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August 12, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

Topping Up NCEA Once Again



[Key Dates](#)



Earlier this week the Government announced that NCEA students will once again be eligible to receive Learning Recognition Credits (LRCs) as part of their 2022 Qualification.

In essence, these credits provide a 'top up' or 'bonus' in recognition of disruptions to learning that have continued into this year.

There is debate around whether this support is actually needed this year, along with the impact of these credits on student learning and the integrity of our national qualification.

However, with these changes now confirmed it is better to leave the debate behind and for students (and parents) to focus on how LRCs will integrate with the NCEA qualification.

Learning Recognition Credits have shifted the benchmark for certificate endorsements and also for University Entrance. It is critical that students are familiar with the information in this [link](#), which details the LRC changes.

Despite the shifting of the assessment goal posts so late in the academic year, it is important students keep their 'head in the game'. Hard work, planning and working alongside their teachers remain the formula for success.

Students must leave nothing to chance and make the most of the remaining 11 school weeks until NCEA examinations commence.

Have a good weekend.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

**Thursday, August 18 and
Friday, August 19**

Arts, Culture and
Service Photos

Monday, August 29

Winter Tournament Week
starts



[Sport](#)

[Photo Essays](#)



Football Boys 1st X1 v Sacred
Heart College

Click [here](#)

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster



Football Girls 1st XI v St
Kentigern
Click [here](#)

Fixtures and Results
Click [here](#)

Our Lion Fund programme aims to provide financial support to allow every MAGS student to access the breadth of opportunities we offer at our school.

Donate to the Lion Fund now



Art Show tops \$220,000 in sales



The MAGS Centenary Art Show was a huge success with great attendance over the weekend, including a sold-out Gala Night on Friday, and more than \$220,000 worth of art sales.

Art Show Manager Britt Schollum said, "I would like to thank all the committee members (pictured above) who had pivotal lead roles, the current and past parent volunteers, the

curator, the graphic designer, the school staff who helped, the students who helped, the school Property team, the sponsors – especially the major ones – and the artists themselves."

Art Show Chair Pippi Laing said, "The committee would like to say a massive thank you to the MAGS school community for their fantastic support of our show. In this difficult financial climate our community still came out to support our student artists and the beneficiaries of our fundraising."

Profits from the Art Show go towards the Lion Fund (our equity fund) and to support the Visual Art Department's Artist in Residence programme.

You can see more photos from the Art Show [here](#)



Portia Woodman presented with Black Cap



Albertian rugby international Portia Woodman was welcomed back to MAGS and presented with her Black Cap yesterday at a special assembly. At the Year 10 assembly, Portia spoke about her time at MAGS and how she embraced opportunities that she was passionate about. She urged students to do the same and not give up because the road to success was never a straight or smooth one.

In her time at MAGS, Portia played Netball and Touch, and took part in Athletics. A couple of her Athletics records still stand.

Portia was accompanied by fellow rugby internationals Kelly Brazier and Tyla Nathan-Wong, and the trio filmed some promotional videos around MAGS for the upcoming Women's Rugby World Cup.



Centenary Events on sale now



Our [Centenary Events website](#) now has full details about the upcoming Centenary celebrations during the week of September 25 to October 1.

You can buy tickets for paid events or register for free events via the site.



Highlights of the week include:

- Thanksgiving Service (Sunday, September 25, 10am, FW Gamble Hall)
- Pasifika Centenary Dinner (Tuesday, September 27, 6pm, Manhattan)
- Albertians' Day and Luncheon (Wednesday, September 28, at MAGS)
- Golf Day (Thursday, September 29, 11am, Muriwai Golf Club)
- The Alternative School Tour with the Pua brothers (Friday, September 30, 10am at MAGS)
- Centenary Reunion Drinks (Friday, September 30, 6pm, FW Gamble Hall)
- Centenary Dinner (Saturday, October 1, 6.30pm, Grand Millennium Hotel)
- School Tours (various days throughout the week)

You can learn more about these Centenary Events and buy tickets for them or register for them [here](#)

Whānau NCEA workshop

Nei rā te mihi karanga ki a koutou te whānau o tō tātou kura, nau mai, haere mai, whakarauika mai rā.

Mrs Absolum would like to invite our Māori whānau to come and be part of an awesome opportunity we have for whānau to learn about NCEA, and get some tips and tricks from

NAU MAI HAERE MAI
NCEA ME TE WHĀNAU WORKSHOP
 Join us for a workshop designed to help whānau understand NCEA.

