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Week 5, Term 3, August 23, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

A Culture of Learning



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

Over recent weeks I have joined a number of classes throughout the school for their subject lessons.

It has been a delight to see our students and staff at their best.

The quality and quantity of learning has been impressive. Our classrooms have a 'can-do' atmosphere to them – and our students are thriving!

And, as is always the case, the success of our MAGS young people is invariably a function of the investment and drive of the adults around them. In this sense, the school and family have so much in common.

Every day at MAGS we invest in creating the 'right' culture in our school. It begins with high expectations and a belief in the limitless potential of our young people.

Furthermore, this aspirational culture must spread to every corner of our school – infusing our four pillars – and into the hearts of our 3000 students.

Ultimately, it will be the self-belief of these young people that define the heights they will scale!

And at MAGS we don't want excuses! We will never accept using gender, ethnicity or socio-economic background as a precursor of under-performance. We don't apologise for setting the bar high. As has been said before, no-one rises to low expectations!

Thank you to all who contribute to creating a learning environment second to none ... a positive learning culture ... a MAGS learning culture!

Have a good weekend.

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Monday September 2
Winter Tournament Week starts

Wednesday, September 11
Senior Exams start



Sport

Photo Essays



Hockey Boys U15 Final v King's College
Click [here](#)



Rugby Girls 10s Semi-final v Avondale College
Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results
Click [here](#)

Art Show a huge success



If you didn't attend last weekend's MAGS Art Show you missed out on a great opportunity to purchase some amazing art from established and student artists.

The show was kicked off with a sold-out Gala Evening on Friday night, with guests having the first opportunity to view and purchase art while enjoying drinks and canapes. Guests were greeted by a string quartet on entry and entertained by the Jazz Band through the night.

During the weekend there were also performances from the MAGS Junior Dance group, singer and musician Tuiaki Fiuloi, Ella Brislen and Marcus Savelio doing a drama skit, pianist Ken Naidu, singer and winner of Junior MAGS Idol Tahlia Petersen, and the Cook Island group.

Art Show Committee chair Sandra Fischer said, "A massive thanks to the Art Department staff: Bryn Corkery and Jacqui Cesan, and the Arts Prefects and Leaders: Isaac Young-Montgomerie, Jade Chambers and Ella Rowe for all their work helping the committee to get the show up and running this year. Mr Corkery and Deputy Principal John Stradwick were even seen helping with the pack down late on Sunday.

"Over \$225,000 of art was sold and a massive 185 pieces of student art was bought. The curator this year, Colleen Pugh, was very impressed – not only with the number of student works but also with the quality of work. The show only retains a percentage of the art sold

and the students get to keep their profits.

"The 2019 Art Show Committee is very grateful for the support of the community in sponsoring boards and also our major sponsors, ICG and Fuji/Xerox." For a full report and more photos from the weekend, click [here](#)



Art Show student prizewinners



Once again, the MAGS Art Show had a stunning array of student works on display in the F.W. Gamble Hall for the public to purchase.

MAGS Art Show Curator and artist Colleen Pugh (pictured right) judged most of the awards and there were also Teachers' Prizes as well as the Watershed People's Choice Award.

Ms Pugh said she was impressed by the vision and technical skills shown by the winning artists (pictured above) as they interpreted the theme of "Past, Present and Future".

She said that some of the digital design work was of such a high standard that it would not have been out of place in a professional studio.

Ella Rowe won the painting section with her work *The Germanting*, while Lois Wadsworth



was second in the section with her *Magenta Hummingbird* – obviously a crowd favourite as it took out the Watershed People's Choice Award.

Ella Keegan was first in photography with her black and white work *Young Girl*, while Maria Lowrie took out the Digital Design section with *Diablo*.

Students not only received kudos for their efforts but also prizes, kindly donated by Art Show sponsors.

For a full list of winners and their prizes, click [here](#)

High notes at KBB Festival



MAGS' bands won four awards at last week's KBB Music Festival, with the three classical orchestras and Jazz Band receiving one each.

The Moon Strings were Highly Commended, the Jazz Band won Silver, and there were Bronze awards for the Chamber and Symphony orchestras. There were 132 different groups performing over the week.

