



January 31, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Setting the Standard



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

We come to the end of a fantastic first week at Mount Albert Grammar School.

Our new Year 9 cohort has quickly settled into their new school and are now calling it their own. The whole school moved onto full timetable on Wednesday thanks to the planning

and organisation by curriculum and pastoral staff.

It is the time of the year for establishing routines and expectations. Uniform, personal grooming, being organised, and the words we choose – these all carry huge importance as we start into the school year.

How students present themselves for school each day sends a message about the value they place on their learning.

As a school we make no apologies for setting the highest expectations around these precursors to learning. MAGS students will be under no illusion as to their responsibilities here.

Our MAGS Way Values provide a blueprint so a community of 3500 students and staff can create a culture of excellence. We all need to be striving to be the best we can be.

Let's set the standard early in 2020 and turn this into reality.

Have a great weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

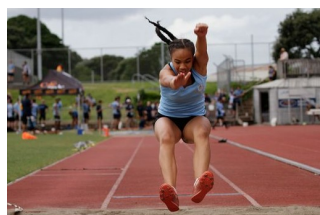
Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Thursday, February 6

Waitangi Day Holiday – school closed

Friday, February 7

School closed



Thursday, February 13

MAGS Athletics Day

Register [here](#)



Sport



Trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Water issue yesterday

The school would like to thank parents and caregivers for being understanding and accommodating about yesterday's early dismissal of students due to water being cut off unexpectedly.

The school had no choice but to release students at late notice because of health and safety concerns. Senior Leadership has been in direct contact with Watercare expressing grave concern about how this incident occurred and its impact on an onsite school community of approximately 3500 people.

We are working with Watercare to ensure this situation is not repeated in the future.

Year 9s' first day



More than 600 Year 9 students arrived at MAGS on Tuesday, gathering in the Albertian Quad before being greeted with a powhiri in the FW Gamble Hall.

Te Puna o Wairaka students performed a haka before Headmaster Patrick Drumm welcomed the newest Albertians and their parents, gathered on the mezzanine floor. The students were then assigned to their Mentor Classes and met their Mentor Teachers and Peer Support Leaders, who showed them around the school and introduced them to its systems.

Years 10-13 students started school the next day and were assigned their Mentor Classes. You can see more photos from the Year 9s' first day [here](#)



New staff for 2020



As well as an influx of students this week, MAGS welcomed new teaching and support staff for 2020.

Teaching staff pictured above, from left to right, are, in the back row: Joshua Grace, Teacher Dance/Health; Robert Harrison, Teacher English; Neil Watson, Teacher Music; Alex Brown, Teacher Social Sciences/History.

Third row: Nick Thomas Teacher Science/Physics; Jennah Collins, Teacher English; Jack Daly, Teacher Technology; Andrea Rodgers, Teacher Mathematics; James Naylor, Teacher

Mathematics.

Second row: Greg Stevens, HOD Classics; Blair Gilbert, HOF Commerce; Jessica Papesch, Teacher English; Nikita Kolose, Teacher PE & Health; Matthew Holder, Teacher Science/Physics.

Front row: Samantha Dugdale, Teacher Science/Biology; Elise Carrel, Teacher Social Sciences; Libby Thomson, Teacher French; Hannah Cleverley, Teacher PE & Health.

Absent: Eric Gruenewald, Teacher Social Sciences/Geography; Danni Cole, Teacher English; Maika Hemara, Teacher PE & Health; Prabhleen Buxi, Teacher Food & Hospitality.

Click [here](#) for the Staff Directory on the MAGS website.

Junior Boys' daily assemblies

Year 9 and 10 Boys morning assemblies will recommence for 2020 from this coming Monday (Week 2) at 8.40am.

Run by the Headmaster, Senior Leadership Team and Junior Deans, these assemblies serve to set standards, remind boys of school traditions and expectations, and inspire them through short talks on a range of topics.

For Year 9 Boys, these assemblies are a key part of induction to MAGS and will continue throughout the year. Year 10 Boys will attend these assemblies in Term 1 only.

When: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday at 8.40am. Thursday mornings at 9.10am.

Assemblies will run for 5 to 10 minutes.

Where: The Caradus Quad.

Coronavirus update

Advice from the Ministry of Education is that any student who may be at high risk of exposure because they have recently been to China or have been in close contact with someone confirmed with the virus is asked to delay the start of their school year for 14 days and voluntarily stay away.

As you will know from media reports, the situation concerning coronavirus is rapidly evolving internationally.

This is a new virus and its specific nature is currently unclear, however it appears that you can have the virus at an early stage and not be showing any symptoms. The incubation period is currently considered to be up to 14 days.

