley) and 4th (free) and inter boys were 6th in both of theirs.

All of the swimmers involved were a credit to themselves and the school, well done!

## ESAA Cross Country Cup

Junior boys 2nd  
Junior Girls 2nd  
Inter boys 1st  
Inter girls 4th  
Senior boys 3rd  
Senior girls 1st.



All 1st and 2nd place teams are through to the next round of the ESAA county cup!!

Amazing performances from all but stand out:

**Junior boys:** Francisco Artus-Thomazi - 4th

**Inter boys:** Tom fisher - 2nd, Joel Ledgard - 3rd

**Junior girls:** Holly Hanson

**Senior girls:** Maisie-Joy Spriggs - 1st, Niamh Hillard - 3rd.

Fantastic performances on such a hot day in October!





# *This Fortnight at AGS in Pictures*

## **Drama Careers Workshop**

Last week Drama students from Years 11 - 13 took part in a Drama workshop with Stage and Screen Actor Darragh Cowley.

Darragh, who has just finished in a production at the National Theatre, took students through page to stage craft and audition techniques in order to help them to explore how to develop their naturalistic acting skills.

Students were also able to effectively understand how the Drama school process worked and how a career in Dramatic industry is forged.

Many thanks to Darragh and all of the students who took part- it was a fantastically productive and positive environment.



**WORLD'S BIGGEST  
COFFEE MORNING**

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

AGS Staff raised £254.23 for Macmillan Cancer Support

# News and Notices

## Exams update

Our Autumn mocks begin Thursday 19 October until Tuesday 14 November for year 13 then year 11. Please make sure you have checked your timetable on your AGS portal.

Good luck to all!

Mock dates for 2024 have been amended so for those of you who are super organised please make a note of the changes. [Here](#) is the link. Year 12 mocks will begin on Friday 15 December until Friday 22 December and the timetable will be published after half term.

Any queries please email [exams@alcestergs.com](mailto:exams@alcestergs.com)

Mrs Silcox, Examinations Officer

## Chemistry Week Poetry Competition



Calling all poets and chemistry enthusiasts!

Chemistry Week 2023 is approaching and here at AGS, we will be celebrating with our own poetry competition which is open to all students.

We are looking for your words to collide and bond in literary harmony, let your creativity bubble and show us how chemistry can ignite your poetic spark!

How to enter: email a typed version of your poem (maximum 1 side of A4) to Miss Kaval [s.kaval@alcestergs.com](mailto:s.kaval@alcestergs.com).

The deadline to submit your poem will be **Friday 10th November**, and the winner will be announced the following week. It can be themed around anything chemistry related, be as creative as you wish.

Best of luck!

# AGS EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

*Autumn 1st Half-Term: 2023*



	Activity	Year(s)	Time	Venue	Lead
MONDAY	String Group	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu1	Ms Green
	'Strum' Guitar Group	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu2	Mrs Hartwell
	Volleyball	All	12:40-1:10pm	Sports Hall	Mr Richens
	Rhythmic Gym	All	12:40-1:10pm	Dance Studio	Mrs Parsons
	LangSoc	7-11	12:40-1:30pm	LA1	6th form students
	Art Club	7	12:40-1:30pm (in 3 week blocks)	Art Block	6th form students
	Documentary Club	8-9	12:40-1:30pm	Ph1	Mr Isherwood
	KS3 Do2 Library	7-8	12:40-1:30pm	Do2	Mrs Tingle
	School Play	11 - 13	3.40 - 5pm	Theatre	Ms Swan
	Circuit training	All	4-5pm	Dance studio	Mr Watson
	Running Club	All	4-5pm	Offsite from sports hall	Mr Reeves
	Netball	7	3:40 -5pm	Sports Hall	Mrs Parsons & Mrs Hemming
TUESDAY	School Choir	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu2	Mr Harris
	Jumanji Beasts	7 and 8	12:40-1:30pm	Dt2	Mr Pickering
	Coding Club	10-13	1:00 to 1:30pm	BS5	Mr Sindroja
	Basketball	9-11	12:40-1:10pm	Sports Hall	Mr Bayliss & Mr Blackman
	EcoSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	GG4	6th form students
	Mathsoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	Ma2	6th form students
	Chinese Kickboxing	All years & staff	3:50-5pm	Dance studio	Mr Gill
	Warhammer	All years & staff	3:40 - 5pm	Hi2	Miss Sims
	School Play	11 - 13	3.40 - 5pm	Theatre	Ms Swan
	Rugby Boys	7-9	3:40-5pm	Field	Mr Bayliss, Mr Blackham & Mr Dickinson
	Rugby Girls	7-13	3:40-5pm	Field	Mr Bayliss, Mr Blackham & Mr Dickinson
	Badminton	9-11	3:40-5pm	Sports Hall	Mrs Hemming
WEDNESDAY	Performance Basketball	12-13	12:40-1:10pm	Sports Hall	Mr Richens
	Concert Band	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu2	Mr Chapman-Palmer
	Omega Club	7- 8	12:40-1:30pm	Ma1	Mr Atherton
	School choir (week 2)	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu1	Mr Harris
	Creative Writing Club	7-9	12.50-1.20pm	En1	6th form students (Mrs Bremner-Smith)

