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**A Tradition of Excellence**  
9th-14th May 2022



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## From the Associate Principal

[Weekly Notices](#)

## Future Focus



**Key Dates**



Tēnā koutou, e te whānau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

While only two weeks into the term, it has already been a pleasure to see so many of our wider MAGS community here at school as we work together to ensure student potential is maximised and opportunities are taken now in pursuit of future success.

Last week, along with our 3-Way Conferences, we hosted Year 8 families, many of whom will soon be part of the future fabric of our school. And, for our current students, this week the MAGS Future Pathways Expo again found us firmly future-focussed.

Teachers were on hand, offering both subject-specific information and guidance around option selections for 2022, while students and parents browsed the many displays on offer while chatting to numerous services, trades, and university providers.

This event offered a valuable opportunity to connect, share knowledge and start conversations about the importance of making considered choices today, to ensure options are kept open for tomorrow.

‘We make our choices, then our choices make us’ – Anon.

Also, in the spirit of being future-focussed, I would like to promote another exciting event on our horizon. Open to all, and especially to our wider MAGS community, is next weekend's 2021 MAGS Art Show, with interest proving so strong that the Gala Night, next Friday, has sold out.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

### Friday, August 13

MAGS Art Show Gala Night,  
FW Gamble Hall, 6pm

### Saturday, August 14 to Sunday, August 15

MAGS Art Show, FW Gamble  
Hall

### Wednesday, September 1

Out-of-zone applications close



**Sport**

### Photo Essays



Geoff Moon Memorial Cup:  
Rugby Boys 1st XV v  
Aorere College

I encourage you to grab the opportunity to slow down, drop in and pause to enjoy a fabulous and varied selection of both student and professional artists' works, alongside dance, drama, spoken word and musical performances. You are warmly invited to attend and we hope you find yourself irresistibly drawn to a piece that you just cannot leave behind.

Wishing you all the very best of weekends.

Jo Williams  
Associate Principal

Click [here](#)



Netball Premiers – Combined  
Points Tournament

Click [here](#)

**Fixtures and results**

Click [here](#)

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## Future Pathways Expo a hit again



A bumper crowd of parents and students from both MAGS and Marist took advantage of this year's Future Pathways Expo held on Tuesday evening in the MH Building. With MAGS' faculties showcasing their offerings and Deans offering advice, students had the opportunity to also talk to providers – such as universities and training organisations – to help navigate their subjects and intended pathways through the remainder of school and beyond.

Careers Administrator Jan Connor said, "Several providers offered interactive opportunities and all commented on the great questions and engagement from the crowd – ensuring for them a most enjoyable evening."

Year 13 Business Studies students also took the opportunity to sell their products (among them candles, hats, diffusers and lip balm) to guests, with stalls set up on the upper level.

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



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## Thought-provoking Peace Week



*Green MP Golriz Ghahraman is pictured with Counsellors Matt Judd and Marianne Wilson, and Peer Mediators Ayyan Ali, who thanked her and presented her with a bouquet at the conclusion of her speech, William Bell-Purchas and Maria Boow.*

Our 2021 Peer Mediators and Counselling team brought us a busy and inspirational Youth Peace Week, with guest speakers coming into MAGS, Spoken Word Poetry, and messages of peace written to peers on koru shapes with the theme for the week of 'Inner Peace for Outward Action'.



On Monday, Green MP Golriz Ghahraman gave a fascinating speech about fleeing her home country of Iran and coming to New Zealand as a refugee. She talked to students about how she has coped with the sexism she has endured during her working life and the online hatred she has received as an MP. She also spoke about disarmament and ethical choices, as well as answering questions from students about everything from mental health to international trade.

On Wednesday, Voices of Hope co-founder Genevieve Mora (pictured below) spoke to a Year 12 Assembly about her struggles with mental health and provided some advice about maintaining mental wellbeing. Voices of Hope uses advocacy, campaigning and storytelling to help people with their mental health.

On the same day, there were powerful Spoken Word performances in the Library, including one by Reet Kamra and Sonia Airehrour (pictured above).