As always, anyone who is unwell should not be at school. Parents with a particular concern about any child are urged to contact Healthline at 0800 611 116 or their GP for medical advice. Healthline has translators and interpreters available 24/7 in 150 languages and they do have Mandarin and Cantonese speaking staff available.

You can read more about advice concerning coronavirus from the Ministry of Education [here](#) and the Ministry of Health [here](#)

BYOD for 2020



Year 9 students should not bring their devices until they are scheduled for their BYOD orientation lesson as per the timetable of form classes below.

Week 2:

Monday, 3 February: 9FRS, 9HGH, 9ACK, 9NTL, 9MKN

Tuesday, 4 February: 9ADS, 9BRN, 9CLS

Wednesday, 5 February: 9CGL, 9WLD, 9HLD, 9SEO

Students in English Language classes will be informed by their teachers as to when to bring their device.

In 2020, students at all levels will be expected to bring their own device to assist with learning in the classroom.

Full information about this is on our school website [here](#)

If you have any queries, please email Mrs Elise Goddard, the Director of E-Learning, egoddard@mags.school.nz

Software available to students

Students at Mount Albert Grammar School have free access to full versions of Microsoft Office, which includes Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

They may also wish to purchase a \$13 one-year licence for Adobe Creative Cloud, which provides access to over 20 programs including Photoshop, InDesign, Lightroom, Illustrator and Premiere Pro. Adobe Creative Cloud provides the software used in Art Design,

Photography and Media Studies.
Full information about both offers can be found [here](#) on the school website.



Download the app to keep up to date



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 Daily Notices, the Kamar portal, teachers’ contact details, and notify the school about absences.

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.

Sports trials and registrations



Students can now sign up for MAGS Athletics and Swimming Sports competitions. The Athletics Day is on Thursday, February 13 and preliminaries are next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and registrations are still open until next Friday so it is really important that people register [here](#) as soon as possible. Athletics Day is compulsory for all sport academy students. Swimming Sports Day is on February 20 and you can [sign up here](#). You can now also sign up for cricket, softball, water polo, volleyball and tennis. Over the coming weeks, the Sports Department will be releasing details of other sport trials and registrations. These will appear on the website [here](#) and will also be posted in the Daily Notices, accessed via the website or the MAGS App.

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 the Masters' Common Room in 1935.

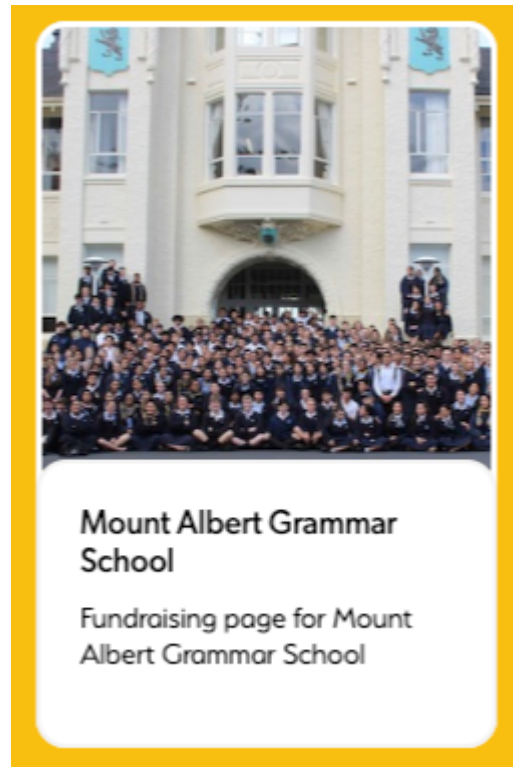
Support MAGS with Rewardhub

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



An aerial view of the school in 1949.

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

NZ into World Cup semis



MAGS First XI captain Adithya Ashok (pictured above) and his New Zealand team-mates are through to the semifinals of the ICC Under 19 Cricket World Cup in South Africa after another nail-biting win.

The Kiwis defeated the West Indies by two wickets yesterday morning after looking dead and buried when they were 153/8 chasing 239 for victory. An unbeaten ninth wicket partnership of 86 runs saw them home.

They will play Bangladesh next Thursday at 9pm (live on Sky Sport) for a spot in the final.

