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February 14, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Leadership as Service



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

One hundred and fourteen MAGS students were inducted into their formal leadership roles at today's Senior Leadership Assembly.

Our 2020 leaders have emerged from the four pillars of our school – Academic, Arts and Culture, Sport and Service. They have excelled during their time to date at MAGS and are now charged with leading their peers in the time ahead.

Regardless of the context, leadership at MAGS will first and foremost be a service activity. Success of our leaders will ultimately be measured through the empowerment and engagement of their followers – their fellow MAGS students.

2020 promises to be a special year for leadership on a broader scale. Conflicting ideals of what it means to be a leader are certain to come to the fore as our nation and others choose their political leaders for the future.

It will be undoubtedly be a time of some uncertainty. Contrast this with the certainty and confidence we enjoy as a school – confidence that stems from the character present in our school leaders.

Thank you to our student leaders who have accepted their role as guardians of our school culture. And congratulations to family and whanau who have walked the journey with you to date. We are in safe hands for the year ahead!

Have a good weekend.



Weekly Notices

Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

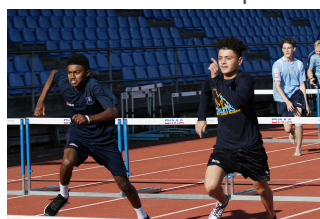


Monday, February 17
Scholars Assembly, 11.30am

Thursday, February 20
MAGS Swim Sports Day

Sport

Photo Essay
MAGS Athletics Champs



Click [here](#)

Trials and registrations
Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results
Click [here](#)

Senior Leadership Assembly



With Headmaster Patrick Drumm are the Head Prefect Executive of, from left, Finn Helm, Eric Shen (Head Boy), Adithya Ashok, Tayla Bamber, Megan Williams (Head Girl), Niuva Pomare-Khanna, Bethany Fletcher and Ronette Va'ai.

At today's Senior Leadership Assembly, the school's Prefects, Arts Leaders, Cultural Leaders and Sports Captains for 2019 were recognised and presented with badges. One hundred and fourteen leaders from across the school were recognised and challenged to bring out the best in their peers.

Last year's Head Boy Germain Hellriegel-White and Head Girl Takunda Muzondiwa handed over the korowai (donated by the Gallagher family) to new Head Boy Eric Shen and Head Girl Megan Williams.

For a full list of MAGS' Arts and Culture Leaders, Sports Captains and Prefects, click [here](#)
For more photos from the Assembly, click [here](#)

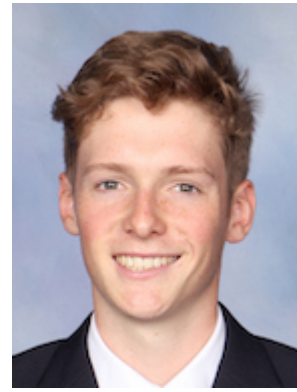
MAGS' two Outstanding Scholars

Congratulations to Thomas Brendolise (pictured left), who had the top mark in French nationwide, and Adam Bateman (right) – both named as Outstanding Scholars in the 2019 NZ Scholarship exams.



As a Top Subject Scholar, Thomas will be invited to the Top Scholar Awards Ceremony held at Parliament. He also receives \$2000 a year for three years towards tertiary studies.

To be an Outstanding Scholar, students must achieve three Scholarships including at least two at Outstanding (O) level, or more than three Scholarships including at least one at Outstanding



level in the same year to qualify for consideration. There were 58 winners of this award nationally in 2019 and these students gain \$5000 per year for three years.

Adam, last year's Proxime Accessit, gained six Scholarships – in English, Biology (Outstanding), Chemistry, Physics, Statistics and Calculus; while Thomas had two Outstandings among his three Scholarships in English, French (O) and Biology (O).

Their names will be inscribed on the Honours Board along with the following students with three or more Scholarships: Jamila Chen – English, Biology, Calculus; Mitchell Shaw-Lewis – Physics, Statistics, Calculus (O); Tara Falconer – English, Design, Photography; Alexander Pullen – Physics, Earth & Space Science, Statistics and Calculus; Eric Shen – English, Statistics, Technology (O); Stephen Stuart – Biology, Earth & Space Science, Statistics; Eva Williams – Dance, History, Health and Physical Education; and Vaibhav Nayyar – English, Statistics, Health and Physical Education.

They were among the many high-achieving students at MAGS who delivered remarkable academic results with 104 Scholarships, including nine at Outstanding level, in the Scholarship exams.

