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February 11, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

Academic Excellence – the Class of 2021!

 [Key Dates](#)



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

The recently released 2021 NCEA and New Zealand Scholarship results have been greeted with much celebration by the school.

Despite the significant disruptions across last year, our senior students have triumphed, producing academic results that place us alongside the best schools in the country.

The 104 NZ Scholarships awarded to MAGS students place us in the top 5 schools nationally. Included are two Top Scholar Subject Awards (Matthew Batcheler – Technology, and Marcus Savelio – Dance). Matthew also received an Outstanding Scholar Award along with Year 12 student Deboprana Mallick.

As we launch our Centenary, these achievements remind us of our core business as a school – and the reason MAGS was established 100 years ago deliberately as a grammar school.

Congratulations to the 'Class of 21' and all of our students who excelled academically last year.

You have set the bar high – and MAGS is proud of you!

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Tuesday, February 15
Swimming Sports Day, Mt Albert Aquatic Centre



Thursday, February 17
Athletics Championship Day, MAGS

 **Sport**



Outstanding Scholarship results



Congratulations to Deboprana Mallick and Matthew Batcheler (pictured above, left and right, respectively), who were named Outstanding Scholars when the awards from the 2021 NZ Scholarship exams were announced today.

Matthew was also named the Top Scholar in NZ in Technology as was Marcus Savelio (above centre) in Dance. It is the second year in a row that MAGS has had the Top Scholar in Dance in NZ after Bethany Fletcher won that award in the 2020 exams.

These are fantastic achievements in a challenging year, when MAGS students gained some incredible academic results, with 104 Scholarships, including 11 at Outstanding level, in the 2021 NZ Scholarship exams.

The New Zealand Scholarship results place MAGS fifth overall in schools in the country, with MAGS well above other Decile 7 schools and national averages across almost every single metric in NCEA results when it comes to ethnicities, age groups and gender.

Nine students gained three or more scholarships and will have their names inscribed on our Honours Board.

Matthew Batcheler gained six scholarships (Technology [O], Calculus, Chemistry, Earth & Space Science, Physics and Statistics); Rosa Jack (pictured right) also had six scholarships (Biology, Calculus, Earth & Space Science, English, Geography and Statistics); Harding Gong gained four scholarships (Statistics [O], Biology, Chemistry and English); Cole Hickey gained four scholarships (Calculus, Chemistry, Earth & Space Science and Physics) and also with four scholarships Nicole Muir (Earth & Space

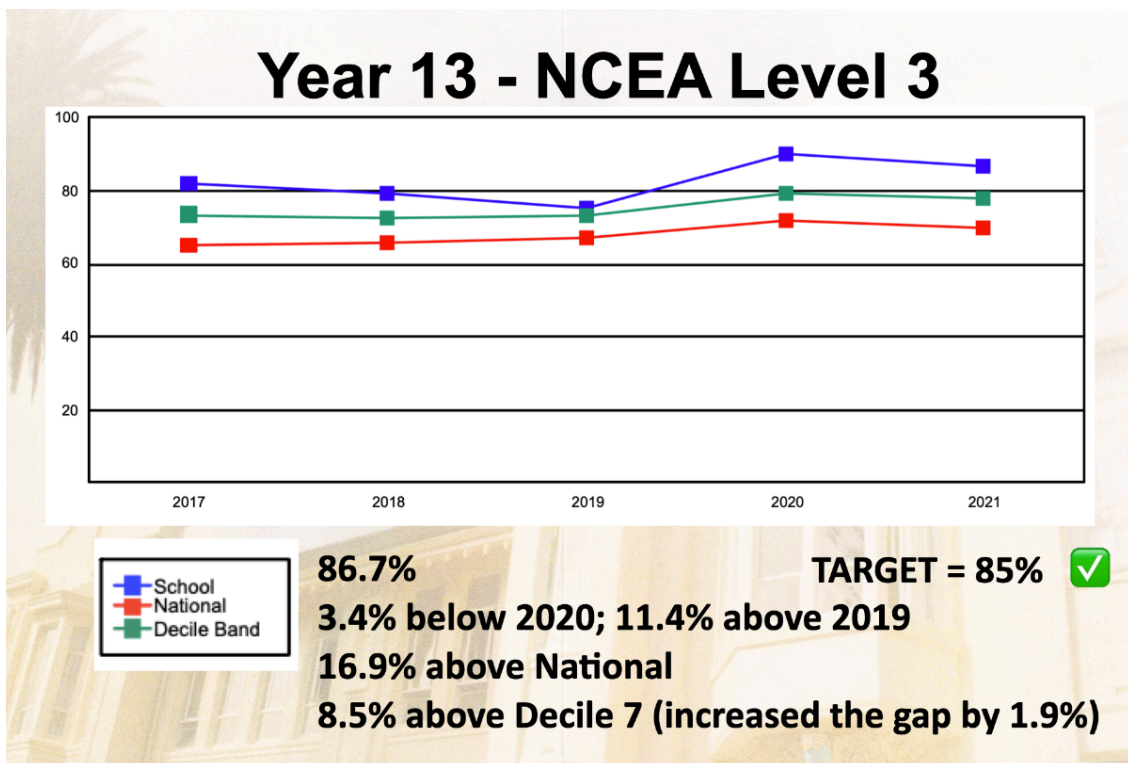


Science, Physics, Statistics and Calculus). Deboprana Mallick – as a Year 12 – gained three scholarships (Calculus [O], Statistics [O] and Physics).

