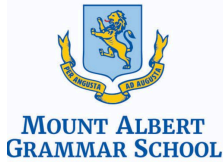




[View this email in your browser](#)



A Tradition of Excellence
9th-14th May 2022



August 7, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

A Week for the Stars



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

The theme of 'stars' has very much been to the fore this week at MAGS.

The MAGS Astronomy Club has been relaunched and with the recently refurbished telescope and observatory now fully functional, students and visitors are once again able to enjoy and learn about the heavenly bodies that illuminate our night sky. On a clear Wednesday evening, I was lucky enough to gaze out into the vastness of our universe and observe Saturn (with its rings) and Jupiter (with its moons) drifting ever so slowly across the sky.

Being transported to another place in our solar system, albeit for only a few minutes, was both therapeutic and a reminder that we are part of something much, much bigger in size and hopefully in purpose.

And likewise the 'stars' that were decorated by students and hung in the Library this week in recognition of Peace Week. After a year full of much challenge and uncertainty, students have been encouraged to look upwards and also be reminded of the importance of tolerance and celebrating diversity in our school and beyond.

At the present time, peace at a personal and societal level is such a worthy goal.

Thank you to our staff who helped our students reach for the stars this week!

Per Angusta Ad Augusta

Have a great weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

**Thursday & Friday,
August 13 & 14**

Artistry in Action dance
concert, 7.30 pm, Centennial
Theatre

**Wednesday & Thursday,
August 19 & 20**

Art and Cultural Photos, FW
Gamble Hall



Sport

Photo Essays



Netball Combined Points
Tournament

Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Future Pathways Expo a huge drawcard



Once again, the annual Future Pathways Expo on Tuesday evening exceeded the expectations of both exhibitors and attendees.

Careers Administrator Jan Connor said that due to the strong support we are now getting from our school community, exhibitors are wanting to provide more interactive and visual displays to give our students the best that they can when visiting our Expo.



The Expo, spread over the two floors of the MH Building, featured information and advice from universities and training organisations, as well as interactive displays, faculty and subject rooms, NCEA information and advice from Deans.

Mrs Connor said, "For the last two years I have been getting approached by more providers, who hear of our Expo and want to join – so I expect we will be seeing more diversity with us next year. "From the start of the evening, we had a steady stream of parents and students that was sustained throughout. Numbers were close to 3000, from not only our own school, but also our neighbouring Marist College family."

She added, "Acknowledgement of the following needs to be made: the Security

Team, who managed traffic and parking; the Ambassador team, who not only set up the Expo rooms but also assisted our providers with their gear, got them set up, kept them hydrated (making tea, coffee and providing water) and fed, plus being willing ushers on the Expo floor."

For more photos from the Expo, click [here](#)



Peace Week celebrates diversity



The centrepiece of this year's Peace Week was an arrangement of stars that were hung in the Library on Monday in line with MAGS' theme of 'We All Sit Under the Same Stars'.

This school-wide activity involved Junior form classes decorating a star, given to them by the Counselling team, to represent the diversity in their class whether that be cultural, ethnicity, sexuality, gender, disability, etc.

The decorated stars were then suspended from the steel rafters in the Library. Senior students, mainly art students, created smaller stars to hang with them as well.

Library staff also created a display in the foyer in line with the national Peace Week theme of 'Celebrating Diversity'.

There were also chalk drawings of Snakes and Ladders in the Caradus Quad throughout the week, and two students – Sonia Airehour and Ryan Shen – as well as TIC Becky Woodall (pictured) – performed Spoken Word poetry at lunchtime on Wednesday in the Library.

For more photos from Peace Week, click [here](#)



Observatory open to community



MAGS has a thriving Astronomy Club thanks to the leadership and passion of Mathematics Teacher Diego Alarcon, and now his hard work over the course of a year has seen the school's telescope restored and our Observatory rebuilt and open for viewing sessions. The MAGS Astronomy Club is a virtual club. Members of the club are [Instagram](#) followers eager to learn more about the vast Universe in which we live. Pop-up sessions take place every Friday at lunchtime in MH4. No compulsory meetings.

You can read more about the Astronomy Club and Observatory [here](#), and members of the MAGS community can book a viewing session at the Observatory by emailing dalarcon@mags.school.nz



Senior options for 2021

Students in Year 10, 11 and 12 are currently choosing their options for 2021. Information has been sent to students and parents regarding this process.

Year 11 and Year 12 should complete their requested choices on SchoolPoint by Wednesday, August 13. Year 10 students have until Thursday, August 19 to complete their requested choices.

Students should consider their pathways and check the prerequisites to ensure they are on track to meet the entry requirements for the courses they are selecting.

