



From the Headmaster

A Week in the Life of MAGS



As a large school we are blessed with the advantage of a rich human resource within our community. The breadth of what we can offer is the envy of many other schools. It is not only the quantity of opportunity but also the quality of the experience for our students that really sets us apart.

This has been exemplified this week – a special week for MAGS but by no means unique.

Our Year 12 Drama students have treated us to an outstanding (albeit brief) season of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. There could not be a more appropriate piece of literature for our students to be exploring at this time in New Zealand. Our students' interpretation of Harper Lee's work has certainly taken on special relevance as we continue to move forward as a country from recent events.

Yesterday, we hosted Jacinda Ardern (and her daughter Neve) for our Prime Minister's Breakfast, where we celebrated the families of MAGS. A large audience of mainly Year 9 students and their parents was treated to wonderful words from our Prime Minister as she recounted her own journey through school and beyond.

To have our Prime Minister attending this event was an honour and we acknowledged her support for our local school community at a time when the national and world stages have placed such demands on her time.

As always, the school week rarely finishes on a Friday and we wish our Kapa Haka group all the best as they compete on the rescheduled Polyfest Maori Stage tomorrow morning at Vodafone Events Centre.

All the best to the MAGS students heading to the North island Athletics Championships in Tauranga, and also to students involved in the Relay for Life at Lovelock Track over the weekend as they head towards eclipsing the \$100,000 raised last year for the Cancer Society.

Just another week at MAGS!

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the 2019 Calendar

Saturday, April 6

Relay for Life



Tuesday, April 9 & Wednesday, April 10

School Cross Country

Tuesday, April 9 & Wednesday, April 10

Rhythm & Ritual Dance Concert

Thursday, April 11

Last day of lessons

Friday, April 12

Teacher Only Day



Sport



Photo Essays

Tennis Champ of Champs

Click [here](#)

Enjoy the weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Sport trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

Prime Minister's Breakfast



As a thank you, Year 9 students Madeleine Shaw and Coco-Sabine Meikle presented Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern with a MAGS Lion, complete with Prefect badge, and some socks for her baby daughter Neve, who was also in attendance at the breakfast.

MAGS was privileged to have Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern as guest speaker at yesterday morning's Prime Minister's Breakfast held in the F.W. Gamble Hall.

After Year 9 & 13 students and their parents enjoyed a buffet breakfast, Ms Ardern shared some candid and humorous memories of her school days – the struggles, failures and successes.

She recalled that she wasn't the greatest student and had some real battles trying to pass exams but she found success in other areas of school life such as debating and service, being a student representative on her school's Board of Trustees. She encouraged students to explore those sorts of avenues and to be good citizens as well as achieving academically or on the sporting field.

Ms Ardern also told students they had to find some middle ground in their school lives –



neither to overburden themselves with impossible expectations nor to impose limits on themselves.

She said being open to opportunities was important: she had never imagined going into politics; in her twenties she was still planning to be a police officer like her father.

She ended by telling the students that she was often asked who were the important mentors or role models in her life, and she always answered that it was her parents. Despite a long career in the police force, her father Ross still saw the good in people and her mother Laurell was the kindest person she knew.

The breakfasts have become a popular annual event – last year's guest speakers were entertainer Pio Terei and former Silver Fern Bernice Mene – and

are aimed primarily at helping Year 9s (and their parents) settle into the school.

For more photos from the event, which was kindly sponsored by Anne Duncan Real Estate, click [here](#)

Relay for Life nearing \$100K



Tomorrow at 3pm, MAGS Relay for Life participants take to Mt Roskill's Lovelock Track to raise money for the Cancer Society.

They are determined to beat last year's total of \$100,000 raised, and already have pledges of more than \$97,000 as of this afternoon.

To donate to the cause, click [here](#)

Teacher in charge Alayna Pulham said, "Many students have raised over \$1000, including our top fundraiser this year, Hope Tuitama, who has raised almost \$3000 all by herself."

She said that this year the relay for life organisers are handing out "superhero" bandanas to all students who raise over \$500 and almost 60 MAGS students have reached this goal. "One hundred and eighty students have already passed the \$200 goal with everyone else not too far behind."

Ms Pulham added, "Many students have surpassed anything I was expecting this year and have been going above and beyond in their efforts to fundraise for the cancer society. This year I am quietly confident that MAGS will yet again beat their personal best and beat that \$100K target."