Director of Arts Co-Curricular Jacqui Cesan said, "The music students and teachers worked hard for these results and must be congratulated for their commitment."

You can see photos of the MAGS bands in action at KBB [here](#)

Scoping out Observatory

Maths teacher Diego Alarcon has enlisted the help of Albertian and astronomer Grant Christie (pictured right) in a bid to revive the Astronomy Club at MAGS.

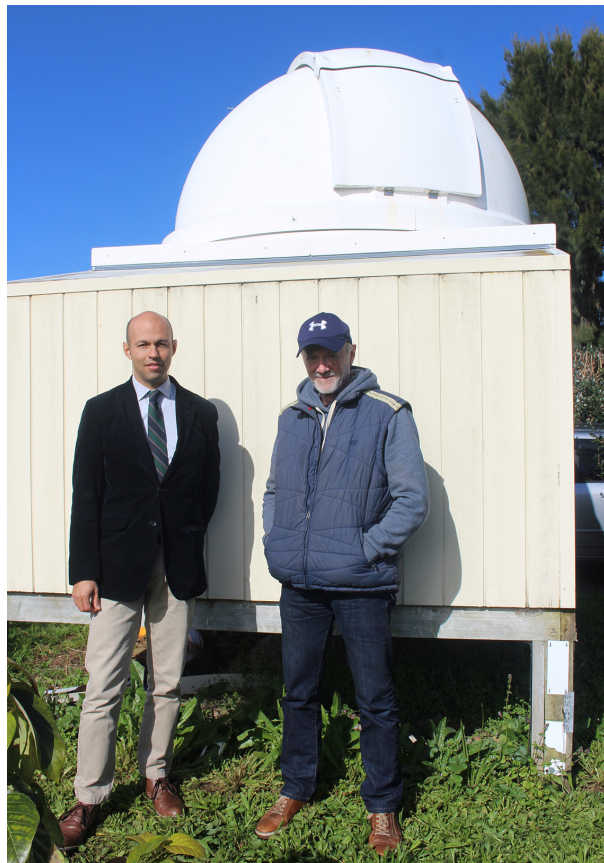
Mr Christie, the vice president of the Auckland Astronomical Society, visited MAGS this week to advise on refurbishment of the school's Meade LX200 12-inch telescope and check out the state of the observatory building, which needs some repairs.

He said MAGS' telescope was one of the best school telescopes in the country and could

be brought back to good working order. He recalled teacher Gavin Milne getting funding for the telescope, which was bought in the early 2000s, and for the observatory, which was built to accommodate it.

Mr Christie, who was a student during the 1960s, said MAGS had previously had an 8-inch Newtonian reflecting telescope that he had used when he was at school.

Mr Alarcon, who has studied physics, is determined to get the observatory up and running again as he has a passion for astronomy that he wants to share with students at MAGS and the wider community.

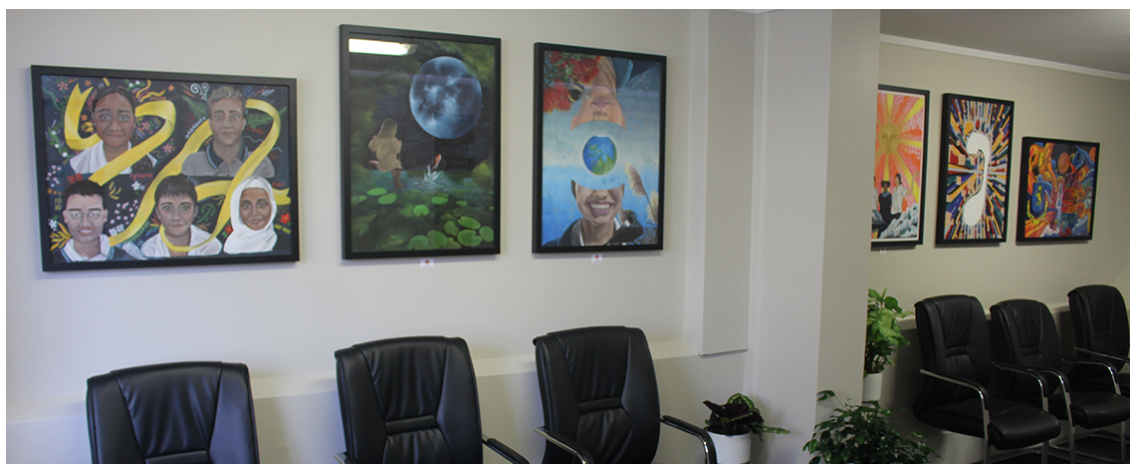


Senior Examinations timetable

All Senior students should now have their timetables for Term 3 Exams, which start on September 11.

