



April 24, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the BoT Deputy Chair

Stay Connected, Stay Strong



He mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, te whānau whānui o Mount Albert Grammar School.

These last five weeks of rāhui have reinforced the pride that I have in our school community, our staff, our students and their Whānau.

It is apt that this weekend, as we 'Stand at Dawn' to commemorate Anzac Day from our driveways, that we reflect on

those who have gone through hardship, and we acknowledge the resilience of individuals and communities to get through difficult times, and we continue to respect each other.

Let us spend some time connecting with not only our kaumātua and kuia who are commemorating Anzac day in their mirumiru (bubbles), but also those who continue to provide essential services to our communities.

As we shift into Level 3 on Tuesday, as a Board we are reassured of the progress made by our leadership team to maintain a steady path forward. We acknowledge the high level of collegiality and hard work from our staff, across all levels, as they support each other to provide quality teaching to our students.

Our students and whānau, who have come through the first week of online learning and the challenges that has presented, we acknowledge you all, he mihi kau ana ki a koutou katoa. I am humbled, as the Deputy Chair of the Board of Trustees, to serve our school community, more so at a time that requires kindness and compassion to others.

'Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou'

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar



Saturday, April 25

Anzac Day

Monday, April 27

Anzac Day holiday

Thursday, July 2

Last day of classes for Term 2



Sport



Winter Sport registrations

Click [here](#)

'We will remember them'

Tui Gallagher
Board of Trustees Deputy Chair

Today's virtual assembly



MAGS held its first virtual assembly today with Headmaster Patrick Drumm addressing students via video.

The video link was shared with all students, and Mr Drumm spoke about online learning, preparations for Level 3 next week, ANZAC Day commemorations, and the importance of maintaining connections during the lockdown.

The video, filmed and produced by Deputy Principal John Stradwick, included a spoken world piece by Abby Irwin, and an address from Deputy Principal Tom Murdoch, who spoke about maintaining routines, high standards and good habits.

The video was bookended with the school hymn sung by Tali Afele and the national anthem played by Mathew Somerville. Head Boy Eric Shen read the school prayer.

You can see the virtual assembly video [here](#)

School during Alert Level 3

On Tuesday, the Government announced that our nation will move from Alert Level 4 into Alert Level 3 on Tuesday, April 28 for two weeks and that this will be reviewed on May 11. Next Tuesday has been designated a teacher-only day, meaning school will be open from Wednesday, April 29 for those Year 9 or Year 10 students who do need come to school. We will be operating with strict enforcement of health and safety measures in the interests of

protecting both staff and these students alike.

The key message for parents is that if you can, you should keep your child at home.

If your child has a health condition that means they are at a greater risk of a severe illness, you must keep them at home. If your child is sick, please also ensure you keep them at home.

All year levels will continue to be taught online lessons and parents are encouraged to continue to discuss their child's online learning programmes with them.

Years 11, 12 & 13 will continue with their online learning programmes at home.

Years 9 & 10 will continue with their online learning programmes at home.

All students are to continue to sign-in via their Year Level Announcement Google Classroom page – this is posted daily.

For the full letter sent to parents about school during Alert Level 3, click [here](#)

Term 2 Classes Start 15th April

MAGS' Online Learning Behaviours

BE PRESENT

- **Mark your own attendance** between 8.30am-11.00am each day
- **Be online & present** for all scheduled check-in periods your teacher sets
- **Be present for compulsory quizzes, check-ins, workshops, experiments or demonstrations**

BE ORGANISED

- **Plan your day** the night before using your MAGS diary or your Outlook calendar
- **Join all your online classes** (including your Year Level Google Classroom)
- **Present your best 'school' image** in terms of dress and visual surroundings if going on LIVE video. (Wearing PJs during the day will not help your mindset to learn.)

BE PRODUCTIVE

- **Get some learning finished** each day
- **Set small achievable goals**
- **Submit work on time** or communicate beforehand why this might not be possible
- **Take screen breaks** at designated times for your own well-being
- **Help others** at home
- **Work in 25-minute chunks**

BE KIND

- **Speak & post politely** – say thanks.
- **Help others** with useful posts, links & sharing your ideas
- **Be inclusive & appreciative** of other learners who you didn't previously know
- **Be kind to yourself** - stay positive, ensuring you are sleeping, eating healthy, exercising, relaxing & staying socially connected

COMMUNICATE

- **Show you are engaged** by making comments or giving feedback to posts during 'class'
- **Contact staff during your class** but not late in the day or night as they have family too
- **Use your words to help** other students & your teachers (as we are all learning together)
- **Communicate with your teacher, mentor, dean or counsellor** if you're lost or falling behind in your learning (they will understand).