Congratulations to all our Scholarship recipients, who are listed [here](#)

The Scholars Assembly to recognise these students and students who were endorsed with Excellence will be held at MAGS on Monday, February 17 at 11.30am.

Pasifika Prefects for 2020



At the first Pasifika Assembly of the year today, students were introduced to the Pasifika Prefects for 2020. Boys, from left, are: Sila Esekielu, Tuiaki 'Otulau, Iosefa Ulugia-Pua, Sataan Tawera and Quinton Nichols. Girls, from left, are: Ronette Va'ai, Milan Stevenson, Kailah Johnson, Ruby Maoate and Latonya Lole.



The guest speaker today was actor and comedian Tofiga Fepulea'i (pictured left), one of The Laughing Samoans. He had the audience in stitches of laughter as he told stories and cracked jokes about his Samoan heritage, his parents and his school days. But he also had a serious message to students about believing in themselves, surrounding themselves with good friends and making the most of their school days and the teachers who were there to help them. He said he was a beneficiary of his parents' enormous faith, passion and willpower – qualities that Pasifika students should draw upon to make their mark in the world.

Four records fall at Athletics Champs



Main Photo: Darcy Vasquez

Yesterday's MAGS Athletics Day at Mt Smart Stadium was a huge success with great participation and four records being broken. Zayyaan Smith (pictured above centre) broke three school records: Intermediate Girls Long Jump (5.77m), 100m (12.16s) and 200m (25.04s); while Yoko Tsukushi set a record for the Senior Girls Shot Put with a throw of 11.95m, superseding the 2007 best set by Te Rina Keenan.

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



Arts Update



It is a busy time for performers with two major competitions this term. Firstly, PolyFest, which involves our Kapa Haka team and Samoan, Cook Island, Tongan and Niuean groups and also Indian and Chinese groups. All groups are practising lunchtimes, after school and weekends to be ready for this event. As well, MAGS Megacrew has held auditions (pictured above) for the crew that will defend their national 'Megaschools champion' title in April this year. Over 140 dancers vied for one of the 40 available slots. The megacrew leaders were amazed at the very high standard of all those dancers and it was a hard decision to select the final team. Because of the very high standard, HOD Dance Samantha French is considering having a second team to represent MAGS at events later in the year.

Get involved with the Art Show

The Mount Albert Grammar School Art Show is a highlight of the school calendar, and it is a lot of fun to be a part of the team that makes it happen. As well as raising funds for the school, it brings our school and local community together to enjoy a show of talented New Zealand artists and our top MAGS student visual and performing artists. We are looking for new volunteers to help organise this year's show and also to help over the weekend of the show. Please express your interest by filling in [this form](#) and we'll be in touch soon.

The Art Show is coming in August 2020 (confirmed date coming soon). www.magsartshow.co.nz



Year 9 Parents' Evening



Year 9 parents and their children packed out the FW Gamble Hall on Tuesday evening as they took the opportunity to meet Mentor Teachers and Peer Support Leaders. The evening began with light refreshments followed by a welcome from Headmaster Patrick Drumm, who outlined the school's vision and strategic plan. Parents were also introduced to the Deputy Principals responsible for the Junior School, Sarah Hayes and Tom Murdoch, and Year 9 Deans Shelley Mackinlay-Milne (Boys) and Claudia Goff (Girls) as well as other senior staff members.

Duke of Ed Gold Journey



Last week, seven Year 13 girls flew down to Nelson to begin a four-day journey through the Nelson Lakes region. Duke of Ed Coordinator Andy Belson said the group had planned the trip in December and were determined to make it happen. They booked flights, accommodation, huts, shuttles and the routes to be walked, making it a first trip to the Lakes for Caitlin Mitchell, Claudia Woods, Jydee Leonard, Ayleigh Loomes, Norah Anderson, Eleanor Cullen and Mackenzie Brabant.

Mr Belson said, "After arriving and spending the night in a not-so-luxurious backpackers, we set off for St Arnaud to begin the journey. A good walk into Speargrass Hut in fine weather was a good start. The following day was again fine and we climbed the Speargrass Track to Mt Angelus Hut for amazing views at the top. The weather changed in the afternoon but this did not stop a swim in the freezing Angelus Lake! The third day was a long, steep downhill on the Cascade Track, ending at Coldwater Hut on Lake Rotoiti. The final day saw the group walk out along the Lakehead Track to St Arnaud.

"They were well-prepared, organised, showed good leadership and a had a great sense of humour, especially when beating me constantly at cards! They have worked hard to complete this section and now will carry on to complete the rest of this prestigious award. The girls were an absolute credit to the school and to themselves and I would like to thank them for organising this awesome journey."