For the timetable and exam information, click [here](#)

Illustrating the Values of MAGS



The old prefect locker area adjoining the hall has been refurbished recently and repurposed as a waiting area. And, more recently, it has been brightened up with the addition of six artworks, which were the finalists in the 'Values of MAGS' Art Competition. For this art project students were asked to submit a design that would showcase one of the values of MAGS. From about 20 submissions, six finalists were selected to complete the work onto board. These six student finalists' generously donated artworks will be displayed in the room and also printed onto aluminium and installed on E Block's exterior.



The students have all spent many hours on these artworks and presented them along with a short speech about their work to a staff judging panel. Jaime Spencer (pictured above right) was awarded first place, Tara Fausett second place, and Lucy Woodall third place. The other finalists were Falconeris Marimon Correa, Ullrich Von Reiche and Samantha Persson.

Year 10 Drama Academy up to the challenge



On Wednesday night, the Year 10 Drama Academy class performed *Children of the Black Skirt*, a challenging piece of theatre about orphanage institutions in Australia. Drama teacher Carmela Hughes said, "These students showed off their exemplary skills to an enthralled audience with a performance standard well beyond their years. It was a night of excellence and a fantastic example of the high standard of performing artists trained by the department."

Photos: Ruby Taylor Sinclair



Good year for lambs



Despite the wet, blustery weather, this year is proving better for lambs than last year on the ASB MAGS Farm with 15 new arrivals from 11 Suffolk ewes so far. And with five more ewes to lamb, there is potential for an even larger flock.

Goethe Society exams success

MAGS students have excelled across all year levels in the Auckland Goethe Society German examinations.

From years 9 to 11, there are Gold/Silver/Bronze awards, and in years 12 and 13 there are First/Second/Third places in Auckland plus other awards including Highly Commended.

Results:

Year 9: Gold award to Ashleigh Muir, Silver to Aimee Loveday, and a Bronze award to Liam Spencer.

Year 10: Gold awards to Hannah Jordan, Molly Cavanagh, Cassandra Ploeg, Jack Frear, Ethan Chester, Luka Jeremic, Madhav Nair, Lucy Makinson and Rena Weatherall. A Silver award to Philip Paxie.

Year 11: Gold awards to Aidan Price, Mekal Covic, Caleb Hall, Paul Beyer. Bronze award to Devendra Johnston (who has only done German for one year). Gold award to Mena Ren-Fritzke in the advantaged speaker category.

Year 12: First place to David Laxon, second place to Katya Astashkina, third place to Finnian Montgomery. Highly commended to Joshua Williamson and Mitchell Cooper.

Year 13: First place to Izzy MacKenzie. Third place in advantaged speaker category to Jack Cavanagh.

Daffodil Day collections



Each day next week, the Health and Well-Being Committee will be going around classes during AMP time collecting donations for the Cancer Society.

Daffodil Day is officially next Friday and it would be great to see as many students as possible wearing a daffodil and supporting a great cause.

Since 1990, this iconic event has supported the Cancer Society's work and raised awareness of cancer in New Zealand.

Donations go towards vital scientific research, as well as providing a wide range of support services, education and awareness campaigns for people affected by cancer.

Celebrating 20 years of girls at MAGS



MAGS is planning a cocktail party for female Albertians on Friday, September 27 to celebrate 20 years of girls at the school.

We'd like you to join us for a celebration and a commemoration of this significant event in our school's history.

Please register your interest by signing up to our Girls Alumni database [here](#) and share this link with your old school friends and classmates.

More details about the event and a formal invitation will be issued soon.

Please share this far and wide with your friends and classmates. The school will be celebrating 100 years in 2022 and we hope to build our database of alumni so we can celebrate with as many of you as possible and at other alumni events over the coming three years.