Mount Albert Grammar School
Thursday 18 August
7PM to 8PM

What we will cover:

- Aspirations of your tamaiti
- NCEA Endorsements
- University Entrance
- Choosing the right subjects
- The importance of STEM
- Tips for supporting your tamaiti

NCEA me te WHĀNAU

NZQA
NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
 MANA TOHU MATAURANGA O AOTEAROA
 QUALITY FOR THE FUTURE WORLD
 KIA NOHO TAKATŪ KI TŌ AMŪA AOI

NZQA on how you can support your tamaiti to succeed in school.

The workshop is one-hour-long and the school will provide refreshments afterwards. Please RSVP for catering purposes to nabsolum@mags.school.nz

Date: Thursday, 18th August

Time: 7pm to 8pm

Venue: The W.O.H Gibbs Room (the new staffroom), Mount Albert Grammar School

Some thoughts from our Board Chair

Our Board of Trustees Chair Greg Moyle responds to the reported rise in absenteeism from schools throughout New Zealand:

"In my view, the real cost of Covid-19 in our community is the loss of education by a significant percentage of our youth.

This loss is across the early education sectors of pre-school and primary schools, as well as our intermediate and secondary schools.

It was evident after the three-month-plus lockdown in Auckland last year when schools reopened for the final school term of 2021 that absenteeism was rife in many secondary schools. However, an

informal poll based on speaking with school leaders revealed a wide variance which

indicated an alarming pattern: at a private girls' school attendance was 100%; at a co-ed grammar school it was 80%; but at a South Auckland primary school it was 20%.

When students disengage at the intermediate or secondary stage of their education, the effect on them and our wider community is massive. Not only do they lose the opportunity to realise their true economic potential but, within our community, they risk becoming part of a group likely to be ensnared in a relative poverty trap, forever dependent upon community assistance as lifelong beneficiaries.

Whilst I can accept that some senior students may, for personal or economic reasons, have chosen to leave school and take up one of the many jobs on offer post-lockdown in early November, it should be a concern for all of us if our youth leave school before they are adequately prepared to become effectively contributing members of their community."



You can read the full text of Mr Moyle's opinion piece [here](#)

Chess team in national finals



Back row, left to right: Darshil Jangra, Chrish Patel, Ryan Antia, Mr Frank (TIC Chess). Front row, left to right: Alan Li, Jacob Miller, Devendra Johnston.

The MAGS chess team placed second at the Chesspower Interschool Regional tournament and, as a result, qualified for the national tournament in Rotorua.

This is the second year in a row that MAGS has qualified for the national tournament, and last year MAGS came second in New Zealand.

In the regional tournament, the points for the team score were taken from the top four players. Jacob Miller, Alan Li, Devendra Johnston and Sam Taylor-Sinclair each received a silver medal for this, as well as a certificate of excellence.

Jacob Miller was placed second overall and received another silver medal for his individual score. The other players, Darshil Jangra, Chrish Patel, Ryan Antia and Dhruv Patel each received a certificate of excellence.

Tough Guys and Gals out in force



Last Thursday, MAGS took 100 Year 12 PE students to the Tough Guy/Gal event at Kumeu Showgrounds. PE Teacher Miss Inwood said, "Students had to run 6km through obstacles and mud for an assessment. They had the best time and all did so well."

Debating team reaches Octofinals



Senior Debating Team members Avril Foulstone, Arshiya Arora, Ryan Antia, Ella Nguyen and Nishka Arora with TICs Mr Ploeg and Miss Walker.

It has been a great year for the Senior Debating team, which has reached the Octofinals. In their last debate, Year 11 Student Ryan Antia was named best speaker.

Coach Ms Walker said "The Mount Albert Senior Debating Team has made a valiant effort in the ruthless debating world this term. They have embraced the challenges that online debating has brought this year to make it through to the Octofinals."

Last year the team won seven out of their 10 debates through the Junior Open and Junior Championships, proving themselves as one of the top debating teams in Auckland. Now the team has progressed into Senior Open, which has an increased challenge in their topics of debate.

Ryan said, "I am very proud of the way the team has performed this season. We have had the added challenge of debating online due to Covid and yet the team has adapted to this new format and is determined to progress further."

The Senior Debating Team will be competing next Tuesday at the Octofinals, and the Senior Championships later in the year.

