



July 3, 2020 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

Per Angusta Ad Augusta



[Key Dates](#)



Tēnā koutou ki te whānau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

We have come to the end of one of the most extraordinary of school terms.

Our magnificent school motto has been referenced as part of daily life here at MAGS for almost 100 years but the events of this year have seen these words take on a special relevance for

our school community.

Despite the hardship and challenge of the year to date, we have emerged triumphant as a school. The desire of our students to get their school back up and running at 100 per cent has been impressive.

Character and resilience have been at the forefront through recent months – and our students have brought an air of positivity to daily life.

And while there remains some challenging times ahead, there is so much for us to be grateful for – and so much to look forward to. We are living in the safest place in the world – and our young people enjoy a school community that is second to none!

There is a feeling among students that we are part of something very special this year – and I agree. Our 99th year is shaping to be a defining one in the ongoing story of MAGS.

'Through Hardship to Glory!'

Have a safe holiday period.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Monday, July 20

Term 3 starts

Monday, July 27

Year 8 Information Evening (Balmoral & Auckland Normal schools), 7pm, FW Gamble Hall

Tuesday, July 28

Year 8 Information Evening (Kowhai, Pasadena, Ponsonby & Wesley schools), 7pm, FW Gamble Hall



[Sport](#)

Photo Essays



Basketball Premier [Boys](#) and [Girls](#) s v Rangitoto College

Forging ahead on the farm



The latest edition of [Dairy Farmer magazine](#) has a cover story that gives a great insight into what the ASB MAGS Farm means to the MAGS students who love working and learning on it.

The lengthy story has many photos of students going about their daily routines on the farm with the help of Farm Manager Peter Brice.

It also covers the ongoing work to improve the stream that runs through the farm.

This project got a huge boost on Sunday with about 200 volunteers (pictured below) turning up at the community planting day to plant thousands of native specimens along the upper reaches of the stream.

Watercare has helped to fund the planting and also provided food and coffee for volunteers on the day.



Sheilah Winn wins



The results for the Auckland Central Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival have been announced and MAGS has been particularly successful, with Lara Chou (pictured at bottom) given direct entry into the National Shakespeare Schools Production holiday workshop for her portrayal of Lady MacBeth.

This is awarded to a student who shows particular talent and places her directly into contention for the Shakespeare Globe Centre NZ's National Shakespeare Schools Production.

David Laxon's interpretation of *Romeo and Juliet* (pictured above) has been recognised by being accepted into the National Festival. All students involved in this scene have the potential to join Lara depending on how well the National Festival goes. David was also recognised for Most Original Concept. He reinterpreted the classic tale of forbidden love with gender being the primary reason the young lovers are kept apart.

Finally, Year 9 student Ryan Antia (pictured right) was acknowledged for his growing performance skills by being awarded Most Promising Actor for his portrayal of Le Beau from *As You Like It*. HOD Drama Gerald Urquhart was delighted with the results and thankful for all the students involved. Mr Urquhart



was pleased that our students have been recognised for their creativity and expertise. You can see Ophelia Sykes and Sarah Norman's reinterpretation of Lady Macbeth's breakdown [here](#)

David Laxon's reimagining of *Romeo and Juliet* in a modern context can be seen [here](#)
And HoD Drama Gerald Urquhart's more traditional take on a scene from *As You Like It* can be seen [here](#)
For a report about the performances and more photos, click [here](#)



All that jazz



Great to see the Jazz Band back in action – under the direction of Music teacher Neil Watson – with some lively performances at assemblies this week.
Due to COVID-19, the band has had and will have limited opportunities to perform live this year.

Its contribution to the KBB Music Festival this year will be filmed and uploaded to the festival's YouTube channel and should be able to be viewed around late August.



Art of Sport Challenge

The Arts Department has a new challenge for students. Read the poster below or watch the video about it [here](#)

THE ART OF SPORT ONLINE CHALLENGE

Due date:

Friday week 1, July 24th, term 3

Amazing prizes up for grabs!

