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

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

Leading MAGS into the New Century



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

We approach the close of our centennial year with a sense of satisfaction about what our MAGS community has achieved in 2022.

Who would have thought after the challenges of the past few years that

Alumni and friends would be able to gather en masse to celebrate our 100-year journey.

It has been a year of looking back and reconnecting with stories from the past. Some of our current MAGS people can boast connections right back to the first days of the school in 1922. We have long-serving teachers on our staff today who began their careers at MAGS alongside some of our foundation staff!

A school reaching 100 years will mean different things to different people. Reminiscing with former classmates about school days, the teachers of the time, the positive (and maybe some not so positive) experiences that remain indelible in the adolescent mind – these themes will be a natural focus for alumni reflecting on their time at school.

But our centenary must be much more than that. It must resonate for both current and future generations attending MAGS. The foundation built across the last 100 years must provide the present

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Friday 27 January, 2023
Senior Course Confirmation
(10.30am-noon)



Thursday, February 2
Year 9s start school.

Friday, February 3
Full school in

Monday, February 6
Waitangi Day

community with confidence to launch into the next 100 years.

MAGS of the future will be different to that which has gone before – and our students will be different. Our Grammar traditions anchor us with a value set that will remain universal across humanity – respect, aspiration, resilience, excellence. But the context in which these values are being developed has changed – and it will continue to evolve rapidly.

We will need the right leaders to navigate this new context – and we have them!

Congratulations to our newly appointed Prefect Executive for 2023. MAGS is in great hands as we enter our next 100 years!

Thank you to all who, this year, have helped make our school such a special place.

Wishing you a safe and restful Christmas break.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

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

Sport



Trials and Registrations

Click [here](#)

Fixtures and Results

Click [here](#)



2023 Prefect Executive announced



Bella Houghton



Head Prefects Olivia Bennett and
Taiarahia Moataane-Mika



Kairo Ah Kuoi-Simich



Nikau Hopwood



Hannah Moy



Andrew Samuels



Kaloni Tovo

Congratulations to the eight members of our 2023 Prefect Executive, who were named this week.

Head Prefects are Olivia Bennett and Taiarahia Moataane-Mika, while their deputies are Kairo Ah Kuoi-Simich, Nikau Hopwood, Bella Houghton, Hannah Moy, Andrew Samuels, Kaloni Tovo.

Prior to the announcement of the executive, our 2023 Prefects were put through their paces at Prefects Camp based at School House from Sunday to Wednesday.

They faced physical challenges such as a rogaine at Piha and taking on the climbing wall, as well as mental challenges such as a pub quiz, making presentations and coming up with solutions to problems thrown at them.

There were also workshops around values, leadership and action plans.



Staff awards recognise excellence



Yesterday, 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 and Albertian John Liddell.

Our caretaker Mike Hull (pictured at top with Mr Moyle) received a huge ovation when he was named as the winner of the Herb Towers Travel Prize for a professional development trip overseas. This award recognises outstanding service to MAGS.

The A Harmos Memorial Award went to Social Science Teacher Cherie Petueli and Head of Junior PE Andrew Scaife (both pictured right). These awards recognise staff who have been exceptional in supporting the school's mentoring programme.

The CP Liddell Staff Awards were presented by John Liddell, who gave some background to how they came about.

He said that he and his brother Chris benefited from the help they got at MAGS after their father passed away and the family hit financial difficulties. Mr Liddell had to work to support the family and he was told by then-Headmaster Maurice Hall to "come to school when he could", while Chris was supported in getting scholarships. Once family members were in a position to support MAGS, they decided on presenting student and staff scholarships each year.

This year they had doubled the number of staff recipients and hoped to fund all the scholarships in perpetuity.

The CP Liddell Staff Awards were presented to HOD Media Studies Simon Allen, Commerce Teacher Ratinder Gill, English Teacher Kelly Johnston and Assistant HOF Science Justin Hinds.

These scholarships are worth \$10,000 each and recognise excellence in teaching and contribution to the school.





CP Liddell Staff Awards were presented to, clockwise from top left, Simon Allen, Ratinder Gill, Kelly Johnston and Justin Hinds.

Junior Prizegiving



Junior Prizegivings on Tuesday wrapped up the school year, with Cameron Lai and Ava Poynter (pictured above with Mr Drumm) being named our Junior Boy and Girl Dux at Year 10 Prizegiving in the morning.

In our Centenary year, this prizegiving also saw the inaugural presentation of the CC Lamb Award.

CC Lamb was our first Head Prefect in 1922, and this financial award honours his legacy while also looking to the future by identifying Juniors with leadership potential who strive for personal excellence. Tim Goulding and Geoff Lamb, relatives of CC Lamb, were on hand to present the award to Nina Chalmers and Daniel Dorrian.

The Junior Victor and Victrix Ludorum for 2022 are Hiro Tau and Nina Chalmers respectively.

Our Junior Arts Duces are Paige Barnes-Kilgour and Hugo Le Cren, while the Best All-Round Year 10s are Sneha Mandadi and Jarom Rowell.

