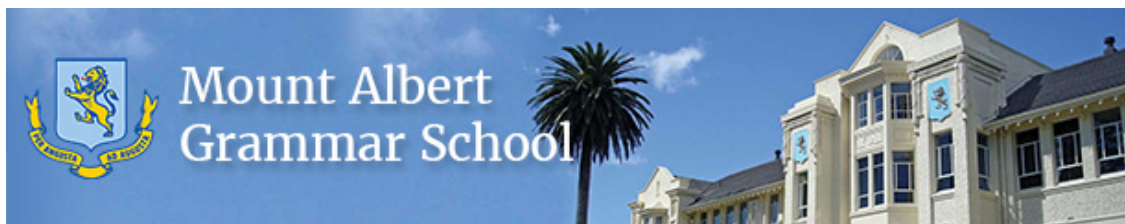




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February 3, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

The Best Laid Plans



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

Our thoughts are with our MAGS families who have been impacted by the recent floods.

This time last week I was messaging the community in anticipation of the imminent return of students and the life they would breathe back into our school.

Little did we know what was in store for us in the hours ahead and the part the Auckland weather was going to play in our plans for the upcoming week.

But here we are again, going into a long weekend with the hope of welcoming our new Year 9 students back into MAGS next Tuesday.

2023 was to be our first 'normal' start to a school year since 2020 ... but if anything, the last few years have helped to battle-harden us to manage disruptions at short notice.

And manage we will!

Our MAGS students can return next week full of confidence that they will be successful in the year ahead. Our school is ready ... our teachers are ready!

Thank you to our staff and wider MAGS community who have reached out to those in need over the past week.

Let's hope the sun comes out for Waitangi weekend.

Patrick Drumm

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Tuesday, February 7

Year 9s start school, assemble at 8.30am, Albertian Quad

Wednesday, February 8

Full school starts

Thursday, February 16

Swimming Sports Championships, Mt Albert Aquatic Centre

Wednesday, February 23

Athletics Championships, Lovelock Track

Sport



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.

Trials and Registrations

Click [here](#)

Donate to the Lion Fund now

Fixtures and Results

Click [here](#)



Senior Leadership Team expanded



From left: Headmaster Patrick Drumm with Deputy Principals Allie Wright, Christine Cato, Corey Todd and Sarah Hayes, Associate Principal Jo Williams, and Deputy Principals John

Stradwick, Toby Powell and Tanya Rose.

Our school's Senior Leadership Team has been expanded and strengthened with the addition of Allie Wright as a Deputy Principal and the confirmation of Christine Cato and Toby Powell as Deputy Principals (after acting in those roles last year).

Ms Wright, formerly our Director of Sport, will oversee Year 11s, Alumni, Social Media and Communications, Science, Sports, and the ASB MAGS Farm project.

Mrs Cato, who was HOF Social Sciences before being appointed Acting Deputy Principal, will oversee Te Puna o Wairaka and Languages as well as the school-wide staff professional learning programme.

Mr Powell, who was a Dean and Assistant Director of School House, will oversee Junior Boys, School Assemblies, and the Health, Outdoor Ed and PE Faculty.

You can find out more about our Senior Leadership team [here](#)

MAGS has also appointed two Assistant Principals – Jess Lythe and Milica Moon – to help with the day-to-day running of the school.



Ms Lythe (pictured left) has been in education for more than 20 years. She grew up in Mt Albert in a community-minded family with her brothers attending MAGS.

She has held various leadership roles in Health and Physical Education, most recently as Head of Faculty. She has been instrumental in the development of the junior and senior Health programme at MAGS and was a Dean for a number of years. She is also currently involved in work for the Ministry of Education in Health.

With a passion for health and wellbeing and an understanding of the importance of a whole school approach, Ms Lythe looks forward to using her knowledge and experience to support the pastoral care team. She is also looking forward to working on student wellbeing initiatives and making a positive difference to the lives of young people in our community.

Jess lives on site at School House with her partner Tane, who is also a teacher. She also has family members who attend MAGS.



Mrs Moon (pictured left) joined MAGS in 2002, and became our Head of Arts Faculty and Head of Music. She previously taught at One Tree Hill College (HoD), Waitakere College and Avondale College. Prior to arriving in New Zealand she taught at Ljuba Nenadovic Junior High School.