Further information on this process can be found [here](#)

Meeting the EPro8 Challenge



MAGS' teams enjoyed great success in the recent EPro8 Challenge, which tests engineering and problem-solving skills. Every year over 10,000 students from 800 schools from throughout New Zealand take part.

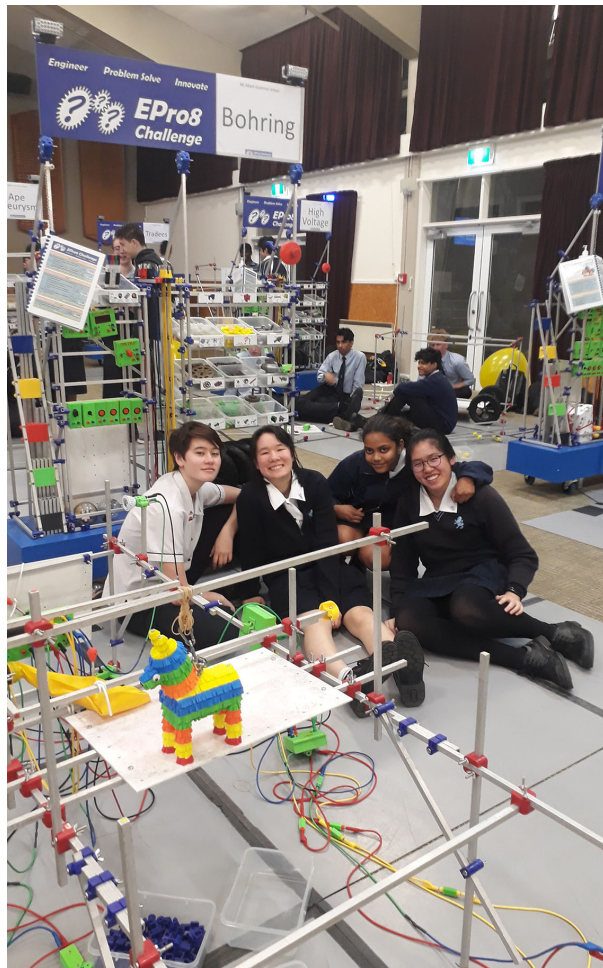
Teams compete to build large structures; solve practical problems; engineer using pulleys, motors, gears, wheels and axles; invent simple machines; undertake fun experiments; construct electronic circuits; and solve practical maths problems.

MAGS had four Senior and four Junior teams, with 32 students in total from years 9-13. They achieved excellent results in the preliminary rounds, with several teams reaching the final.

In the Seniors, Team Vectorius (pictured above), consisting of Grace Duan, Nicole Muir, Connor Voight and Matthew Batcheler, gained immediate entry into the final as they came second in the first round of competition.

Shrek team (made up of Maya Axaam, Daniel Neeley Paige Tyson-Taylor and Callum Wishart) also did very well – coming third in the preliminary rounds – they will find out in the coming days – based on other heat results – whether they have qualified for the final.

In the Juniors, team Bazinga reached the semi-final after coming second in the preliminary rounds. This team consisted of Patrick Bauld, Owen Frear, Felix McElwee and Ben Somerville.



HOD Science Aase Diegel said, "All other teams participated with extreme enthusiasm and were a credit to Mount Albert Grammar School."

Boys Dance debuts at assemblies



Throughout the week, the newly formed Boys Dance Group has been entertaining students at assemblies, with a preview of the performance choreographed by Faloan Okan that will be part of the Artistry in Action dance concert next week.

The group has been set up to encourage boys into Dance and bring together boys who have a passion for dance from different backgrounds or genres.

There are 21 students that range from years 9 to 13 within the group, which allows the students to collaborate with like-minded individuals and engage within contemporary dance.

Mount Albert Grammar School Dance Department presents



ARTISTRY IN ACTION



7:30pm

Thursday 13 August

Friday 14 August

Centennial Theatre - Mountain Road, Epsom

Tickets

Student & Pensioners \$15

MAGS Staff, Students & under 12s \$10

Adults - \$20

The much-anticipated annual Dance concert Artistry in Action will be held at 7.30pm on August 13 and 14 at Centennial Theatre, Epsom.

The concert will feature performances by all of the MAGS Dance classes as well as some outstanding choreographies from our Year 13 and Scholarship students.

Be quick to get your tickets from MAGS Finance as we anticipate they will sell out fast.

Prices: Adults – \$20, students and pensioners – \$15, MAGS staff and students and children under 12 – \$10.

Play pecks at social issues



Last Thursday, the Year 10 Drama Academy performed their production of *Chook Chook* by New Zealand playwright Fiona Farrel.