The other students who gained three or more scholarships, and will have their names inscribed on our Honours Board, are Angus Edwards (Calculus, History, Statistics), Rahul Hendriksen (English, History, Media Studies) and Ella Vuetilovoni (Biology, Media Studies, Statistics).

Outstanding Scholarships were also gained by Melissa Barnes (Biology), Samara Brain (Dance), Chloe Innes (Photography), Felicity Marsh (Media Studies), Abigail Miller (Statistics) and Vivienne Hei Man Wong (Statistics).

Outstanding Scholar Awards are worth \$5000 per year for up to three years for tertiary study, Scholarship Awards (three or more Scholarships in the same year) and Top Scholar Awards are worth \$2000 a year for up to three years for tertiary study.



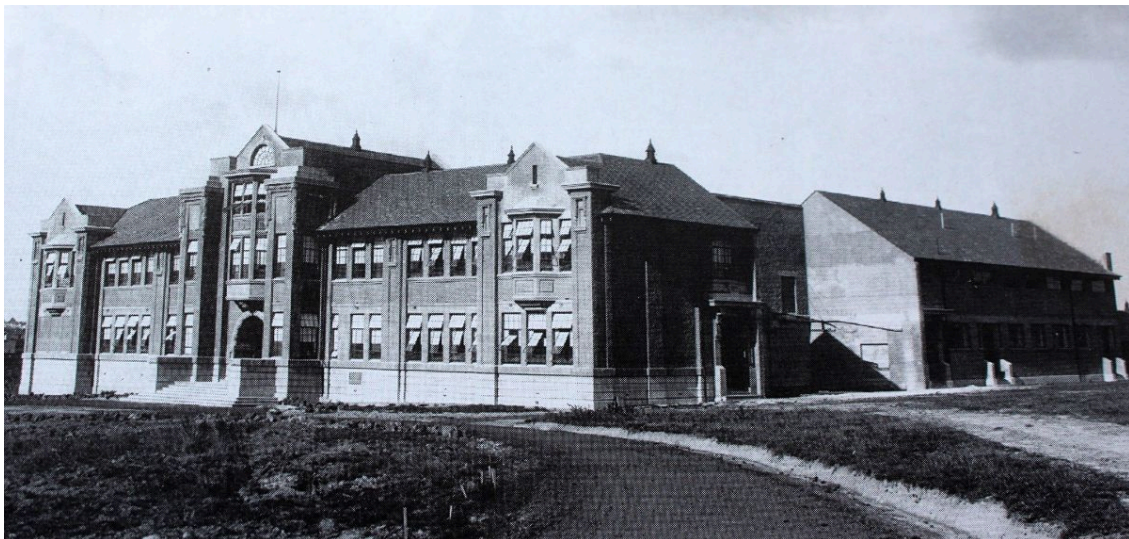
Postponed 2021 prize-givings

At the close of 2021, when at Alert Level 3, we optimistically looked ahead to our 2022 start of year with a view that celebrations of Mount Albert Grammar School 2021 results would be possible, and we previously indicated this intent.

Currently, under the new Covid Protection Framework (CPF), the restrictions in place regarding numbers able to attend events makes it impossible to hold onto this intent. Unable to hold our traditional MAGS prize-givings, we will instead acknowledge prize-winners and celebrate success in peer groups. We will also be able to maintain photographic records and publish an official prize winners' booklet as a keepsake of student successes.

While this is of course disappointing, we thank our school community in anticipation of your collective understanding and support for us maintaining focus on a positive and successful start to the new school year.

100 years ago today



MAGS opened in February 1922, with building work still going on into winter.

The main building, as pictured above in 1922, was complete as far as A6 and B6, with the Science wing (at right rear) still under construction.

Only two other buildings were complete as school started: the shelter shed and toilet block (at the rear of the Science wing) and the caretaker's cottage at the main gate.

In 1922 there were nine forms: 5A and 5B; 4A, 4B and 4C; 3A, Junior 3A (for bright boys under 13 years old), 3B Latin and Commercial 3B (where Bookkeeping was taught instead of Latin).