This a great opportunity for collaborations between students of Sport and Arts or an opportunity to develop artistic work.

This could be photos, paintings film, compositions, dance or poetry with the theme of sport as your inspiration. You can submit a personal piece of art or collaborate with friends and classmates.

Be creative! Be daring and start planning. Submit work to jeesan@mags.school.nz. Use We Transfer to send large files. Hardcopies of paintings or drawings can be submitted to Whaea Ainsley in E1, however you should still send a photograph of your piece to jeesan@mags.school.nz for judging.

Winners announced Term 3 week 3. Prizes for winners and runners up each year level. All juniors will receive form class points as per last challenge.



Theatresports season underway



On Wednesday, the MAGS Senior Theatresports team travelled to Kelston Boys High School for the first Players Night of the year as part of the Theatresports Youth Programme.

During an evening of competitive improvisation games, the team played well, with a particularly effective "Story, Story, Die" to begin the evening.

They were buoyed by the enthusiasm of a large contingent of MAGS supporters.

Unfortunately, in a close-run competition, they were beaten by eventual winners St Kentigern College.

The Senior Theatresports Team is David Laxon (student co-leader), Sharnah Pascoe-Scouller (student co-leader), Max Cumberpatch and Tabea Leonhardt

If you are interested in participating in Theatresports, there are informal sessions in E9 after school on Mondays. All are welcome.

Ollie Barnett's sound career moves



Albertian Ollie Barnett (2010-14) was an invaluable asset to the Music Department, where he set up and managed all the technical and sound gear.

This was acknowledged by the school when he was awarded the trophy for Service to the Music Department for each of the five years he attended.

He was an outstanding Arts Prefect, and an Arts and Service Lion recipient. In his final year he was also awarded “Most Dedicated Arts Student” for his service to the Arts.

While still at school, Ollie started his own business – Eleven Audio – providing sound gear and services to the local market. Since leaving school he has continued this full-time while also working as a freelance audio engineer for multiple companies around Auckland.

His role involves designing and deploying audio systems for concerts and mixing the sound for a variety of bands.

During 2018, Ollie took up an opportunity to work in Australia, freelancing for the Australian branch of a large American company working with acts such as Taylor Swift, Eminem and The Prodigy.

He then moved to London last year, touring with artists including Michael Kiwanuka, Rod Stewart and John Fogarty through Europe and the UK. Eleven Audio continues to run out of Auckland while he pursues these overseas opportunities – although they are currently on hold due to COVID-19.

Maddy Gordon tipped for Silver Ferns



Albertian Maddy Gordon (2016-17) featured in a [Newshub story](#) this week identifying her as a future Silver Fern.

Maddy, who plays netball for the Central Pulse, was our 2017 Victrix Ludorum. In that year she was a member of the Netball Premiers and Joint Senior Girls Athletics Champion, among her many sporting achievements.

Twenty-year-old Maddy was named MVP in her second ANZ Premiership start for the Central Pulse against the Northern Stars. Last year, she was a member of the Silver Ferns development side.

Q&A session with NZ Police

The Careers Department is hosting an NZ Police Open Forum Q&A Session on Tuesday, July 28 from 1.30pm in MH3.

All students interested in joining the NZ Police are welcome to come and join this “no holds barred” Q&A Session with a serving Albertian.

No question will be left unanswered – no judgement on the question. Come along and ask about whatever you find interesting or curious about the Police and their work.

Whitewater reckoning



To conclude the Kayaking Unit for Year 10 Outdoor Education, students visited Vector Wero Whitewater Park in Manukau.

This enabled them to practise and develop their kayaking skills and reinforce concepts introduced in the pool and classroom.

Each student was geared up with a full length wetsuit, booties, helmet, PFD, spray skirt, paddle and kayak in preparation to tackle the Grade 2 Tamariki River.