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## Madcap farce closes tonight



*Photos / Chloe Innes*

Tonight sees the closing show of the Year 13 Production of *The Government Inspector* in the E9 Drama Room.

HoD Drama Mr Urquhart said, "It has been a fun run with three sold-out nights already. The commitment and creativity from the students has been clearly evident on stage."



The play, written by Nikolai Gogol, is well-loved in Russian culture, having a similar stature to the works of Oscar Wilde in British culture. It follows a group of corrupt officials from a small rural village in Russia after they catch wind that they are to be inspected by someone ... incognito.

Meanwhile, a lowly copying clerk has been running up his bills in the local inn. Clearly this must be the secret Government Inspector.

Mr Urquhart said, "There has been a madcap energy springing from the rehearsals and continuing into the show. The characterisation has been larger than life and the facial hair even larger. "Left-field ideas have been explored and thrown into the mix. The best example of this is the chamber quartet who, instead of playing classical music, played reggae.

"Unbeknownst to the audience or cast,

secret staff soloists were organised for the final song of the evening. We were lucky enough to be joined onstage by Mr Watson, Mr Dale and the Headmaster, Mr Drumm, himself. Their surprise performances capped off evenings that were full of laughter and joy.

"But the lion's share of the credit must go to the students themselves. The cast, the crew and the band have been stellar, particularly in the build-up to opening night. Their commitment and joy has been apparent onstage and I am grateful for that. I want to congratulate the Year 13 students on what will likely be their final performance at MAGS and wish them the best in all they attempt to do."

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



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## Gala Night tickets sold out



The MAGS Art Show Gala Night next Friday, August 13, has sold out.

This event, which features performances, drinks and canapes, also gives guests the chance to be first to see artwork for sale.

For those that don't have tickets to the Gala Night, please do come along during the weekend, when admission is FREE (Saturday, August 14, 10am-4pm, Sunday, August 15, 10am-2pm).

Money raised from this event will go towards our newly established [LION Fund](#), which provides monetary support to some of our families and students who are in need, and to

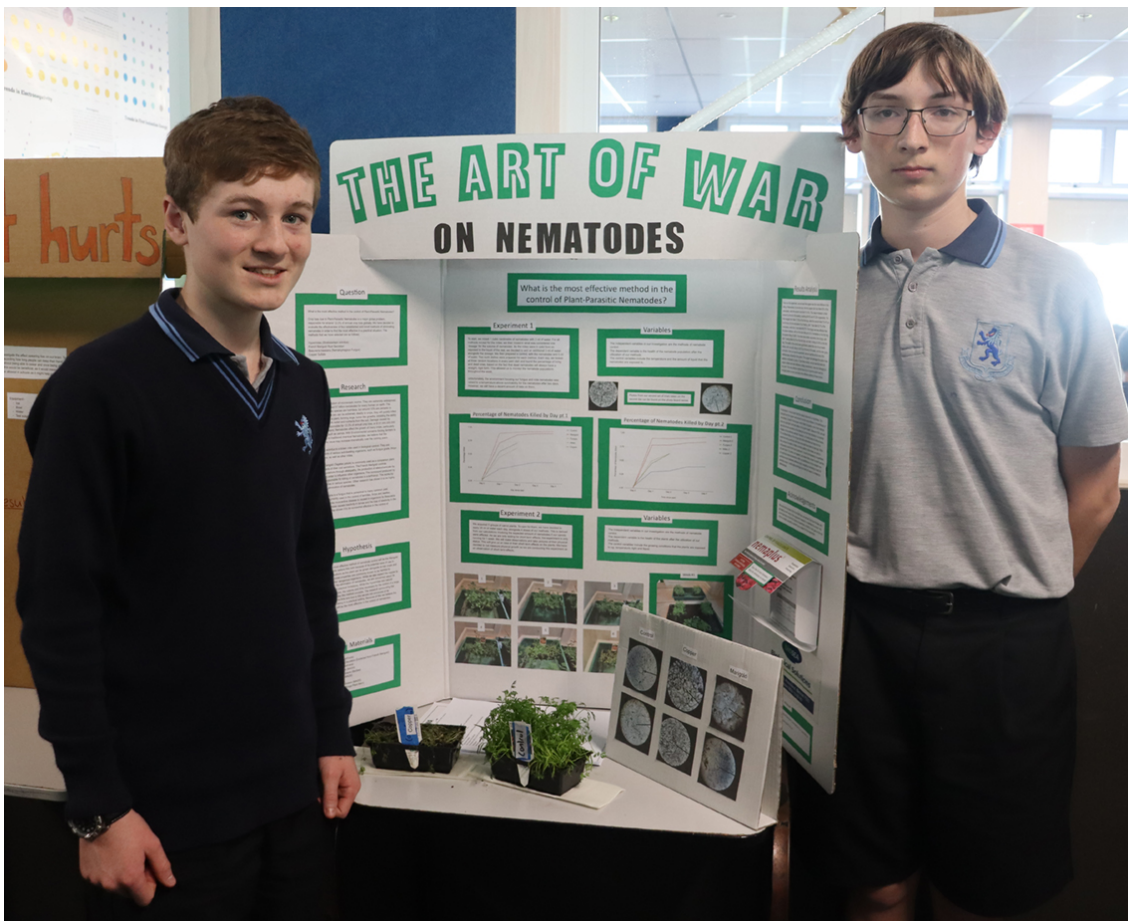
our MAGS Artist in Residence programme. All the artworks featured in the MAGS Art Show are available for purchase – so if you see something you love, you're invited to buy it and take it home at the end of the weekend.