Anyone from the community is welcome to visit if they are interested, anytime between 3-9pm tomorrow. Anyone who is a survivor of cancer is welcome to join in and lead all the teams in the first lap.

And Ms Pulham announced that last Friday's Mufti Day had raised \$5960.70, which will go to the Christchurch shooting victims' Givealittle fund. That total was almost \$2000 more than was last raised on a Mufti Day.

Drama productions sold-out successes



This week saw performances over four nights of the Year 12 Production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Christopher Sergel.

Head of Drama Gerald Urquhart said, "It was a challenging and timely exploration of ideas around racism and civic duty. The students did a fantastic job of breathing life into this play, based on the classic novel by Harper Lee.

"They took direction well from both of their teachers, Miss Hughes and Ms Rigold. They were also ably supported by the growing student backstage crew. The overall effect was four nights of entertaining and thought-provoking drama. All of the hard work was rewarded with sold-out audiences for every performance. A big thank you to everyone involved."

For more photos, click [here](#)



Kapa Haka performs tomorrow



Get along and support the MAGS Kapa Haka group, who will perform tomorrow at 10.40am at the Vodafone Events Centre in Manukau in the re-scheduled Division 1 Kapa Haka competition.

The group performed at Assembly this week to tune up for the competition, which is also a qualifier for Secondary School Kapa Haka Nationals next year.

Last day of term next Thursday


Please note that next Thursday, April 11 is the last school day of Term 1 for our students, as next Friday is a Teacher Only Day.

We look forward to welcoming our students back at the beginning of Term 2 on Monday, April 29.

Tickets on sale for Annual Dance Concert

RHYTHM & RITUAL

DANCE CONCERT



7:30 PM
TUESDAY 9TH AND
WEDNESDAY 10TH OF APRIL
CENTENNIAL THEATRE,
AUCKLAND GRAMMAR
SCHOOL, MOUNTAIN RD, EPSOM
ADULTS: \$20 PENSIONERS/STUDENTS 12+ :\$15
MAGS STAFF AND STUDENTS/CHILDREN UNDER 12: \$10
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT MAGS FINANCE



Get in fast for tickets from the Finance Office for the Annual Dance Concert, which will feature a wonderful array of performances and choreographies by MAGS Dance students.

Assessment Guide and Schedule for 2019

Please click [here](#) for the 2019 Assessment Guide, which outlines the rules around Internal Assessments.

Students' Assessment Schedules are available on the School's website via the [Kamar Portal](#) under 'Reports'.

Mount Albert Grammar School



The Guide for Students and Parents to the Assessment Procedures and Regulations for Internally Assessed Standards 2019

Internal Assessment Procedures fall under the auspices of the
Principal's Nominee (PN)

Be the Best you can be, Aim High, Aim for Excellence

Login to the KAMAR Portal, go to 'Results' then select 'Reports' and look for 'Assessment Statements 2019'.

Anzac Service and Luncheon



The Mount Albert Grammar School Albertians Association is hosting drinks and lunch at School House on Thursday April 11, following the Anzac Service Assembly. For the Anzac Service, please assemble in the foyer of the main school building, by reception, at 11.30am, where you will be shown into the FW Gamble Hall. Following the service, please make your own way down to School House for the luncheon. The guest speaker at the luncheon will be Headmaster Patrick Drumm. The cost of the lunch is \$30 per person, which is payable by cheque or cash as you arrive at School House. Alternatively, you can make an online payment to:

MAGS Albertians Association, ASB Bank, Mount Albert:

Account Number: 12 3029 0376398 00

Ref: Christian name and surname

Please RSVP by Thursday 4th April by

either Email : msykes@mags.school.nz
or Phone School Reception on (09) 846-2044

Unfortunately car parking will not be available on school grounds, however drop-off at the front of school is fine.

MAGS seeks landscaping advice

Mount Albert Grammar School is looking for a parent or local who is willing to provide expert advice about some areas of the school that need landscaping or re-planting. Specifically, the school needs some guidance about what type of low-maintenance plants would suit an area of the school that needs re-planting and advice about easy-care, attractive plants for planter boxes.

If you can help, please contact Business Manager Debbie Forsyth business@mags.school.nz

Sports update

Two picked in national Netball squad



Well done to Latonya Lole, pictured left, and Kylie McGahan, below, who have been selected in the New Zealand Secondary School Netball Squad.