This unit focused on 'Self Discipline' and 'Self Confidence', with the river certainly pushing most students outside their comfort zone.

Future Pathways Expo

MH BLOCK 4-7pm

GROUND FLOOR

All NZ universities & a range of Industry Training Organisations & Private Training Organisations.

UPPER FLOOR

Additional providers featuring Interactive displays. Faculty & Subject Rooms. Advice from Faculty staff. Deans & NCEA information.

IMPORTANT

MAGS 2021 Subject Option Choices due 13 August.



FUTURE PATHWAYS EXPO



Term 3 Week 3 Tuesday August 4th : 4.00-7.00pm

The Future Pathways Expo is back and will once again be set across both floors of the MH Building.

The Expo – on August 4 from 4pm – features information and advice from universities and training organisations, as well as interactive displays, faculty and subject rooms, NCEA information and advice from Deans.

Confirmed exhibitors are: Lincoln University, ITC, NZDF, AIS, Ignite Colleges, UNITEC (performing & screen arts/architecture/landscape architecture/interior design/sport/all trades/animal & environmental science/business/nursing), AUT, Queenstown Resort College, NZ College of Chiropractic, Excel, Victoria, Cut Above Hair/Elite Beauty, Competenz, ETCO, PIHMS, Media Design School, Education USA, Whitecliffe/NZ Fashion Tech, Crown, Spirit of Adventure, Auckland University, MIT, North Shore Aero Club, Canterbury University, ASB MAGS Farm, Massey University, NZ Marine, Otago University, MITO, BCITO, MAINZ, Waikato University, Techtorium, NZ School of Food & Wine, Southern Wings, NZ School of Tourism, NZ Institute of Sport, NZ College of Massage, NZ Management Academies, NZ Culinary Collective, NZ Police, NZ Institute of Quantity Surveyors.

Explore how you can make a difference in people's health

Chiropractic is an exciting and rewarding career choice. If you want to make a difference and become part of one of the world's fastest growing health professions, come along to an information event to learn more.

Open Days 2020
Saturday 25 July and 17 October
New Zealand College of Chiropractic
6 Hobson Road, N1 Wellington, Auckland

Information Evenings 2020

New Plymouth 18 August	Napier 22 September
Palmerston North 19 August	Rotorua 23 September
Taupo 20 August	Tauranga 24 September
Hamilton 9 September	Christchurch 29 September
Wellington 14 September	Dunedin 30 September
Nelson 15 September	

For details of each event and to RSVP visit chiropractic.ac.nz/events or phone 09 526 6789

SOUTHERN WINGS

Who are Southern Wings?

Southern Wings offers professional pilot training for a wide range of students. From pilots preparing for an airline career, mountain flying and instructor ratings through to private or commercial pilot licensing, Southern Wings is known for its ability to deliver superior quality pilots who are well equipped to deal with the changing demands of the aviation industry.

From our bases at Ardmore Airport in Auckland, and at Invercargill airport, our well maintained fleet of aircraft are suitable for all training purposes and operate from modern and comfortable teaching facilities.

We are proud to be one of New Zealand's leading flight training schools, reflected in our status as an Air New Zealand Preferred Flight Training Organisation.

AIR NEW ZEALAND
OFFER | PREFERRED FLIGHT TRAINING ORGANISATION

Information Evenings for Year 8s

Mount Albert Grammar school holds Information Evenings rather than Open Days for prospective students.

The Information Evenings for 2020 will be held at 7pm on Monday, July 27 (Balmoral & Auckland Normal schools) and at 7pm on Tuesday, July 28 (Kowhai, Pasadena, Ponsonby & Wesley schools) for students enrolling in 2021.

These evenings are held in the school hall and are primarily for Year 8s who live in-zone.