WEDNESDAY	Philosophy Club	7-11	12:40 - 1:30pm	RE1	Mrs Hemus
	Silent Study	11	12:40-1:30pm	Dobell Study	Mr Hamilton
	History Ambassadors	8	12:40 - 1:30pm (fortnightly)	Hi1	Ms Bowles
	Table Tennis	All	12:40-1:10pm	Sports Hall	External Coach
	ComSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	BS5	6th form students
	EconSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	BS2	6th form students
	EngSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	DT2	6th form students
	LangSoc	12-13	12:40-1:30pm	LA1	6th form students
	LawSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	DO2	6th form students
	SciSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	Sc7	6th form students
	PhilSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	Re2	6th form students
	Netball	8-11	3:40-5pm	Sports Hall/ Courts	Mrs Hemming & Mrs Powell
	School Play	11-13	3:40-5pm	Theatre	Ms Swan
THURSDAY	Performance Basketball	All (invite only)	7:45-8:20am	Sports Hall	Mr Richens
	Jazz Band	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu2	Mr Chapman-Palmer
	Chess Club	7-11	12.40 - 1.30pm	MaO	Mr O'Mahony
	Homework Club	All	1:00-1:30pm	IT2	Mr Briggs-Davies
	GeoSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	GG3	6th form students
	MedSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	Sc1	6th form students
	HistSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	Hi1	6th form students
	KS3 Do2 Library	7-8	12:40-1:30pm	Do2	Mrs Tingle
	Basketball	7-8	3:40-5pm	Sports Hall	Mr Richens
	Fencing	All	3:40-5pm	Dance Studio	External Coach
	Girls' Football	All	3:40-5pm	Fields	Mrs Powell
	Show band	All (Audition)	After school	Mu2	Mr Chapman-Palmer
FRIDAY	Rock band	All	12:40-1:30pm	Mu2	Mr Chapman-Palmer & Mr Davis
	Drama Club	7-9	12.40 - 1.30pm	Theatre	Mrs Spencer
	Quiz Club	9-13	12.45 - 1.30	En4	Mrs Humphries
	Lego Club	7-8	12:40-1:30pm	Ph1	Miss Howe
	Cipher Challenge	7-11	12:40-1:30pm	IT2	Mr Atherton
	Litsoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	DO2	6th form students
	PsychSoc	12-13	12:50-1:30pm	Ps1	6th form students
	Euphoria Dance	All	3:40-5pm	Sports Hall	External Provider

\* NB Where clubs are provided by external providers there will be a small cost to these



STARTING  
MONDAY

6th Nov 2023

*mint*

• INSPIRED FOOD •

*mint*

• FOR EDUCATION •

Welcome To Your New Restaurant Service by abm Catering.

## From 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023 ABM Catering will be delivering a new Restaurant Service at Alcester Grammar School.

A new vibrant look Restaurant and a range of freshly prepared, innovative, seasonally influenced menus will be offered at breakfast, morning break and lunch services. At abm we firmly believe in delivering a fresh, nutritious meal service that provides students with excellent choice, quality and value that meets their needs and exceeds expectations.

### AN UNCOMPLICATED, FRESH APPROACH TO FOOD.

#### Fantastic Food

Our aim is to serve great, fresh food using the very best of seasonal ingredients to create amazing, innovative and exciting dishes.

#### Awesome People

It's not just the food that is important, it is the whole meal experience. Our team are proud of the food they serve. That's why you will experience a friendly, smiling, polite service. It is a recipe for success.

#### Great Offers

Look out for promotions, deals and special offers.

#### Value for Money

'Meal Deals' will provide a range of value for money offers including a main, dessert and unlimited hydration station for £3.25. In addition, our tariffs across our menus offer excellent value for money.





**NEW**

# 7-11 Sample Menu



## Lunch week 1

All our ingredients are locally sourced and delivered fresh by local suppliers. Our eggs are free-range and Red Lion stamped, our fish is sustainably sourced and MSC approved and our meat is British Red Tractor accredited wherever possible.

