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A Tradition of Excellence
9th-14th May 2022



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December 11, 2021 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

Celebrating Staff Excellence



[Key Dates](#)



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

Our final gathering of the year gave us an opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding work of our teaching and non-teaching staff throughout 2021.

Numerous times this year we have been forced off-site and into online teaching.

Often, we were only given a few hours notice of impending lockdowns or school closure. Yet our staff responded professionally – time and time again – making sure our students were looked after. We could not have asked more of our staff.

The generosity of the Liddell and Harmos families has allowed us to recognise some of our best people. Both families have very strong connections to MAGS with the Liddells having provided support to the school over numerous years. In 2021, we are also delighted to be able to award two inaugural 'A Harmos Staff Awards'.

To be able to close our 100th year by celebrating five of our best teachers was special. We added a sixth to this group with the recognition of 50 years of service to MAGS by Warwick Gibbs – an incredible achievement that will be celebrated in full next year.

Congratulations to our recipients and thank you again to the Liddell and Harmos families.

Thank you to all who have helped MAGS rise above the challenges of 2021.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Tuesday, December 14

NCEA Exams end

Wednesday, December 15

Girls Academic Testing (8.30am-12.00pm) and Sports Academy Trials (12.30pm-2.30pm).

Thursday, December 16

Boys Academic Testing (8.30am-12.00pm) and Sports Academy Trials (12.30pm-2.30pm)

Friday, January 28

Senior Course
Confirmation Day

Wednesday, February 2

Year 9 students only
start school

Thursday, February 3

Full school in

Monday, February 7

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Staff honoured for excellence and service



At left, BoT Chair Greg Moyle congratulates Mr Puhara on receiving the Herb Towers Award, while, at right, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Leonard celebrate receiving CP Liddell Staff Awards.

On Thursday, before the end of year staff brunch, multiple staff members were honoured with awards for their dedication, professionalism and service to our school.

The awards were read out by Mr Drumm and presented by our BoT Chair Greg Moyle. Visual Arts Teacher Ainsley Leonard and PE Teacher Jess Wilson, both appointed in 2012, received the CP Liddell Staff Award. These scholarships are worth \$10,000 each and recognise excellence in teaching and contribution to the school.

English Teacher Michael Puhara received the Herb Towers Travel Prize for a professional development trip overseas. This award recognises outstanding service to MAGS.

Two new staff awards were presented this year: the A Harmos Memorial Award. The family of Andrew Harmos has donated them as a memorial to Mr Harmos, who was a teacher at MAGS from 1971-1985. These awards recognise staff who have been exceptional in supporting the school's mentoring programme and were presented to PE Teacher and Year 10 Girls Dean Claudia Goff and Mathematics teacher and Housemaster Daniel Menzies (pictured top right).

There was one final staff acknowledgement for Academic Dean Warwick Gibbs (pictured above right with Mr Moyle), who has been with MAGS for 50 years and was named Albertian of the Year 2021.

Plans to honour Mr Gibbs formally for his service and as Albertian of the Year have been scuppered by Covid-19 so Mr Drumm took the chance yesterday to emphasise the contribution Mr Gibbs has made to our school.

Mr Drumm said that Mr Gibbs had worked with four of the seven MAGS Headmasters. When he began at MAGS in 1972 he was working alongside staff who themselves began at

MAGS in 1922.

"So in our 100th year Warwick brings a tangible connection right back to our first year as a school."

Mr Gibbs is only the second non-Albertian (after our Archivist and staff member of 62 years Brian Murphy) to be named Albertian of the Year.



From left, Mathematics Teacher Han Cham, Deputy Principal Christine Cato, Mathematics Teacher Pradeep Kumar and PE Teacher and Year 12 Boys Dean Andy Belson were recognised for their 15 years of Service to MAGS, as was Library Assistant Malini Samaradiwakara.

College Sport vaccine requirement

College Sport Auckland (CSA) has informed principals of participating schools that from January 10, 2022, students and staff who want to be involved with Auckland secondary school sanctioned sporting competitions need to be fully vaccinated.