Visit our Art Show [website](#) for exhibiting artists and follow the Art Show on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for all the show updates.

We look forward to seeing at you at the Gala Night or over the weekend.



## Bright ideas at Science Fair





Two classes were involved in the science fair this year: 10SEO taught by Ms Nisha and 10GIB taught by Mr Huang.

They started on their projects in Term 1, when they had to come up with a subject/topic to focus on. They planned and trialled their projects in Term 1, and began their investigations at the start of Term 2.

They finished the write-ups at the end of Term 2, and judging took place on Wednesday, when they set up their exhibits in the CS Building. The panel of judges included Assistant HOF Science Mr Hinds, Mr Drumm and some Science teachers. They judged on originality, process, skill and presentation.

The winners of the MAGS Science Fair go on to the Auckland Science Fair held at Mount Roskill Grammar.

**The Gold Award winners are:**

Charlie Forbes and Jacob Miller (pictured above left and right, respectively) for their work The Art of War on Nematodes, which looked at new ways to control microscopic animals (nematodes) that destroy crops.

Ryan Shen (pictured below) for his work on To Drink or Not to Drink, which focussed on delivering clean and sustainable drinking water to places without clean water.

**The Silver Award winners are:**

Rosa Fox, Ava Siakimotu – Caught Dirty Handed

Eric Hu, Samuel Reeves – Drinking About the Future

Felix McElwee, Owen Frear – Ruby or not Ruby

Chelsea Wijntjes, Evie Gregory – SPF in the Sea



## Toughest Guys and Gals in Auckland



MAGS officially has the Toughest Guys and Gals in Auckland after winning the team challenges in Helensville yesterday.

Our 12PE and 110E classes competed in the Auckland Secondary School 2021 Tough Guy/Gal Challenge for their practical performance assessment. The students had been training hard, having written up and completed training programs leading up to the event, understanding how and why training impacts performance as well as the underlying physiology that allows our bodies to compete in high endurance events.

PE teacher Mr Scaife said, "There were some notable performances from a few who were emulating our NZ athletes in Tokyo, making it onto the podium, including Thomas Aish, Eva Wadsworth, Molly McGowan, Emily Rednall, Baxter Hilson and Daniel Wood, who combined to take the honours of both the toughest



male and female school as they battled the conditions against 20-plus other schools and over 1000 participants.

"Students found the challenge fun and completed the course with some strong times being posted all-round and memories they will hold onto for life!

"All of our students were exceptional on the trip and a really positive experience was enjoyed by all."

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## EPro8 heat winners



Team Vectorious (consisting of Nicole Muir, Grace Duan, Cole Hickey and Matthew Batcheler, pictured above) won their Auckland region heat this week and will proceed to the semifinals of the EPro8 Challenge.