### MONDAY

#### MAIN MEAL

Cajun Chicken Pasta  
Bake served with  
Broccoli

Beef Chill Con Carne served  
with Fluffy Rice & Tortilla Chips

Chicken Tikka Masala  
served with Pilau Rice

Garlic & Lemon Chicken  
served with Root  
Vegetable Mash & Jerk  
Gravy

Hand Battered Fish  
served with Chips &  
Peas or Baked Beans

### TUESDAY

### WEDNESDAY

### THURSDAY

### FRIDAY

#### PLANT BASED / VEGETARIAN

Quorn Meatballs with a  
Roast Pepper, Tomato &  
Red Onion Pasta Bake  
served with Garlic

5 Bean & Vegetable  
Chili served with Fluffy  
Rice & Tortilla Chips

Roast Cauliflower &  
Potato Masala served  
with Pilau Rice

Roast Quorn Fillet  
served with Root  
Vegetable Mash & Jerk  
Gravy

Vegetable Sausage  
served with Chips &  
Peas or Baked Beans

ALL SERVED WITH SEASONAL VEGETABLES & POTATO OR RICE DISH OF THE DAY

#### STREET FOOD

Chicken Tikka  
Flatbread served with  
Salad & Mint Yoghurt

Sweet Chili Chicken  
Noodles

Pulled Pork Loaded  
Nachos with Cheese &  
Salsa

Honey & Soy Chicken  
Fried Rice

BBQ Chicken Wrap served  
with Sweetcorn Salsa

#### TAKEAWAY TUBS

Pasta served with  
Selection of Sauces

Pasta served with  
Selection of Sauces

Pasta served with  
Selection of Sauces

Pasta served with  
Selection of Sauces

Pasta served with  
Selection of Sauces

#### PIZZA SLICE

Margarita  
Pepperoni

Margarita  
Pepperoni

Margarita  
Pepperoni

Margarita  
Pepperoni

Margarita  
Pepperoni

#### JACKETS

#### TRY OUR DELICIOUS FILLINGS FOR 50P EACH

#### DESSERTS

Toffee Apple Crumble  
served with Custard

Sticky Lemon Sponge  
served with Custard

Chocolate Sponge served  
with Chocolate Sauce

Banana Cake served with  
Toffee Sauce

Trifle Sponge served with  
Custard

#### Meal Deal

Main Meal  
With Vegetables  
And Dessert



**£3.25**

All Of Our Main Meals,  
Breads, Salads & Desserts Are  
Freshly Made on the Same Day



**NEW**

# Sixth Form Daily Specials

With vegetarian and plant based alternatives offered every day, these specials offer something for everyone!



## Monday

### SUPER SUBS

A range of hot and cold fillings, served in a delicious Sub, or tasty Wrap

The choice is yours!

## Tuesday

### SOUTHERN FRIED

Tasty fried Chicken Pieces, served with Slaw and a range of Sauces.

Pre-ordered Sharing Boxes available

## Wednesday

### PAPA PIZZA

Range of your favourite Pizzas available to purchase sliced at the counter.

Pre-ordered Sharing Boxes available

## Thursday

### GRAB A KING BURGER

Range of Burgers available with assorted toppings

## Friday

### OODLES OF NOODLES

Grab a pot of your favourite noodles.

A variety of flavours available





## Sixth Form Deli



6th Form Deli	
<b>HAM IT UP!</b> Baked Ham, Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber & English Mustard	<b>CLASSIC CLUB</b> Chicken & Bacon, Tomato, Mixed Leaves & Mayonnaise
<b>BLT</b> Bacon, Lettuce & Tomato	<b>TUNA WHOPPER</b> Tuna, Spring Onions & Peppers
<b>RANCH MONTE CRISTO</b> Bacon, Avocado & Lettuce with Ranch Dressing	<b>CHANNEL HOPPER</b> Brie, Cranberry & Lettuce
<b>PULLED PORK</b> With Spice, Slaw & Tomato Salsa	<b>PHILLIBUSTER</b> Roast Beef, Tomato, Red Onion & Horseradish
<b>Build your own...</b>	
<b>MEAT</b> - Baked Ham, Chicken, Beef, <b>CHEESES</b> - Mature Cheddar, Feta Cheese, Philadelphia <b>FISH</b> - Tuna, <b>BREADS</b> - Bloomers/Artisan, Rolls, Baguettes, Baps <b>EXTRAS</b> Bacon Bits, Cucumber, Tomato, Onion, Mixed Leaves, Colislaw, Avocado, Roasted Vegetables	<b>VEGGIE</b> Roast Beef, Tomato, Red Onion & Horseradish <b>ENGLISH PLOUGHMAN</b> Roasted Vegetables with Mixed Leaves & Pesto Mature Cheddar, Sweet Pickle & Tomato
<b>DRESSINGS</b> Mayonnaise, Ranch, Mustard, Sweet Chilli, Pickles, Salsa, Cranberry, Pesto & Mixed	

Drinks	
Americano	£1.25
Cappuccino	£1.45
Cafe Latte	£1.45
Flat White	£1.45
Mocha	£1.60
Luxury Mocha	£1.80
Espresso	£1.20
<b>ICED COFFEES</b>	
Frappuccino	£1.70
Iced Coffee	£1.50
Iced Coffee with Cream	£1.70
Iced Mocha	£1.60
Ice Latte	£1.50
Syrup	55p
Tea	85p
Iced Tea	£1.00
Fruit Tea	90p
Hot Chocolate	£1.40
Luxury Hot Chocolate	£1.60

GRUMPY  
MULE  
COFFEE