Tyler Yare won the Neville Watson Memorial Prize for the Year 10 Student Who Best Typifies the Spirit of Mount Albert Grammar School, while Paige Barnes-Kilgour and Tammina Harshavardhan were awarded the Paul Gardener Cup for Service.

At Year 9 Prizegiving in the afternoon, Eva Yarrow and Bailey Hamilton were named Best All-Round Year 9 Girl and Boy respectively.

For the first year, cups – named after long-standing staff members – were awarded for Year 9 academic achievement. Vanishka Das received the Elise Goddard Cup, while Joshua Radcliffe received the Greg Cave Cup (as pictured below).

Ailsa Taylor was awarded the Neville Watson Memorial Prize for the Year 9 Student Who Best Typifies the Spirit of Mount Albert Grammar School.

Mr Drumm spoke to both gatherings about this Centenary year when MAGS celebrated its past but continues to look to the future with a building programme that will add 50 classrooms in multi-storey buildings and remove prefabs from the school grounds, thus reclaiming land for playing fields.

He said it was fantastic to be able to celebrate our Academic pillar – the school's most important one – back in the F.W. Gamble Hall with full gatherings of students, staff and



parents.

MCs for the Year 10 Prizegiving were Sasha Tobin and Campbell Buchanan, while Shamla Marikkar and Luca Cartwright ran proceedings for the Year 9 event.

Our Junior Jazz Band performed at both events, playing *Ek Se* for the Year 10s and *Jean Pierre* for the Year 9s.

You can see all the Year 9 and Year 10 awards, and many more photos [here](#)



Centenary Photos and Video available now



A big thank-you to those who supported our Centenary Events this year – for you, and for those who weren't able to attend, there are now photos and a video of these celebrations available.

You can see the Centenary Events Photos [here](#) (as part of '100 Years of Photos' on the MAGS website) and view the Centenary Events Video [here](#). The video was compiled by Albertian Jack Briden (of JAB Videography).

Outdoor Ed hits the ranges



Outdoor Education ended 2022 with two optional multi-day camps in the northern section of the Kaimai Ranges.

Student groups rotated around a mixture of activities, including teamwork exercises, low

ropes, river tubing, tramping, orienteering, river traverse, cooking and camping.

Each camp started with weather bombs, which made setting up tents more challenging. However, once they passed the students were able to enjoy the outdoors.

HOD Outdoor Ed Mr Whitehead said, "Thank you to former student Lydia Finch and teachers Mr A. Belson, Mr N. Coghill, Ms C. Goff, Mr M. Hemera, Ms L. Murray, Mr J. Naylor and Mr R. Ploeg for their help on the camps."



School closedown and reopening dates

The Student Centre, Finance Office and Enrolment Office are now closed for the holidays.

The International Office will close next Friday, December 16 and will be open to receive students and visitors from Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

The Enrolment Office will re-open on Monday, January 23, 2023.

The Student Centre and Finance Office will open again on the first day of school next year, Thursday, 2 February.

The last day that the Lions' Den uniform shop will be open is Thursday, December 15 (3pm-6pm), and then reopens on Monday, January 9, 2023. Full Lion's Den hours can be seen [here](#)

Year 9s start school on Thursday, 2 February, 2023, with the full school in on the next day – Friday, 3 February.



Stationery orders open now



You can avoid the last-minute rush and make your 2023 stationery orders now via the OfficeMax My School site [here](#)

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make back to school easy!

Your child's class list will be uploaded to myschool.co.nz

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Sports Update

Sevens Girls runners-up at nationals



The MAGS Premier Girls team and an invited Development Boys side competed in the Condors National Secondary School 7s Tournament last weekend.

The boys played well throughout the two days and learnt a lot about the game, putting them in good stead for next year. With their youngest player being just 14 and a number of junior players, to have played the eventual winners Hamilton BHS was a great test of courage for the team.

The Girls were AKSS champions and went into the competition with a positive attitude. They won all of their three pool games against Fielding, Southland GHS and Westlake GHS, and played Howick in the quarter-final and then Auckland Girls Grammar in the semifinal. The finals saw them take on Manukura in what was a fantastic display from both teams. Manukura were eventual winners by just one try with the final score 17-12, making MAGS Premier Girls the NZ Secondary School Runners-up.

Five girls were also named in the tournament team: Arlia MacCarthy, Le'Oxeayn Maiu'u, Kaane Maiava, Zahnia Papali'i and Tiane Tavita Fesolai.

Director of Sport Allie Wright said, "Thanks to all the coaches – Tutu Tairea, Danny Tusitala and Rocky Khan – for sharing their wealth of knowledge with the players".



NZ Sevens selections

Congratulations on selection for the New Zealand Under 18 Girls Sevens Team go to students Arlia MacCarthy and Le'Oxeayn Maiu'u, 2022 Leavers Kaane Maiava and Zahnia Papali'i, and Albertian Sylvia Brunt (who also made her international debut for the Black Ferns this year).

The Under 18 Girls are one of four NZ teams that will compete at the 2022 World School Sevens at Pakuranga Rugby Club on December 17-18.

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

Centenary Week
25th Sept - 1st October
<https://mags100.ptly.com>

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