CSA's CEO, Mark Barlow, said, "Before making this decision CSA had consulted with principals and received overwhelming support for such a step. While this follows School Sport NZ's approach, the CSA Board wanted to provide early assurance and direction to students and schools in Auckland. The health and safety of anyone involved with a sanctioned secondary school sport in Auckland is a primary obligation that CSA takes seriously."

CSA Board Chair Tim O'Connor said, "Covid-19 poses an ongoing risk to the health and wellbeing of individuals in our community, including students, coaches and managers involved with secondary school sport. The addition of the new bylaw pertaining to Covid-19 vaccinations gives all our schools clarification and certainty before the start of 2022 sporting competitions."

As stated, School Sport NZ has already announced that it is restricting its events to fully vaccinated participants.

School Sport NZ said, "Where practicable, this mandate extends to spectators attending also. This decision will be reviewed post-Summer Tournament Week 2022 and taking into account the latest Government advice."



Course Confirmation and 2022 Options

Students going into Year 11, 12 or 13 in 2022 will be contacted next week with confirmation of the courses they are currently enrolled in for 2022.

Information will also be provided on how to request a change to those courses using an online process following the release of the NZQA results in January.

All students should have their options finalised following the online request form process but there is a final chance to request changes to options in person on Friday, January 28. Details of all of this will be confirmed to students and parents in the email sent next week.

Students who are happy with their options do not need to do anything further regarding re-enrolment, and they will receive their timetables when they return to school on the first day.

Enrol for 2022 Music lessons now



We have moved entirely to digital enrolments for music lessons, and only enrolments submitted online will be considered.

Please complete before February 4, 2022, and provide all the correct information to help us plan this programme.

You can click [here](#) for the Music Lessons Hub and click on 'Enrolment' to get started.

School closedown/reopening

Mount Albert Grammar School will soon be closing down for the school holidays, while continuing to host NCEA Exams until December 14.

The Student Centre is now closed, and re-opens on Wednesday, February 2.

The Enrolment Office has closed and will be open again on Monday, 24 January, 2022.

Mount Albert Grammar School enrolments should be done online [here](#)

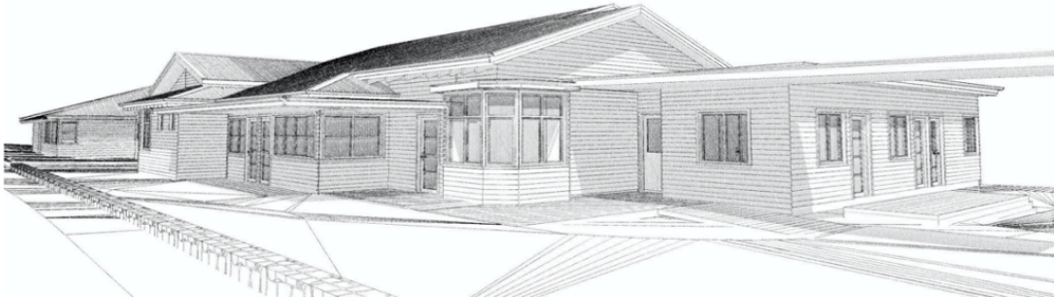
The Finance Office is now closed and re-opens on Wednesday, February 2. Payments can be made online via the [Kamar Portal](#)

The International Office closes on Thursday, December 16, and it will open again on Monday, January 17, 2022.

The last day the Lion's Den uniform shop will be open is next Thursday, December 16 (3pm – 6pm). It will reopen on Monday, January 10, 2022 (9am-1pm). For the shop's full hours, click [here](#)

Year 9s start school on Wednesday, February 2, 2022 with the full school in on the next day – Thursday, February 3.

Girls Hostel inviting applications



We are excited to announce that from Term 2, 2022 we will be able to offer our girls the opportunity to board at Mount Albert Grammar School in Centennial House. The newly refurbished property can accommodate up to 28 female students and is located in a safe and beautiful residential street – six minutes' walk from school. If your daughter would like the opportunity to join the MAGS hostel experience, please contact Clare Leon-Brown cleonbrown@mags.school.nz

Upcoming Albertians AGM

The Albertians Association will hold their Annual General Meeting next Tuesday, December 14 at 6pm at Sal Rose, 1A Alberton Ave, Mt Albert. Election of the Albertians Executive Officers and Members will be completed, as well as confirmation of the Trustees for the MAGS Foundation. This is an open invitation to any ex-students who wish to attend the AGM. We would appreciate it if you could confirm your attendance to magsalbertians@gmail.com as the AGM will be followed by a Christmas gathering. We will be following government guidelines for this event and ask that you please show your vaccine passport on arrival.

