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February 21, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

The Scholar Lion



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

This week we acknowledged the outstanding academic achievement of our students in the 2019 NCEA and Scholarship Examinations.

Three hundred and sixty students were awarded a Scholar Lion for gaining their NCEA Certificate endorsed with

Excellence – our best ever result!

Gaining an Excellence Endorsement requires students to achieve at least 50 credits at an Excellence Level. This is a significant challenge and the school congratulates the large number of senior students who reached this benchmark.

Our success with MAGS students gaining 104 New Zealand Scholarships places us in the top six schools in New Zealand. Highlighted within this group was our Boys Dux Adam Bateman (six Scholarships), who was named as a National Outstanding Scholar along with Thomas Brendolise, who gained First Place in New Zealand for French and will be acknowledged at the Prime Minister's Awards in Wellington in May.



Our Academic Honours Board will see 10 new names added to recognise students who gained three or more Scholarships. Our Scholars' Assembly celebrates the primary pillar of our school. We pride ourselves on the breadth of a MAGS education but the ultimate measure of success will always be viewed through an academic lens.

Congratulations to all of our Scholar Lion recipients and their families. You have set the bar high for the 2020 cohort! And thank you to our MAGS staff, who have helped lift the achievements of our students to new heights.

Have a good weekend.

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Friday, February 28

Class and ID photos



Friday, March 6

Relay for Life Mufti Day



Sport

Photo Essay

Cricket Boys 1st XI v Saint Kentigern College



Click [here](#)

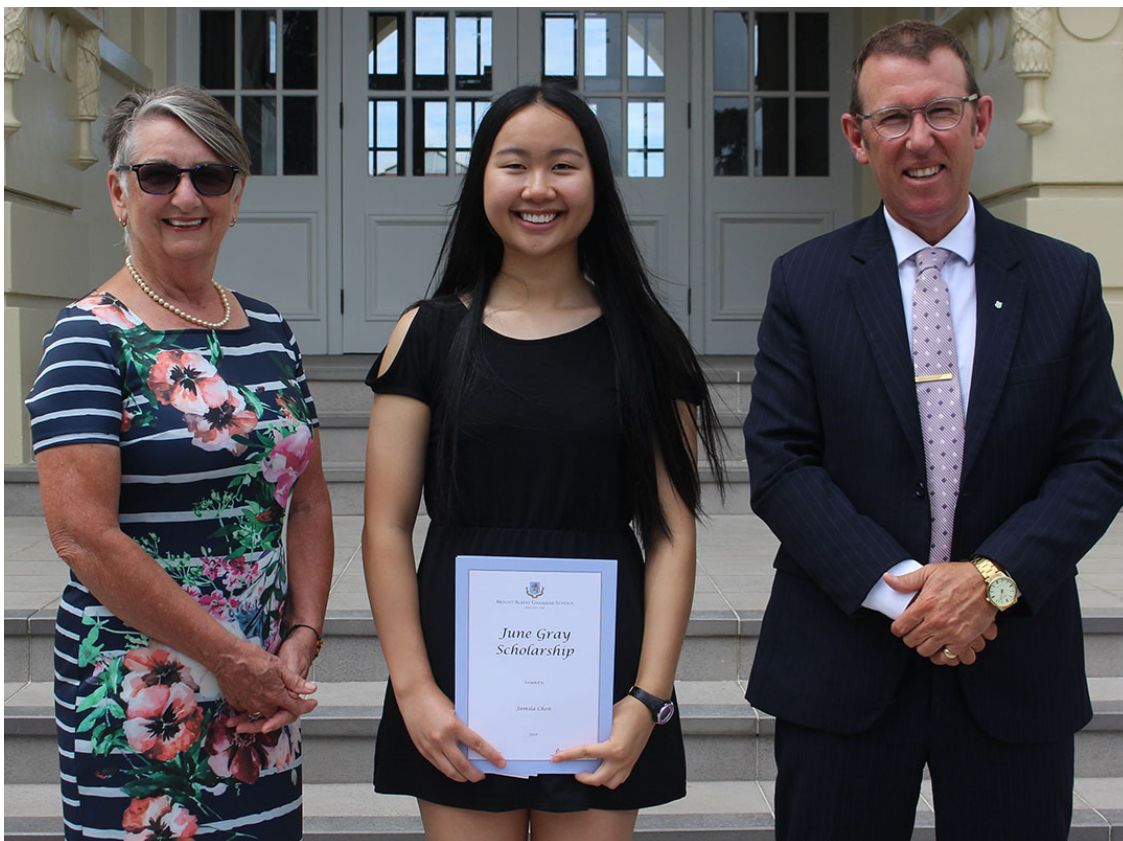
Trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Academic excellence celebrated