The show follows four hens stuck in a battery farm. While on the surface the show questions the ethics of caged hen farming, it is an allegory that looks at the place of women in society.

The show uses comedy to express the absurdity of the 'cages' women can find themselves in. It then asks what we should do about it in the interests of freedom, duty, contentment or self-preservation.

HOD Drama Gerald Urquhart said, "The students performed excellently. There was a sense of joy that permeated their performance.

"The audience responded well to the show. There were a lot of laughs had and some serious discussion afterwards.

The cast are pleased to have provoked such meaningful exchanges in such an entertaining manner.

"A large thank you to everyone who helped make this happen, including the cast, crew and the support of the families."

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

Market history



Market days, food stalls, bake sales and barbecues are regular events at MAGS, just like this one in 2011, which is part of Set 44, the most recent collection of Historical Images added to the website [here](#)

This is an ongoing collection of images sourced and annotated by our Archivist, Brian Murphy.

Proposal for Creativity Hub

PCSET invites the Community to:
~ **Building One** ~

*ex Carrington Hospital**

Community Open Day

Venue: Pt Chevalier Library



Saturday 8th August
10am to 4pm

Community Arts, Creative & Well-being Hub

- 270 affordable studio spaces, over 8500 m²
- maker spaces, well-being services, night classes
- youth spaces & workshops, gallery, event & exhibition spaces
- shared office, cafe & meeting spaces

Have Your Say, Share Your Ideas & Vision

~ Links to surveys & contacts below ~

*As part of a feasibility study, by **Pt Chevalier Social Enterprise Trust (PCSET)** on behalf of the partnership between the Crown (MHUD) & Mana Whenua

Point Chevalier Social Enterprise Trust (PCSET), on behalf of the Crown and Mana Whenua, is preparing a feasibility study on making use of Unitec's Building One, while it is temporarily vacated, as a modern community, arts and wellbeing hub.

Comprising 270 studio spaces across 8500sq m, Building One is part of the historically listed site that was home to Carrington Hospital from 1865 to 1992.

With the possibility that the building will be vacant while its reuse is investigated, social entrepreneurs and Pt Chev locals Chris Casey and Graeme Bennett, of PCSET, have identified an "exciting opportunity to connect, regenerate and energise the surrounding diverse communities of Point Chevalier, Mount Albert, Waterview, Avondale, and the wider population of Tāmaki Makaurau".

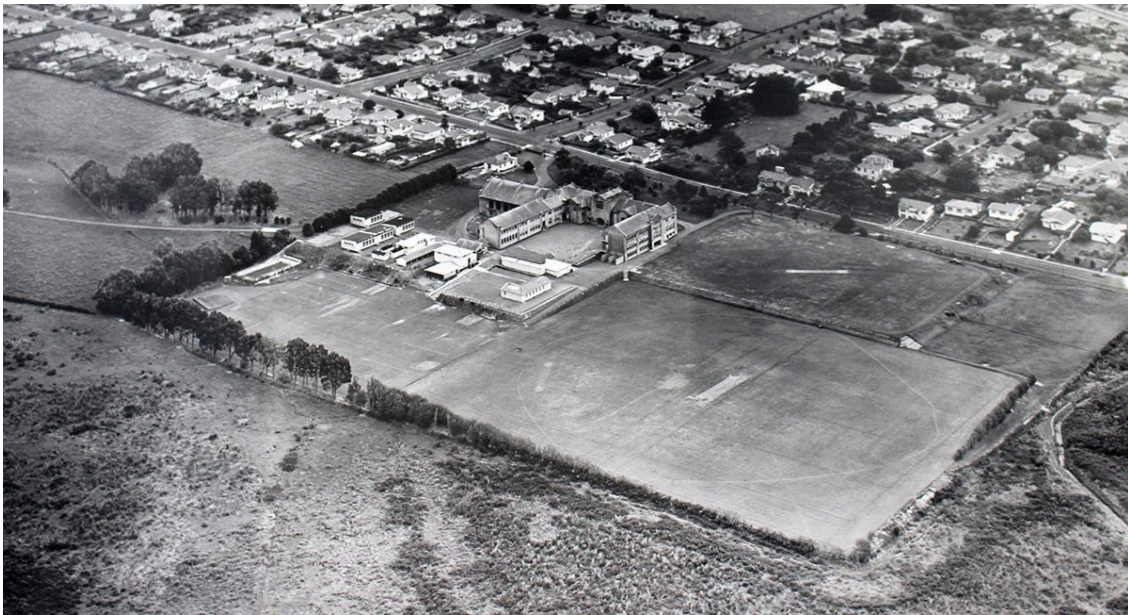
"There is potential opportunity to make use of this space," says Casey. "From affordable art and creative studio spaces to holistic well-being centres, food offerings, lecture theatres, community rooms for youth and adult education programmes."