Academic Testing and Sports Academy Trials

Please be aware that due to current Covid restrictions, only Year 8 students are allowed on site. Parents/caregivers are not allowed on the school grounds. Please ensure you drop off and pick up your child at the school gate. All Year 9 2022 students will be involved in MAGS academic testing as follows:

Academic Testing

Held at Mount Albert Grammar School, please assemble outside the Main Hall at **8.30am**. Bring pen/pencil, water bottle and a light snack.

Girls

Academic Testing – Wednesday, 15 December, 8.30am to 12:00pm (including a break).

Sports Academy Trials – Wednesday, 15 December, 12.30pm to 2.30pm.

Boys

Academic Testing – Thursday, 16 December, 8.30am to 12:00pm (including a break)

Sports Academy Trials – Thursday, 16 December, 12.30pm to 2.30pm



If your child is participating in the Sports Academy Trials, please ensure they bring their correct sports attire and lunch, water etc.

Job opportunities and apprenticeships

The following opportunities are available to apply for **NOW**. School leavers interested in any of the below please email Mrs Connor – jconnor@mags.school.nz

Amenity Horticulture (Urban Gardening) – Apprenticeship

Business Apprenticeship program – Scholarship available

Electrical – Apprenticeship

Electrical – fabrication switch/control gear (keen to learn use of hand and power tools)

Outdoor Equipment – Junior Technician – servicing outdoor power

Equipment including mowers. Ultimately becoming an Apprentice and qualifying in “ Small Engines”.

Construction – concrete specialist – foundations, driveways, hard landscaping etc. Junior role, leading to qualification and supervisor role.

Mast – Marine & Specialised Tech – covering:

- Marine – boatbuilding, marine systems engineering, powerboat systems, sail-making, interior and exterior coatings, marine electrical, marine interiors, upholstery
- Composites – working with carbon fibre and fibreglass in composite production over a wide range of industries such as aeronautical, architecture, military, automotive and marine
- Marina – boatyard and marina operations

Tiling Company – learning the basics with scope for career development.

Arborist – well-paid apprenticeship opportunity available (tree cutting/pruning)

Engineering – Machine turning and sheet metal workers sought (two roles).

Apprenticeships available to those keen and motivated.

Furniture Making – Woodworker – learning to build custom furniture. Apprenticeship available to motivated student.

Upholsterer – learning the skill of cutting and covering new furniture. Apprenticeship available to keen student.

Civil Construction (Roading) – labouring job opportunities available.

Barcats – part time and permanent hospo roles available. No experience necessary.

Maintenance Company – Hiring now: painters, builders, waterproofing tech, roofers etc.

Several opportunities available – good starting pay plus training provided.

Joinery Company (Henderson) – offering a position to a school leaver interested in doing bespoke joinery.

Construction

Warehousing

Hospitality

Security

Roofing

Demolition

Steel Framing

Formwork/Concreting

Air conditioning Installers – apprenticeship available.

Order stationery now for 2022



You can now order stationery for 2022, and choose to have it delivered straight away or next year.

Get your stationery order started by clicking [here](#)

Sports Update

Young Sportsperson Awards



Congratulations to our winners at College Sport's Young Sportsperson of the Year Awards. Sylvia Brunt was a winner in the All Rounder and Rugby categories, Brendan Kopu-Lowerson and Gabrielle Murare in the Softball category, and Tarin Love in the Squash category.

Basketball Academy Director Daryl Cartwright (pictured above) won the Service to Secondary School award.

Mr Cartwright has served secondary school basketball at MAGS for 16 years, and was the Junior Tall Blacks U19 Men's Assistant coach from 2012-2014 and was promoted to Head coach of the team from 2015-2017. In 2016, the Junior Tall Blacks created history when they won the FIBA Asia Cup to qualify for the 2017 FIBA U19 World Cup. This performance helped Mr Cartwright win the 2016 Basketball New Zealand Coach of the Year award.

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland
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