**'Through Hardship to Glory'
Isolation to Elimination
STAY SAFE!!!**

NEED TO TALK? Freecall or text 1737 anytime for a trained counsellor / Free text Youthline on 234 or email talk@youthline.co.nz

Albertian receives arts award

Albertian Bala Murali Shingade has been named as one of the inaugural recipients of the Springboard award.

Bala, who is a writer, director and actor working in film and theatre, will receive \$15,000 from the Arts Foundation and be mentored by Oscar Kightley, the acclaimed writer, actor, director and television presenter renowned for his comedy work, particularly with *The Naked Samoans*.

Having graduated from the University of Auckland with an MA in screen production, Bala has freelanced as a writer, director and actor. His work has

been well-received within the film industry, particularly his short film *800 Lunches*, which was commissioned by Someday Stories.

Bala's brother Balamohan – a writer, curator of contemporary art, and performer of Indian classical music – is also an Albertian and he has judged the Art Show in the past.



Free filter for online safety



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND N4L

switch on safety

When children learn from home, it's important to help them stay safe online.

Network for Learning (N4L) helps to keep your child safe at school. So while your child is learning from home, we have a simple, **FREE** way to block the worst of the web.

To Switch on Safety, you need to change the 'DNS' settings on your child's device. We've outlined simple instructions for the different devices at switchonsafety.co.nz

[VISIT SWITCHONSAFETY.CO.NZ](https://switchonsafety.co.nz)

Crown company Network for Learning (N4L) has partnered with the Ministry of Education and Netsafe to provide free internet filtering – Switch on Safety – to keep children safe

online.

To enable Switch on Safety, you need to change the 'DNS' setting on your child's device. Click [here](#) for information and instructions about how to use Switch on Safety.

Public transport during Alert Level 3



Public transport will continue to be free when we are at Alert Level 3.

Those travelling on public transport should avoid peak times unless it is necessary, such as going to work or school. This is to ensure that two metres of physical distancing between staff and customers can be maintained.

For bus and train service updates in real-time, you can use the [AT Mobile app](#)

The AT Mobile app now has a feature that indicates how many people are on a bus or train service at any given time. This lets you know if two-metre distancing is achievable before you board.

All Auckland Transport school buses will begin operating again from Wednesday, April 29.

Buses will, however, have reduced capacity due to the need for physical distancing on board so AT recommends that parents wait with their child(ren) at the bus stop until they can see if the bus has enough room on board for their child(ren).

There is more information about using AT services [here](#)

Warlocks into grand final

On Monday, the MAGS Warlocks E-Sports team won a close-fought semi-final match to make it to the grand final of the Australia/New Zealand Clash Royale High School League

tournament.

The team, comprised of Hayden Groves, Bryn Burke and Faisal Sohail, was playing a team containing one of the top Clash Royale players in New Zealand from Middleton Grange High School. Clash Royale is a multiplayer strategy mobile game, requiring deck building and tower defence in live multiplayer battles.

Now the boys await their final challenge versus Knox Grammar School (Australia) next Monday at 6pm and that can be watched [here](#)



Health Committee Instagram page

Check out the [MAGS Health Committee's Instagram page](#) for some great photos, and everything from advice about mental and physical wellbeing to Dad Jokes. There is also a [video message](#) from Head Boy Eric Shen and Head Girl Megan Williams about managing mental health during the COVID-19 lockdown.



Facebook group to boost studies



MAGS' Academic Council has started a collaborative Facebook page called [MAGS Student Studies](#). This is a new platform for students to join together as a community and lift each other up into academic success. Its purpose is to replicate the sort of help from peers and tutors that students would get in a classroom environment.

More historical photos on website



Throughout the year, more historical images will be added to the website [here](#). This is an ongoing collection of images sourced and annotated by our archivist Brian Murphy.

In the image at left – part of the recently added Set 34 – are the joint winners of the first Dux Artium (Girls) in 2006. They were the actress Samantha Lawson and the musician Zya-Li Teh.

Sign up to the Centenary database



As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, we warmly invite all Albertians to sign up to the database [here](#) to keep up to date with information, communications and events leading up to the Centenary celebration.

Please encourage your friends and peers who were with you at MAGS to attend with you, and to also register at the link.

Sports update

Trials and registrations

While trials are on hold, the Sports Department is asking students to still register for sports in Term 2. Trials and registrations are posted on the website [here](#) and will also appear in the Daily Notices, accessed via the website or the MAGS App.



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