Extensive community feedback is being sought as part of the feasibility study – PCSET has created two surveys for people interested in the project. "We want to hear from anyone and everyone with an interest," says Bennett. "Whether you are an arts student, a musician, a

local school or community organisation or resident, or whether you can see yourself here as a likeminded business, we would love to hear your thoughts.”

The two surveys are a [Community Survey](#) about the use of Building One and an [Arts/Creative/Wellbeing Survey](#) about how it might work as a creative space. For more information, email [Chris Casey](#) or [Graeme Bennett](#)

Sign up to the Centenary database



As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, with events planned for May 9-14, 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

Tournament shows MAGS' strength



On Wednesday, MAGS sent three Netball teams to defend their Combined Points Tournament trophy from 2019.

While the teams did not repeat that same success, there were many positives.

Our Premier 1 team, who had recently suffered their first loss in the Auckland Netball Competition against Westlake Girls last Saturday, bounced back to take a one-goal win over a very talented and physical St Peter's Cambridge team to be top team in pool play.



In the quarter-finals they met St Kentigern College, resulting in a hard-fought battle, with MAGS going down by two goals at the final whistle. The girls took comfort from the fact that St Kentigern were overall Premier grade winners. Head Coach Vicki Morgan was very happy with the team and how they gave it their all in the tough games, and played with pride.

Director of Netball Kathy Henry

said that the Year 10 team also did very well throughout pool play, however they were unfortunate to have in their pool the overall Year 10 grade winners Avondale, who they went down to by four goals. Coach Danica Hape-Tiria was very happy with how the girls are tracking and also took comfort in the fact that the only game they lost was to Avondale. Our Year 9 team made it to the quarter-finals and also went down to the overall grade winners in Auckland Girls Grammar. Coach Kelly Roberts said the team played well and lots of positives were taken from the day.

Miss Henry said, "Overall, the Combined Points Tournament has highlighted how competitive all our top teams are and how bright the future is for MAGS netball."

You can see Photo Essays of the Premier, Year 10 and Year 9 teams in action at the tournament [here](#)

Rugby Girls 1st XV win home debut



The Rugby Girls 1st XV are two-from-two in their debut season following a hard-fought 7-5 win over Manurewa High in their first game on the Sir BG Williams Field on Monday. They began their season and a new era in MAGS Rugby with a 33-24 away win over Aorere College the previous week.

Previously, the Rugby Girls had been all-conquering in the Rugby 10s format but this is the first year of MAGS girls playing XV's competitively and a big step up in terms of tactics and technical skills.

Black Cap applications open



The Sports Department is taking applications [here](#) for the MAGS Black Cap. You must have represented New Zealand between October 24, 2019 and October 12, 2020. To receive your Black Cap at the Sports Dinner on October 21 you will need to submit your application by Friday, September 25. Any performances after September 25 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 15 at 1.00pm.

Any queries, please email sports@mags.school.nz

Sportsperson of the Year 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 30th Annual YSPOTY Awards will be held Thursday, November 19 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 September 7.

Upcoming Premier Sport



Today: Our defending national champion Squash Premier Boys are in action at the NZSS Tournament, which runs through to Sunday in Tauranga. The Basketball Girls and Boys Premiers are playing away yet again; the Girls at Massey High at 6pm and the Boys at Auckland Grammar at 7.30pm.

Tomorrow: The Netball Premier 1 team faces Baradene College at 9.30am at ANC. At midday, the Football Boys 1st XI are on MAGS 1 v St Peter's College. At 2.30pm, the Rugby Boys 1st XV are away to Liston College.

Sunday: MAGS swimmers will be at West Wave in the morning to contest the AKSS Individual Swimming Champs.

Monday: The Rugby Girls 1st XV are away to Southern Cross at 4pm.

Wednesday: Still undefeated after a 20-20 draw with Kelston Boys on Wednesday, the Rugby League 1st XIII are away to Manurewa High at 4pm. The Football Girls 1st XI play Baradene at Michael's Ave at 4pm. At 4.15pm, the Squash Premier Boys play at MAGS against St Peter's College. The Hockey Boys 1st XI are scheduled to play but draw not yet released.

Thursday: The Hockey Girls 1st XI are scheduled to play but draw not yet released.

You can see more regularly updated fixtures and results [here](#)

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025
Tel: 64 9 846 2044 Fax: 64 9 846 2042
www.mags.school.nz

Copyright © 2020 Mount Albert Grammar School, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)