Jamila Chen followed in the footsteps of her sister Jessica to become the recipient of the June Gray Charitable Trust Tertiary Education Scholarship (worth \$2500 per year for three years), which was presented to her by June Gray Trustee Noeleen Taylor, pictured at left. Jessica was awarded the scholarship in 2016.

Many of MAGS' top academics returned to school on Monday to be recognised at the annual Scholars Assembly. Thomas Brendolise, who had the top mark in French nationwide, and our Boys Dux Adam Bateman (pictured right with Headmaster Patrick Drumm) – were both recognised as Outstanding Scholars following the 2019 NZ Scholarship exams.

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 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).

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.

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; Head Boy 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.

For more photos from the Assembly and a full list of Scholar Lions, Scholarship winners and the citations for our top scholars, click [here](#)

Records tumble at Swimming Champs



Twelve school records were broken at the MAGS Swimming Sports Championships yesterday at the Mt Albert Aquatic Centre.

Brearna Crawford was on form as usual, breaking records in all of her seven events entered in the Senior Girls division. Brearna now holds a total of 20 records throughout her time at MAGS. Quin Walden set three records, including the Intermediate Boys 100m IM record in which two other swimmers also went under the old time.

Edie Ancell and Bowen Crawford also broke a record each, Bowen improving on his own

record in the Intermediate Boys 100m Breaststroke.

The top swimmers are now aiming to continue their strong swimming at the Central Zone Champs next week.

For more photos from the meet, click [here](#) and for full results, click [here](#)

Champion rower inspires next generation



Albertian and Olympic rowing gold medallist Shane O'Brien (pictured right) returned to MAGS yesterday to inspire the next generation of rowers.

He spoke to MAGSRow members about what it took to reach the top in rowing and told the students that the discipline and commitment required could and should be translated to their academic studies and general school life.

Mr O'Brien's gold medal celebration (pictured above him and the assembled group of rowers) is part of the montage of successful Albertian sportspeople that covers the walls of the refurbished Gym 1.

He was a Prefect at MAGS in 1978 and Rowing VIII captain in the same year, as well as playing First XV Rugby. He won gold in the Coxless Four at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Mr O'Brien also competed at the 1986 Commonwealth Games in



Edinburgh, winning a silver medal in the Coxless Four and a bronze in the Eights. Mr O'Brien returned to teach at MAGS for a time, taught in England for 20 years, and is now Director of Jumeira English Speaking School in Dubai.