Our other three teams in the senior section finished 8th, 10th and 11th.

The EPro8 Challenge is an annual inter-school science and engineering competition.

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## 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 this week.

Certificates are awarded to up to two students from each mentor class for their work in the previous term. You can see the list of students [here](#)

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



## Out-of-zone applications close soon

Out-of-zone enrolment applications may be made for Year 9 and 10 students only for 2022 and must be received by 4pm, Wednesday, 1 September, 2021.

If application numbers exceed places available, a ballot for applications will be held on Wednesday, 8 September, 2021.

More information [here](#)

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## Staying safe online

switch  on safety

When children learn from home, it is important to make sure they stay safe online.

Click [this link](#) for instructions about how to use 'Switch on Safety', a simple, **FREE** way to block the worst of the web.

This is an initiative from the Ministry of Education, the Network for Learning and Netsafe.

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## Manea Scents on sale

A group of Business Studies students called Manea Scents is producing reed diffusers aimed at decreasing chemical pollution.

They have also intertwined culture into their scents, inspired by the Pacific Islands and Asia.

The scents are Kiana Aroha from the Pacific Islands (coconut, watermelon and lime), Amara from India (sandalwood and ylang ylang), and Hua Man Cheng from China (white jasmine and blood orange).

The entrepreneurs behind Manea Scents are Angel Butler, Thanushree Saragadam, Davinya Lulia, Keming Zhou, Tupou Veikune and Olly Kasieli.

To find out more and buy their diffusers, click [here](#)



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## Don't miss out on Albertian of the Year tickets

Get in fast because ticket sales for the Albertian of the Year function close next Thursday (August 12).

The Albertians Association will honour Warwick Gibbs as 2021 Albertian of the Year at a function on August 20 for his outstanding contributions to MAGS over 50 years.

The event will take place in the FW Gamble Hall starting at 6pm and feature beverages and canapes, with tickets costing \$60.

Another Albertian of the Year and a long-time colleague, Greg Cave, will speak to the many talents of Mr Gibbs, who is currently our Academic Dean.

Mr Gibbs has taught languages at MAGS since 1972, and was HoF Languages for 30 years. He has been a Dean since 1986, and in 2019 won the ASG National Excellence in Teaching Award.

Tickets and more details available [here](#)



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## Sign up for Centenary Celebrations



Mount Albert Grammar School  
Centennial 9th - 14th May 2022  
Proudly partnered by



MAGS is excited to announce that its [Centenary website](#) is up and running, with a schedule of events available for our Centenary Celebrations across May 9-14, 2022. There will be more details to come about these events, and more events added as we move towards the Centenary Celebrations. These events will bring together current and former students and staff, parents and supporters of MAGS as we celebrate our tradition of excellence. The site will also allow you to buy tickets – when they are released – to our premier ticketed events such as the Centennial Gala Dinner and Albertian Reunion 'Pub Night'. There will also be free arts, cultural and sporting events, culminating in a festival at MAGS on May 14.

edit menu



Albertians are also encouraged to register at our [Albertian Online Community website](#). This is a legacy website that will endure beyond the Centenary Celebrations and will allow current and former staff and students to connect and reconnect for years to come. Through the site you can find former classmates, stay up to date with school news and browse the photo galleries and archives. The Albertian Online Community registration process is rigorous but we have these measures in place to ensure that only Albertians are registering – and to protect privacy and personal data.

# Sports Update

## Second at NZSS Swimming



Some incredible Individual and Relay results helped MAGS to second place in the country (Co-ed Schools) at the NZ Secondary School Swimming Championships.

The Mount Albert Grammar Aquatic Academy took to the North Shore to compete against the best swimmers in the country in the last week of the July School Holidays.

After great success at the North Island Secondary School Championships, the team continued its great form at the Sir Owen Glenn National Aquatic Pool again against 700-plus athletes.



Hunter Dobson won four gold medals in his six-medal haul and there were golds for Amber George (4 NZSS Medals in total), Thomas (TJ) Murray, (5 NZSS Medals), Quin Walden (3 NZSS Medals), Edie Ancell (2 NZSS Medals), Tony Tua-Tagaloa, Isla Marsh and Anna McGowan.