The evenings include a visual presentation about the school for prospective Year 9 students, and there is enrolment procedure information and the opportunity to ask questions about the academic, sporting, service, arts and cultural opportunities at the school.

Students looking to clean up



Year 11 Business students have created a business selling handmade soaps for their Level 1 assessment.

The business name is Albert Soap and the soap, which sells for \$6.99 per bar, is made with a relaxing essential oils blend.

To place orders, please email:

mgolaboski@students.mags.school.nz

Dust to dust

Everything we are and everything in the universe and on Earth originated from stardust, and it continually floats through us even today.

It directly connects us to the universe, rebuilding our bodies over and again over our lifetimes.

When the universe started, there was just hydrogen and a little helium and very little of anything else. Helium is not in our bodies. Hydrogen is, but that's not the bulk of our weight.

Stars are like nuclear reactors. They take a fuel and convert it to something else.

Hydrogen is formed into helium, and helium is built into carbon, nitrogen and

oxygen, iron and sulphur – everything we're made of. When stars get to the end of their lives, they swell up and fall together again, throwing off their outer layers. If a star is heavy enough, it will explode in a supernova.

So most of the material that we're made of comes out of dying stars, or stars that died in explosions. And those stellar explosions continue. We have material in us as old as the universe, and then some material that landed here maybe only a hundred years ago. And all of that mixes in our bodies.

Find out more about the stars at [@astroclubmags](https://www.instagram.com/astroclubmags) Instagram page.



Arts Duces in 2011



The 2011 Arts Dinner was held at Sorrento in the Park, Cornwall Park. This image shows the Boys' Dux Artium, Adam Naughton, and the Girls' Dux Artium, Courtney MacKinnon, and is part of Set 43, the most recent collection of historical images added to the website [here](#)

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

Sign up to the Centenary database



As we get closer to our Centenary in 2022, with events planned for May 9-14, 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

Medal winners at AKSS Snowboarding



Four students attended the annual AKSS Snowboard Champs at Snowplanet, with Andre Pickering and Sophie Johnson-Chung (pictured above) bringing home medals. Sophie won Gold in the Senior Slalom and Bronze for Overall Slalom Race, and she also won Silver in the Slopestyle competition. Andre placed second overall in the Slalom, and second for Senior Boys. He also placed fourth in both Slopestyle and Dual Slalom. The MAGS Girls team placed third overall, while the Boys finished sixth overall.

Student Sport Spotlight



This week's Student Sport spotlight falls on Year 13 Football Girls 1st XI player Charlotte Tinsley, who is renowned for her positive attitude and is always willing to help her teammates.

She does a lot of the off-field tasks such as fundraising for tournaments, and led the team culture sessions during the lockdown period.

Read her Q&A [here](#)

Upcoming Premier Sport

Playing away at EGGs tonight, the Premier Basketball teams will be looking for their first wins of the season with the Boys playing St Peter's at 6pm and the Girls up against EGGs at 7.30pm. At 10.30am tomorrow, the Netball Premier 1 team play Auckland Girls Grammar at St Kents, and the Premier 2s play Macleans College at ANC. At midday, the Boys 1st XI Football are away to Mt Roskill Grammar and will be looking to build on their 8-0 Knockout Cup win over Kristin College on Tuesday. Their first home game of the season sees the 1st XV Rugby facing a big challenge against St Kentigern at 2.30pm tomorrow on the Sir BG Williams Field.

You can see more fixtures and results [here](#)



General Notices

Girl Guides seeking recruits



High school is a great time to find out about and develop skills that make you stand out and give you confidence.

Rangers, part of Girlguiding NZ, gives girls the chance to develop skills and passions in a range of areas and demonstrates to scholarship boards, selection panels and future employers that you've got resilience and stickability.

The local Ranger group (Mt Albert) has spaces now. Join Rangers, a supportive space for girls and women, and develop skills in event management, learn about governance and social issues and enjoy outdoor adventures.

For further details, click [here](#)

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