Peace Week theme of unity



Spurred on by the chance to amass Interform Competition points, students in 09DUN/CVT have been busy producing paper cranes this week and at last count had produced an impressive 1628 cranes.

This year's Youth Peace Week had the theme of 'The Power of Unity – Te Mana o te Kotahitanga', and again saw students making paper cranes and writing messages of appreciation on paper doves.

Yesterday, there were several inspirational Spoken Word poetry performances in the Library, including Spoken Word Leader Sonia Airehrour (pictured right).

Secondary Schools Youth Peace Week is a nationwide school initiative by the Peace Foundation. It falls during this week to commemorate the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and the devastating effects of that action.





MAGS second and third at Geography quiz



For the first time, MAGS hosted the annual Maatangi Whenua Auckland Geography Quiz – on Wednesday in the F.W. Gamble Hall. Seventeen teams from different high schools within Auckland took part in a competition that tested students on their geographical skills and knowledge.

MAGS has been the undefeated champions of this quiz for the last seven years. Sadly, at the end of the night, this winning run came to an end, however MAGS still claimed second and third place.

Social Science teacher Miss Carrel said, "It was an extremely fun and nail-biting evening, and was great to see a large turnout of students and teachers from across the city.

"Congratulations to Avondale College for taking first place this year. We look forward to reclaiming our place at the top of the podium in 2023."

Vibrant display on Treeway



Photography Leaders Zoe Whaley, Sanskriti Roy and Nico Stroud alongside Ms Smith (all pictured right) and Whaea Ainsley Leonard have recently finished an exciting new Visual Art project on the Roy Clements Treeway.

This project was a collaboration with Watercare, which is doing work along the Treeway as part of the Central Interceptor scheme.



A range of work from the talented students at MAGS is proudly on display for our local community. Selected student work has been gathered from the Junior Photography Club,

Senior Photography Club and the recent Flora and Fauna Competition to be incorporated in the final design. This exciting display is 18m long and will brighten up the walkway for the next two years.

Whaea Ainsley said, "What a testament to the talent and mahi of students at MAGS."

Theatresports Players Night



On Tuesday night, the MAGS Theatresports group participated at an official Theatresports Players Night at St Kentigern College, having a fun evening of games and friendly competition.

The team was made up of leaders Tabea Leonhardt and Max Cumberpatch, as well as Jorja Stevens and Belle Horan.

MAGS played fantastically, beating Botany, Birkenhead and Onehunga to finish in second place.

Spoken Word Camp

Last weekend, the MAGS 2022 WORD! The Frontline Spoken Word Team took part at the annual Action Education WORD! Slam Camp.

Spoken Word Leader Sonia Airehrour said, "The team is so fortunate and grateful to have Matilda Clack, an ex-MAGS Student (2015-19) and amazing poet, as their coach again this year."

The other students involved were Ryan Shen, Toby Forster, Mehak Sehgal and Ryan Antia. The camp took place at Shakespear Regional Park in Whangaparaoa.

Sonia said, "The team felt honoured and grateful that they were able to be a part of the awesome camp experience, and of course established new friendships with the team members from the other schools.

"This was indeed a great opportunity for the team to also get tips and ideas from the experienced Action Education Team and other past WORD! The Frontline alumni who were there to staff the camp."

The team will represent MAGS at the semifinals of WORD! The Frontline at Auckland Live on August 27. Tickets will be made available soon.



Interact's cystic fibrosis fundraiser



MAGS students are encouraged to bring coins along next week to help Interact's cystic fibrosis fundraiser.

Interact will be selling gluten-free chocolate fish in form times Monday to Wednesday for only \$1, with 50 cents of that going to CFNZ (Cystic Fibrosis New Zealand).

English teacher Mrs Papesch spoke to members of Interact today at interval about what cystic fibrosis is and what CFNZ does to help sufferers.

Cystic fibrosis affects people's lungs and pancreas (as well as other organs), making it increasingly difficult for sufferers to breathe, and to digest food without the aid of synthetic enzymes.

Centenary Rowing appeals



In our Centenary year, MAGSROW is seeking donations for two funds: The Centenary Eight Fund and The Centennial Rowing Scholarship Fund.

The main thrust of the appeal is to raise funds to purchase a New Zealand-made skiff for our women's eight.

And in honour of the late Kerry Ashby, the first MAGSROW Patron, The Centennial Rowing Scholarship Fund will cover part or all of the rowing fees for students who show promise, but whose families struggle to meet the cost. There are various levels of donations available for each fund and they are tax-deductible.