There were plenty of top 10 finishes as well as personal best times on display.

Aquatic Academy coach Mitch Nairn

would like to thank the following swimmers who enjoyed their last NZSS outing with the team: Edie Ancell, Isla Marsh, Lara Grozev, Justin Hemara, Tony Tua-Tagaloa, Oscar Mossman, Lucy Woodall.

"We thank you for everything you have contributed to this incredible team over the years. You will all be missed greatly."



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## Black Cap for Nepo Laulala



MAGS 1st XV Captains Tama Anderson and Sylvia Brunt are pictured above after presenting Albertian and All Black Nepo Laulala with his MAGS Black Cap today. Nepo was at MAGS for a Q&A session (along with All Blacks Tyrel Lomax and Cody Taylor, also pictured above).

The session, held in the GL Weir Sports Centre, was attended by sporting captains from across Auckland and was hosted by All Black Eroni Clarke.

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## Juniors shine at tournament



On Wednesday, MAGS sent Year 9, Year 10 and Premier Netball teams to the Combined Points Tournament.

Our Year 9s played well, winning 4 out of 5 pool games. The Year 10s (pictured above) did even better, winning all four pool games and their quarter-final against Whangarei Girls High School before playing AGGS in the semi-final.

A tightly contested game ended in a 22-all draw, resulting in the teams going in to extra time and playing until the first team scored a two-goal advantage. Our Year 10s eventually came through with the win but due to time constraints they had to play their final 10 minutes later against St Dominic's, who had drawn the bye and gone straight through to the final.

Director of Netball Kathy Henry said, "They lost graciously to a very skilled and composed St Dominic's team."

Our Premier team did not move beyond pool play after a couple of close losses.

You can see photo essays from all the teams' games [here](#)

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## Black Cap applications open



The Sports Department is taking applications [here](#) for the MAGS Black Cap. You must have represented New Zealand between October 28, 2020 and October 28, 2021. To receive your Black Cap at the Sports Dinner, you will need to submit your application by Friday, October 1. Any performances after October 1 will still be celebrated at the Sports Dinner but the student name will not appear in the programme and your Black Cap will not be embroidered until after the dinner.

- You must have played in a game/sport
- Non-playing or paper teams do not count
- You must be a current MAGS student when you competed in the event

A formal photo of all Black Cap recipients will be taken at School on Wednesday, October 27.

The Black Cap will be presented at the Sports Dinner on Thursday, October 28. Venue is to be confirmed. Ticket information will follow in due course.

Any queries, please email [sports@mags.school.nz](mailto:sports@mags.school.nz)

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## Young Sportsperson nominations

College Sport Auckland's Young Sportsperson of the Year (YSPOTY) Awards have been held since 1991 to celebrate the outstanding sporting achievements of Auckland secondary school students.

This year, the Annual YSPOTY Awards will be held Thursday, November 25 at 6.30pm at Eden Park to recognise outstanding achievement across many sports.

You can find out more about the awards and fill out a nomination form [here](#)

Nominations close Thursday, September 9.

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## Upcoming Premier Sport



Both our Premier Basketball teams are at home tonight, playing Rangitoto College, with the Girls on at 6pm, and the Boys at 7.30pm.

Tomorrow, our Netball Premiers play Howick College at Auckland Netball Centre at 9.30am, the Football Boys 1st XI are at home against St Peter's College at midday, and the Rugby Boys 1st XV are away to Tangaroa College at 2.30pm.

On Wednesday, the Football Girls 1st XI continue their run in the APC following their 2-1 win over St Kent's, with a game against Epsom Girls Grammar on MAGS 1 at 4pm. The Hockey Boys 1st XI play Pukekohe High at Kolmar at 5pm.

On Thursday, the Hockey Girls 1st XI play Maclean's College at a time and venue to be confirmed, and the Lacrosse Girls Premiers play their One Day Tournament at Avondale Racecourse.

And best of luck to our Squash Premier Boys today, tomorrow and on Sunday in Tauranga as they defend their NZSS Squash title.

For updated fixtures and the latest results, click [here](#)

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