Mrs Moon grew up in Belgrade, Serbia, where she obtained a Diploma in Music Management, a Bachelor of Music and, later, a Master of Music Pedagogy, and in 2016 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in London.

She has conducted the school orchestra at the Sydney Opera House, and taken music tours to Melbourne and New York.

Among her new duties will be overseeing Unitec courses, relief teaching and staff duty, and organising school-wide formal photos.

Mrs Moon and her husband Paul have four children.



Yesterday, staff gathered in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room for a welcome from Headmaster Patrick Drumm, an overview of the start to the school year from Associate Principal Jo Williams, and a detailed look at NCEA results from Deputy Principal Tanya Rose. New staff also got a warm welcome when they introduced themselves to their colleagues.

School starts next week

The school year at MAGS starts next week, with Year 9s beginning on Tuesday, February 7, and gathering in the Albertian Quad at 8.30am before assembling in the F.W. Gamble Hall for a pōhiri for them and new staff.

The rest of our students, including Year 10s new to MAGS, start school on Wednesday, February 8.

An email was sent out to parents today about further arrangements for the start of the school year and can be read [here](#)

The MAGS App

Keep up to date with school news and events on the MAGS App – free from the App Store or Google Play. MAGS parents can instantly access school announcements, Daily Notices, the Kamar portal, teachers' contact details, and notify the School if your child is absent. When notifying absences, you need to load your child's Student ID number. You should only need to do this once, and this helps us record absences more easily.

Parents and students can check the School Calendar and sync chosen events with their own Calendar, and choose Groups about which they wish to receive Alert Notifications.



There are links to the MAGS Newsletter, Sports, Maps, and more ...

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 form multiple schools. If you are having trouble with this, click [here](#) to see how.

Sports Trials and Registrations

Student should go to the MAGS website [here](#) to sign up for sports or trials as the Summer Sport season gets underway in the next fortnight for some sports, and our Athletics and Swimming Championships are not far off.

All the registration forms for the Term 1 Summer Sport season are up now on the website [here](#)

Uniform

The Lions' Den uniform shop is closed for Waitangi Day but open 8am-9am for the rest of the week. The opening hours can be seen [here](#)

Assistance for flood-affected families



MAGS is running collections for those in our community affected by the recent flooding. There will be collection bins in the Student Centre for the next two weeks, and students who are in a position to help should place their contributions there.

The following items are needed:

- Bedding (sheets, pillows), blankets, towels
- Food items (e.g. canned goods, flour, noodles)

- Cleaning supplies (e.g. mops)
- Toiletries
- Kitchen items (e.g. plates, cutlery, rubbish bags)
- Appliances (e.g. dehumidifiers)
- Uniforms

If you would prefer to donate money, you can donate to the Lion Fund [here](#) and help out families at school who may now be struggling with beginning of year costs like uniforms.

Sports Update

Junior Boys Orienteers picked for World Champs

MAGS' Junior Boys Orienteers have been selected to represent New Zealand at the U15 World Schools Orienteering Championships.

The World Schools Orienteering Championships is held under the auspices of the International School Sport Federation (ISF) and is being run as part of the 2nd ISF U15 Gymnasiade in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil this August.

This is an event for students born in 2008, 2009 and 2010. Team selection will be made in April so look out for Orienteering information in School Notices. There are six places available on the team.

Click [here](#) to register for the Sprint Series that starts on Monday, February 13.

Three Archers selected for NZ team



The MAGS archery squad has three archers in the NZ Trans Tasman team: Nick Lees, Phoebe Newcombe and Lily Brislen (a Year 13 last year).

Lily (above right) and Nick (below left) will compete in the U21 Recurve, while Phoebe (above left) will contest the U16 Recurve at the 2023 Trans Tasman Challenge in Adelaide on April 7-11.

All three enjoyed success at the National Archery Championships held in Cambridge last



month. Phoebe won two golds in the Matchplay teams, and a silver and a bronze from the Target and Matchplay individual competitions in the Under 16 Women's Recurve division. Nick won gold in the Under 21 Men's Clout, silver in the Target and gold in the Matchplay. He was awarded the Junior Clout Championship trophy. Lily won gold in the Under 21 Women's Target, bronze in the Open Women's Matchplay, and the

Junior Women's Target trophy for the year.

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A Tradition of Excellence

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