Outdoor Ed in Coromandel



As part of this term's interpersonal skills and self-management units, our Year 11 Outdoor Education classes took part in a three-day tramp in the Kauaeranga Valley, Coromandel Peninsula.

This experience allowed them to practise and demonstrate their interpersonal and self-management skills under pressure while developing their bush craft skills in a bush environment.

The three days consisted of travelling to the Coromandel by van, tramping within the Kauaeranga Valley, including up to the Pinnacles Hut, on- and off-track navigation, river crossing, group shelter building, group cooking and other group work activities.

Careers update

UC EXPERIENCE DAY

Rā Whakamātau



Year 12 and 13 students are invited to attend the University of Canterbury Experience Day at the Ellen Melville Centre in Auckland on Saturday, September 14.

The day offers prospective students the chance to hear university academics share their expertise on various subjects, learn from current students or recent graduates, find out about accommodation options, learn about clubs and student support services, discover more about degrees and majors – and much more.

You can find out more and register [here](#) as well as book sessions that interest you.

Enrolments for 2020

To assist with planning for 2020, in-zone applications should be submitted by the last day of Term 3 – 27 September, 2019.

The Mount Albert Grammar School Board of Trustees has approved a limited number of out-of-zone enrolments for 2020.

Applications for out-of-zone enrolments must be received by Wednesday, 4 September, 2019. Should a ballot be required for out-of-zone enrolments, this will occur Wednesday, 11 September, 2019.

You can find more enrolment information [here](#)

Sports update

U15 Hockey Boys champions again



Congratulations to the MAGS U15 Boys Hockey team, who are back-to-back Auckland Secondary Schools U15 Hockey Championship winners. They share the title this year after a 1-1 draw in the final with King's College.

Junior Girls Basketball triumph



Amazing effort from the Junior Girls Basketball team, who won the AKSS Championship title yesterday. They led from the start and defeated Massey High 47-36. Well done girls!

Luke Clements dominates road running

Luke Clements (pictured) led from start to finish to convincingly win the Intermediate Boys 4km race at the College Sport Auckland Road Running Championships held at Pulman Park on Tuesday.

MAGS had 20 students entered for the championships, which were run in strong southerly winds, making conditions tough for the athletes.

In the three-person teams events, MAGS recorded these results: Junior Girls 4th, Intermediate Girls 4th, Junior Boys 8th, and Intermediate Boys 7th.



Lacrosse championships washed out



Atrocious weather forced the Lacrosse One-Day Championships to be called off yesterday. MAGS had the Premier Girls and B Girls competing at the event at Avondale Racecourse, with the Premier Girls registering two good wins before play was abandoned.

Young Sportsperson of the Year nominations

Nominations are now open for College Sport Auckland's Young Sportsperson of the Year (YSPOTY) Awards, which have been held since 1991 to celebrate the outstanding sporting achievements of Auckland secondary school students. Nominations close September 9. The 29th Annual YSPOTY Awards will be held Thursday, 14 November at 6.30pm at Eden Park to recognise outstanding achievement across a wide range of sports. Click [here](#) for the nomination form and to find out more.

Rugby Girls romp into final



Get along and support the Rugby Girls 10s tomorrow at 11am, when they play their final against Howick College at Orakei Domain after beating Avondale College 79-0 in their semi-final on Monday (pictured above).

In other premier sport, tonight at QBE at 6pm, in their last game before Nationals, the Football Boys 1st XI come up against Westlake Boys.

Tomorrow, at 11.30am at the Auckland Netball Centre, our Netball Premiers play their last competition game against Aorere College.

Starting today and continuing over the weekend, MAGS will be competing in the NZSS Orienteering Championships to be held at Woodhill Forest and Glenfield College.

And James Dougal is competing in NZSS Trampolining on Sunday at Tristar Gym, Mount Roskill.

Fixtures and results on the MAGS website are regularly updated. For this week's, click [here](#) and for next week's, click [here](#)

General Notices



Girl Guiding currently has spaces for girls in its Waitemata Rangers, and would welcome any girl between 12.5 to 17 years old who would like to come along and visit, and check out the activities on offer.

Please visit their website [here](#) and register your interest – they would love to hear from you.



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