Email Roger McGarry at magsrowevents@gmail.com for more information.

Junior Excellence Awards



The Junior Excellence Awards for Term 2 were presented to students from Year 9 (pictured above) and Year 10 (pictured below) at assemblies on Monday and Tuesday respectively. These awards recognise students who have demonstrated personal excellence by doing one or more of the following:

- shown huge improvement in the quality of work
- submitted outstanding work
- shown significantly improved effort
- exemplified the 'MAGS Way' values
- been a highly supportive and helpful member of their mentor class
- persevered through hardship to achieve success

You can see the Year 9 awardees [here](#) and the Year 10 awardees [here](#)



Arts, Culture and Service photos next week



Arts, Culture and Service photos will be taken in the F.W. Gamble Hall next Thursday and Friday (August 18 and 19).

Students are to report and line up 10 minutes before their allotted time slot. All students must have correct uniform and clean shoes.

The schedule for Thursday is [here](#) and for Friday [here](#)

In Memoriam: Don Hammond

Albertian Don Hammond (1949-1952), a NZ Rugby League representative and captain, passed away on July 30, aged 85.

Don originally played for the Mount Albert Lions in the Auckland Rugby League competition.

He represented and captained Auckland and first played for the New Zealand Kiwis team in 1961.

Whilst making his debut in 1961, Don developed a lethal combination alongside another Albertian, Ron Ackland. Together they blended speed and ball-playing ability with strength, tackling tenacity and courage needed to prosper in the rugged forward battles.

From there on, Don went on to play in 20 test matches, including six as captain (1961-65). In 1964, Don won the Rothville Trophy as the Auckland Rugby League Player of the Year.



That year he also won the New Zealand Rugby League's Player of the Year award as he was a stand-out performer when the Kiwis whitewashed France in a three-test home series.

A stalwart of the Kiwis Association, Don was prominent in establishing and becoming curator of the excellent NZRL museum.

Don was inducted as an NZRL Life Member in 2006 followed by an induction into the Legends of League in 2010. He went on to be elected President of the Kiwis Association.

– Obituary and photos courtesy of the NZRL



The ASB MAGS Farm: The Early Years



Our Archivist Mr Murphy has produced an exhaustive study of the early years of the ASB MAGS Farm, from before it was established in 1933 up until 1946. Mr Murphy has sourced documents and correspondence that show how the case was made for the farm and for teaching students about agriculture and horticulture. His research then goes on to show how the farm was used in the early years. You can read about the early years of the ASB MAGS Farm [here](#)

Get your Centenary apparel now!



MAGS Official Centenary apparel is now available to order, with more Centenary merchandise to be added over the coming months. Available now are stylish hoodies, rugby jerseys, basketball singlets, caps, beanies, ties, scarves and face masks – all in MAGS colours and most of them boasting the Centenary logo. You can order MAGS Centenary apparel [here](#)



Sports Update

Year 9 netballers triumph at tournament



Our Year 9 Netball team took out their grade at the annual Auckland Combined Points Secondary School Tournament, which saw 96 secondary school teams competing last week.



Director of Netball Kathy Henry said, "The hard work the girls put in at Netball Academy, which has a strong emphasis on fitness, strength and skill work, paid off.

"The girls played four pool games, a semi-final against Rangitoto and a final against Westlake Girls, winning all games. Very pleasing was the girls support of each other, and their on-court and off-court behaviour."

Our Year 10 team narrowly missed out on finals, going down to Avondale by one goal in pool play. Our Premier 1 team