This year, Netball New Zealand is hosting the England U19 Netball team in July.

On April 26, the squad will be whittled down to 12 players who will be selected in the NZ

Secondary School team to play the England U19 team.

Selected players will assemble on June 29 to prepare for the England games from July 1-4.



Nate Wilson in Junior Tall Blacks

Congratulations to Nate Wilson, who has been named in the Junior Tall Black team that will travel to China for friendly games and take part in the Atlas Sports International Tournament, starting April 19.

The tour of China will be used as preparation for the FIBA U19 World Cup set to tip off in Greece in June.



Maadi Cup wrap-up



Two Silver medals and seven A Finals capped a successful Maadi Cup Rowing Regatta at Lake Karapiro, with MAGSROW continuing to grow stronger.

Particularly impressive was the spread of finalists with the Novice Boys, Novice Girls and U17 Girls groups each in 2 A finals (top 8) as well as the U18 Boys Eight finishing seventh in the pinnacle event of the Maadi Cup.

Silver medals went to the Boys Under 15 Coxed Four of Xavier Scarlett, Nicholas Bryan, Dylan Cottingham, Cam MacGillivray and cox Ben Campbell (pictured above and below,

with their coaches).

Coach John Cook said, "What was really impressive was that they were racing against other school crews who had second year rowers in their boats. Being first year rowers, this crew got better and better as the season went on, winning their heat impressively on the Tuesday and culminating in a strong race in the Saturday final to finish second in the country. They also combined with four other boys to finish seventh in the Novice Boys Eight final."

The Novice Girls, after a strong season, had some injuries and performed very credibly in A finals in both the Eight and the Four.

Mr Cook said, "These results, combined with a strong academy class, look good for the future of rowing and suggest strong squads are coming through at MAGS."

The other Silver medal went to Holly Chaafe in the Girls U17 Single Scull. She had to fight extremely hard to beat very tough competition from 72 other girls from schools across the country. Holly also combined with Marieke Richards to finish fourth in the U17 Girls Double Sculls.

Holly, once again, has been selected to trial for the North Island U18 team, where she was the North Island U18 rep in the single last year, for the North v South competition that will take place in the first week of the upcoming school holidays.



Thirteen medals at Champ of Champs

MAGS swimmers put in a strong team performance at the College Sport Champion of Champions sprint and relay event held at West Wave Aquatic Centre on Wednesday. Brearna Crawford posted the fastest overall female times on her way to winning all four individual Gold medals. Vasilina Shipilova (Silver) and Eva Williams (Bronze) were also individual medallists at these championships.

The 16-18yrs Girls 4x50m IM Relay team also won Gold.

5 Golds: 4 x Brearna Crawford, 14-15yrs Girls – 50m Fly, 50m Back, 50m Breast, 50m Free; 1x Girls 16-18yrs IM Relay – Emily Cameron, Vasilina Shipilova, Eva Williams, Ella Speight.

5 Silvers: 1x Vasilina Shipilova, 16-18yrs Girls 50m Back; 2x 14-15yrs Girls – 200m Free Relay, 200m IM Relay; 2 x Open Girls – 200 Fly Relay, 200m Back Relay.

3 Bronze: 1x Eva Williams, 16-18yrs Girls 50m Back; 1x 16-18yrs Girls, 200m Free Relay; 1x 14-15yrs Boys 200m IM Relay.



First XV tuning up



The Rugby First XV continues its pre-season programme with a game away to Auckland Grammar tomorrow at noon.

The team has been training well since early February. They have been involved in the Fit60 sessions at former All Black Keven Mealamu's gym in Takanini as well as rugby specific trainings held before and after school three times a week.

Apart from the Year 13s that have left, there haven't been too many changes to the squad with the majority of the boys either coming through from the U15s, 2nd XV team and our Rugby Academy.

The side had its first pre-season game last weekend, going down 15-25 to Sacred Heart

College.

Next Friday at 3pm, the boys play Tangaroa College on the bottom field at MAGS and then reassemble for Westlake Boys on Saturday, April 27 at 11.30am on the Sir BG Williams field. Also on that Saturday, the 2nd XV and U15 teams will play.

The First XV kicks off the season on Saturday, May 4 against Auckland Grammar on the Sir BG Williams Field at 2.30pm and then there is the Moascar Cup fixture on Monday, May 13 at St Peters College at 2.30pm.



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