You can find out more about our Centenary Celebrations [here](#)



School sport and EOTC student participation

With the start of the new school year, and as we settle into both our curricular and co-curricular activities, questions arise regarding current vaccine requirements and expectation for students. The following information may offer some clarity for those who have any queries.

SCHOOL SPORT:



Students wishing to participate in school sport must be vaccinated as per the information below copied from the College Sport Bylaws:

4.5 Participating Schools must ensure that their representatives in College Sport Auckland Competitions (individual or team) are fully vaccinated.

4.6 To be fully vaccinated a person must have received all of the doses of a COVID-19 vaccine or combination of COVID-19 vaccines, administered in accordance with the requirements specified for that vaccine or combination of vaccines, as set out in Schedule 3 of

the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021.1

This ruling applies to all students wishing to participate in sport and represent the school. Naturally, this also applies to all students who are in any of the MAGS sports academies because one of the conditions of inclusion in an academy is to represent the school in the academy code. Simply put, to represent the school in sport or participate in one of the academies, students must be vaccinated.

Note: It is important to realise the **difference** between sport/academy participation requirements and Physical Education (PE) participation requirements.

Physical Education (PE) is a subject that is part of the New Zealand curriculum and under the legislation passed by the government '**Schools are prohibited from requiring students to be vaccinated to access education.**'

Sport at schools is not compulsory and not part of the curriculum and is therefore a co-curricular activity. The MoE has worked with Sport NZ, and co-curricular activities follow the [Sport NZ](#) guidelines. This means that we are able to continue playing if we follow the protocols published by them on their [website](#)

EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM – EOTC:

Parents of students taking Outdoor Education will be aware that students participate in numerous activities that involve using an out of school EOTC provider/service.

Many parents may also be aware that from February 4th, EOTC providers are "now also able to provide curriculum-based activities to schools without requiring all children to be vaccinated". However, it must be emphasised that while providers are 'now also able' this is not a mandate and to be able to do so requires the EOTC provider to "meet a range of requirements".

It is safe to say that while some providers may take this step, others may not because it is their choice. The only way entry for students to be guaranteed to EOTC providers and

facilities is if students are vaccinated and have a Vaccine Pass.

In summary, the information above explains the expectations and rulings for participation in Sport and EOTC, and the difference with PE. These expectations and rulings are set for all schools by the Ministry of Education and Sport New Zealand.



National art award winner

Congratulations to Jessica Gurnsey, a Year 13 Visual Arts student in 2021, who has won her 15-19 age group category and beat all the other finalists to win the Overall Categories Award at the National Youth Art Awards 2021 for her painting *Can I Say Something...?*



The award ceremony and exhibition, hosted by the Waikato Society of Arts, had been delayed, due to Covid, with the awards – judged by Diane Scott and

James Ormsby – announced last night. Jessica picked up (\$2000) for her age group win and \$1500 for the Overall Categories Award.



Choir muster and Megacrew auditions



Students have the opportunity to join our fantastic choral programme next week. These choirs will be involved in Centenary events and also preparing to represent MAGS at The Big Sing. The Centennial Boys choir and The Gloriana Girls choir will both be opening to new and returning members next week, on Wednesday, February 16. Please note times for the muster and meeting, and ensure that if you would like to be part of this, but cannot attend on that day, that you email Ms Cesan so an alternate time can be arranged.

CENTENNIAL BOYS CHOIR (HALL)

Wednesday, February 16, Period 2 – All NEW Year 9 Boys. Period 3 – Year 10 and 11 Boys (new, and those already part of choir). Period 4 – All Year 12 and 13 boys (new, and those already part of choir).

LUNCHTIME: All boys who attended the musters.

GLORIANA GIRLS CHOIR (HALL)

Wednesday, February 16, Period 5 – 2.10pm-3.30pm – ALL SENIORS (Year 11,12,13). 3.30pm-5pm – All Year 9 and 10s.

MOUNT ALBERT GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MEGACREW AUDITIONS!

SENIORS: Tuesday 15th February 3:30 – 5:30pm in E10

JUNIORS: Thursday 17th February 3:30 – 5:30pm in E10

All inquiries to Director of Arts Jacqui Cesan jcesan@mags.school.nz



Stationery order delays

OfficeMax advises that some stationery orders have been delayed, particularly those ordered after the recommended date.

A record number of late orders combined with the additional social distancing measures (under Red Light rules) in distribution centres has caused delays with sending out orders. You can see more information about stationery on the MAGS website [here](#)

Enrol for 2022 Music lessons now

Students must sign up online if they want music lessons this year.

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

Please complete the form 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.



Keep up to date with app

Keep up to date with the MAGS app – free from the App Store or Google Play.

Search for “SchoolAppsNZ”, and load the app on to your phone.

You can then search for and add as many schools as you want so you can receive alerts from multiple schools.

MAGS parents can access school newsletters (under 'Links'), Daily Notices, the Kamar portal, teachers' contact details, and notify the school about absences.