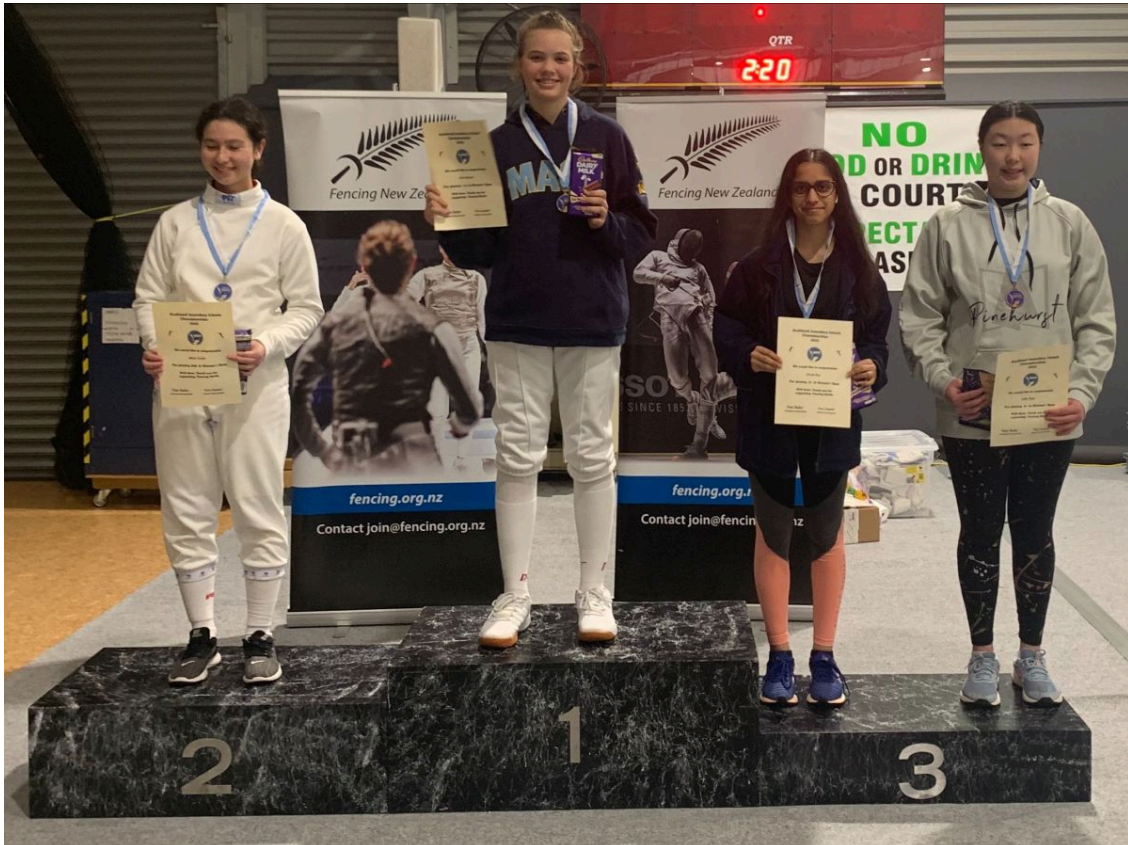
also missed finals, losing to EGGS by two in their pool games.

Miss Henry added, "Overall a very competitive day for MAGS Netball. Thank you to our three MAGS staff members who umpired for our teams: Sarah Vincent, Mckynlee Breen and Kim Tomkins."

Year 9 Team: Ariia Gardiner (Co-Captain), Tyla McNeil (Co-Captain), Tayla-Rose Moss, Anne-Therese Ngapara, Gabby Tavita, Anarelle Ngaluaf, Pearlina Mikael, Poi-Haere Ah Chee, Brooke Marsom, Nathania Mamea. Coaches: Kathy Henry and Emma Fraser. Manager: Lucinda Duthie.

You can see a photo essay from the Year 9 team's day at the tournament [here](#)

Fencers score top results



Year 10 student Emi Mason (pictured above at centre) won the Girls Epee at the AKSS Fencing Individual Championship Finals held at Te Pai Netball Centre at the weekend. Shubhi Roy (pictured second from right) came third in the same event, while Oliver Tang was second in the Boys Epee. MAGS fencers are now preparing for the AKSS teams competition.

Upcoming Premier Sport



Today, our Badminton Premier Open team plays ACG Parnell at Auckland Badminton at 5pm, and then our Basketball Premier Girls and Boys play at home – for the last time this season – against Baradene and Sacred Heart at 6pm and 7.30pm respectively. On Saturday, our Netball Premiers play Avondale at 9.30am at Auckland Netball, while the Football Boys 1st XI play St Kentigern away at midday, and the Rugby Boys 1st XV – in their last home game this season – face Dilworth at 2.30pm. On Monday, the Rugby Girls 1st XV are at home to Manurewa High at 4pm. On Wednesday, the Football Girls 1st XI have a 3rd/4th playoff away to EGGS at 4pm, and the Hockey Boy 1st XI have a finals game with the draw yet to be released. On Thursday, the Lacrosse Premier Girls play the One day Tournament at Avondale Racecourse, and the Hockey Girls 1st XI have a finals game with the draw yet to be released.

For more fixtures and results, click [here](#)

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland
09 846 2044 www.mags.school.nz

A Tradition of Excellence

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