More historical photos on website



Over the coming weeks, more historical images will be added to the website [here](#)

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

The image at left is of the Steeplechase Shield. Although this Shield for form competition began with the 1925 win by Latin 3B, it was actually presented by RD Brown in 1927.

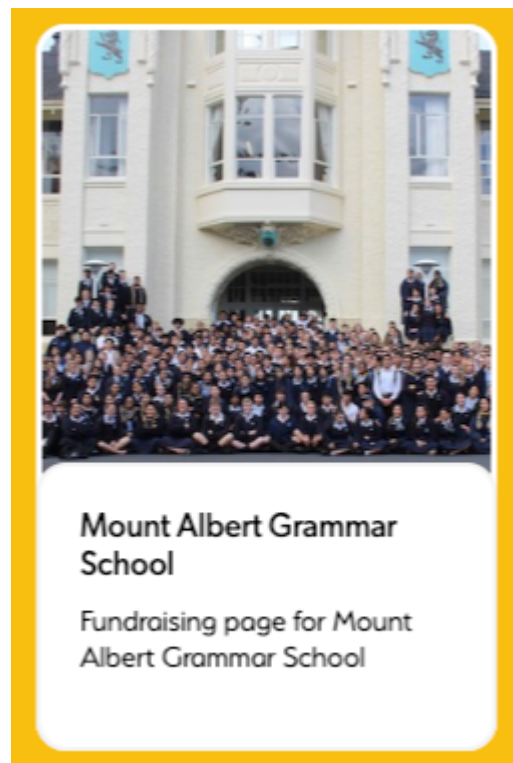
Support MAGS with Rewardhub

We're excited to share with the MAGS community a way to raise funds for the school that costs you nothing and can even save you money on your purchases.

MAGS has joined with [Rewardhub](#), a website where more than 100 leading brands will reward us with free donations, at no extra cost to you, when you shop online via Rewardhub and are signed up to support us.

It's an easy place to shop and includes special discount codes on big brands in fashion, beauty, entertainment, travel, utilities, money, homeware, food, drink and more.

To learn more and sign up to our page, please click [here](#)



Sign up to the Centenary database



As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, 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.

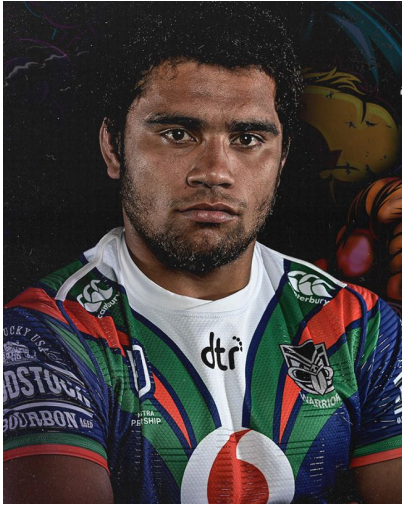
Sports update

Albertians in NZ U20s Rugby squad

Congratulations to Albertians Terrell Peita and Soane Vikena, who have been named in the New Zealand Under 20 squad to attend a development camp in Palmerston North next month.

This will be the first of two camps in preparation for the Oceania Under 20 Championship in April and ultimately the World Rugby Under 20 Championship in Italy in July.

Isaiah to captain Warriors Nines



Isaiah Papali'i has continued his rapid rise in rugby league, becoming the youngest captain of a NZ Warriors senior team after being named to lead the club at the Perth NRL Nines, which starts tonight.

Isaiah, who is 21 years old, goes into the tournament with a career total of 48 NRL games after making his debut as an 18-year-old in 2017.

He made his Test debuts for both Toa Samoa and the Kiwis in 2018.

Trials and registrations

Trials and registrations are being rolled out for a number of sports.

You can now sign up for softball, water polo, volleyball, tennis, hockey, aquathon, table tennis and football.

Trials and registrations are posted on the website [here](#) and will also appear in the Daily Notices, accessed via the website or the MAGS App.

Free Lawn Bowls introduction



Rocky Nook Bowls Club, in Fowlds Park, is offering MAGS students a free introduction to Lawn Bowls on Wednesday, 19 February, from 3.30-5pm.

All equipment is provided. After the introductory sessions, coaching and practice will be held weekly on Wednesdays from 3.30-5pm, Term 1 and 4.

Club membership fees will be \$20 for the calendar year, which includes use of club bowls, plus a separate fee of \$10 for any inter-school competition.

Click [here](#) for more information.



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