If you are using the app to notify the school about absences, please load and use the child's Student ID Number as this helps to log absences more effectively.

On the app, parents and students can check the School Calendar and sync events with their own calendars, and choose groups about which they wish to receive alerts.

MAGS also has its own [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) pages where news, photos and videos about school life are posted.



Vacancies at MAGS

Receptionist/Secretary

We are seeking an experienced receptionist/secretary to provide secretarial support to the Senior Leadership Team in conjunction with duties as the receptionist in the main school office.

This position is permanent, with hours of work 8.00am to 4.00 pm, during school term time only.

Click [here](#) for the job description, and [here](#) to download a copy of the application form.

Gateway Co-Ordinator/Careers Administration

We are looking for an experienced person to join the Careers Department to co-ordinate the Gateway programme and provide administration support to the Head of Department. Gateway provides students with the opportunity to undertake learning and assessment in workplaces.

We require a person who is comfortable working with a range of people (students, families, and workplaces) – over the phone, via email and face-to-face.

Click [here](#) for the job description, and [here](#) to download a copy of the application form.

For both positions, please send your cover letter, completed Mount Albert Grammar School staff application form and CV to shayes@mags.school.nz.

Public transport timetables

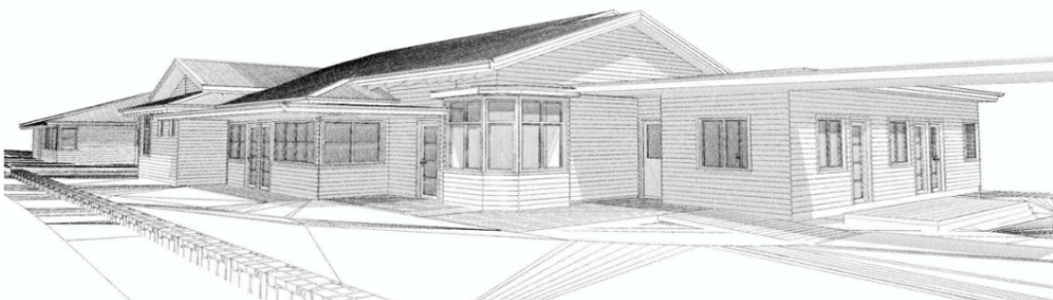
Auckland Transport's bus, ferry and train services have returned to full timetables. AT advises that there is a chance that, as the current Omicron outbreak spreads, there will be staff shortages that will impact on the delivery of services as a result of staff calling in sick or having to go into isolation. For this reason, services may be cut at short notice.



Please check before you travel by planning your journey online through the [AT Journey Planner](#) or on the [AT Mobile App](#)

Updates on any short-notice cancellations will be posted on these sites first.

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

Scout's big adventures

The 1924 report on Scout WEB Dunningham said that he was part of the Dominion's Premier Troup, Grey Lynn.

He was a King's Scout and won 31 proficiency badges.

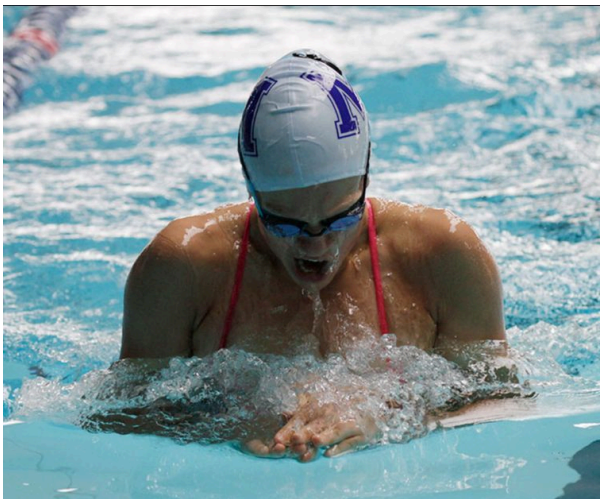
In May he sailed by the S.S. Arawa via Panama, and "according to letters received he has toured the British Isles and has been the guest of Lord and Lady Liverpool for a week. He has visited Denmark and other parts of the Continent and sailed for New Zealand via Suez, by the S.S. Moreton Bay on September 23rd".

This image is part of Set 64, recently added to our website's [Historical Images](#), compiled and annotated by our Archivist Brian Murphy.



Sports Update

Swimming and Athletics champs next week



The MAGS Athletics Championship Day (next Thursday, February 17) will now be held at MAGS, not Mt Smart Stadium as originally planned.

No spectators are permitted for the Athletics or for the MAGS Swimming Sports Day, to be held next Tuesday, February 15, at the Mt Albert Aquatic Centre.)

You can see the event schedule for the Athletics Champs [here](#)

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

A Tradition of Excellence
9th-14th May 2022

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