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



More historical photos on website

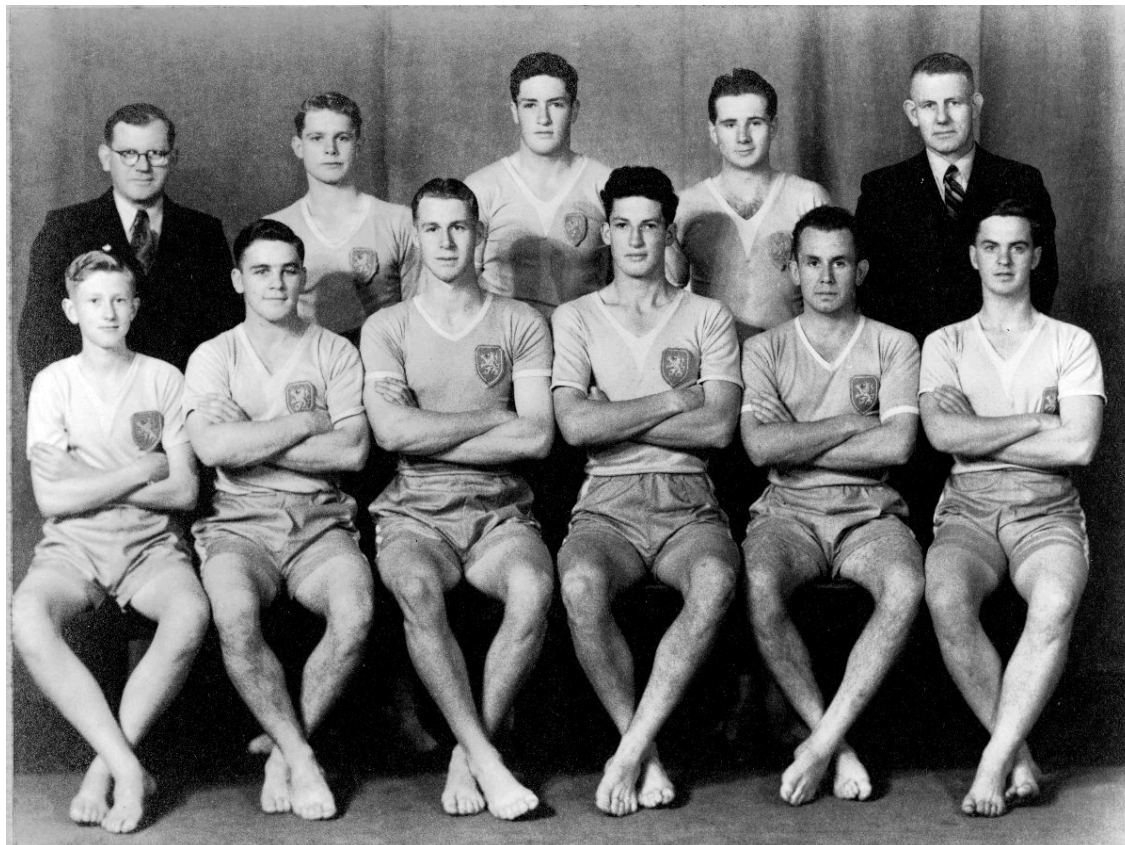


Over the coming weeks, more historical images will be added to the website [here](#). This is an ongoing collection of images sourced and annotated by our archivist Brian Murphy.

The image above is of boys canoeing at the Annual House picnic at Milford in early

December 1936. Their surnames are given as Bull, McClure, Williams, Watkins, Jones, Wickham and Genge.

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

MAGS Football partners with Melbourne Victory



MAGS hosted a Melbourne Victory training run last year, with Football Academy members watching on.

Mount Albert Grammar School has been chosen by the Melbourne Victory Football Club to host a Pre Academy Centre in April.

As part of the Victory's drive to develop youth football, the Pre Academy Centre will visit MAGS on 22-24 April and will feature a number of the club's Academy Coaches from the Hyundai A-League and Westfield W-League programs.

The Pre Academy Centres in regional areas are for boys and girls aged 9-14 and provide insight and exposure to the club's Academy system.

MAGS' Director of Football Peter Smith was instrumental in ensuring this event took place.

"Mount Albert Grammar School is excited to be establishing this partnership with Melbourne Victory, one of the most successful clubs in Australia with a rich history in developing young talent," Mr Smith said.

"Melbourne Victory's playing model is one we have looked to emulate through our Football Academy and this partnership allows us to provide further identification opportunities and a clear pathway for young footballers both at Mount Albert Grammar School and beyond through the Pre Academy Centre hosted at the School."

For the full story, click [here](#)

Mikayla Cross in NZ team



Congratulations to outfielder Mikayla Cross, who has been named in the New Zealand Junior White Sox team to compete in the WBSC U18 Women's Softball World Cup in Lima, Peru in August.

Head of the Harbour medal haul



Fifty seven MAGS students raced at Head of the Harbour regatta last Saturday, finishing the day with three gold (Boys U16 Single, BU16 Double, BU18 Novice Four), four silver (BU16 Four, BU18 Novice Eight, BU15 Four, Girls U15 Double) and one bronze medals (GU16 Eight).

For the first time in five years the weather was on our side and the entire race schedule was completed.

Orienteering team dominates podium



MAGS' orienteers won five of the six races in the first Sprint Series of the year held at Waitakere College last week as well as taking 15 of the 18 podium positions. There were wins for Luke Clements, Ayleigh Loomes, Daniel Wood/Callum Wishart, Molly McGowan and Felix McElwee, giving MAGS an excellent start to the year with four more races to follow.

Trials and registrations

Trials and registrations are being rolled out for a number of sports. You can now sign up for basketball, hockey, badminton, rugby, 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.



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