Success at NI Rowing Champs



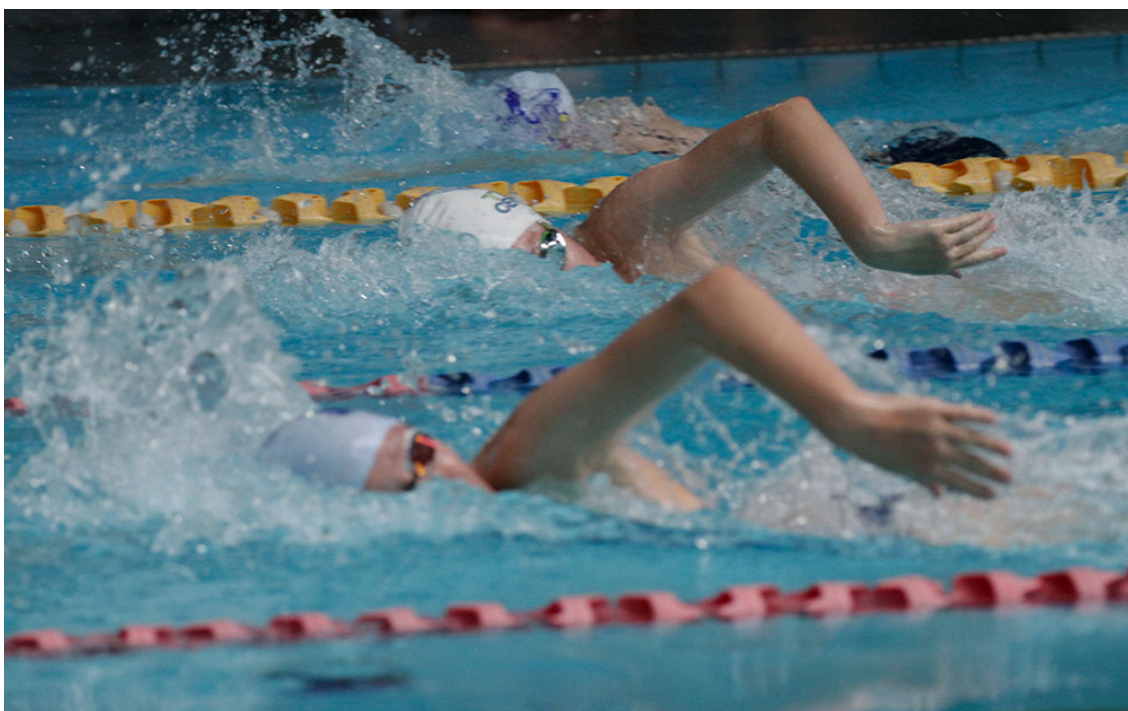
At the North Island club rowing championships MagsRow competing for West End Rowing club won the Gold medal in the Intermediate Coxed Four.

The crew of Cam MacGillivray, Nicholas Bryan, Dylan Cottingham, Samuel Cooper and cox Ben Campbell (pictured above with coach John Cook) also narrowly missed out on further medals, finishing fourth in the U16 Coxed Four and Double Sculls events.

MagsRow crews also made it through to another 10 A finals.

The next regatta will be the Auckland Secondary School Champs Head of the Harbour on Saturday, February 15 at Lake Pupuke.

Changes to swimming programme



Mount Albert Grammar School is restructuring its swimming programme.

This means more opportunities for swimmers whose focus is on team sports and fitness as opposed to competitive swimming.

The sessions will still mainly focus on swimming fitness and technique to supplement the student's sport-specific training but the additional time and space can be utilised as team/sport-specific training for water-based sports or recovery sessions for land sports. The school has four lanes available at each session offered and has three session times available.

Session 1: 7:00 - 8:00am

Session 2: 5:00 - 6:00pm

Session 3: 6:00 - 7:00pm

All sessions run Monday to Friday and are only available to MAGS students at this stage. The fees are \$75 per month for three times per week fitness squad. This will stay the same with an option of \$100 per term for students only wishing to do two sessions per week (recommended for students not doing water sports or looking for light fitness training only). An additional charge will occur for students wishing to do more than the three sessions.

A Belgravia membership is also required to enter the pool. This is \$11.90 per week and allows access to the pool at any time.

Please fill out this [form](#) (even if you are a current member of the MAGS fitness squad) so we can know the best times for trainings and how to organise the group.

Keep up with the play

All athletes, parents, managers, coaches, TiCs and sports co-ordinators should download the free College Sport Auckland app and subscribe to the relevant sports.

College Sport uses app notifications to let you know about any last-minute changes such as cancellations, new venues, new draws etc. Plus the app has regular draws, results, venues and other information.

For more info and to download the app, click [here](#)



General notices



After a break in January, Alberton Market Days return on Sunday, 9 February.

With 40 stalls of specialty produce, handmade goods and plants as well as street food by some of Auckland's top food vendors, a trip to the market makes a great summer outing.

The tearoom will be open with tea and scones served from the vintage china and there will be plenty to entertain the young ones with The Enchanted Walk fairy trail in the garden, a fairy face-painter and a magic pebble painting activity.

Members of the Owairaka Eco Neighbourhood group will be on site showcasing some of their creative community projects and offering free seed planting for children. Pot a bee-friendly plant in an egg carton cup to take away for your garden.

Alberton Market Day, Sunday, 9 February 10am-2pm, free entry.



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