



[View this email in your browser](#)



July 8, 2022 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

[Weekly Notices](#)

A New Era for the Young Women of MAGS



[Key Dates](#)



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

The final day of Term 2 today was marked with a celebration and formal opening of Centennial House – our new boarding facility for MAGS Girls.

Lemaunga Lydia Sosene – a long-serving MAGS Board member, parent and Member of Parliament – officially opened the building, which will house up to 30 MAGS Girls in the future.

While this is a first for our MAGS Girls, the story of boarding at MAGS goes back to the very early days of the school. In 1926, less than five years after the school first opened, there was already a growing demand for a MAGS education from families residing outside of the school zone.

The then headmaster, Freddie Gamble, convinced the Board to purchase a large wooden building in New North Road to accommodate boys wishing to board. In doing so, MAGS became the first state secondary boys school in Auckland to offer boarding, with the facility operating until 1971 when a new School House was built on the MAGS site.

Fast forward 95 years and a similar story emerges for our young MAGS women. Girls boarding at MAGS also begins in a large wooden house around the corner from the school – and creates another first – with MAGS being the only Auckland co-educational

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Monday, July 25

Term 3 starts

Tuesday, July 26 &

Thursday, July 28

Year 8 Information Evenings,
7pm, FW Gamble Hall

Wednesday, July 27 &

Thursday, July 28

Three-Way Conferences

Wednesday, August 3

Future Pathways Expo, MH
Building, 4pm-7pm



[Sport](#)

[Photo Essays](#)

school to offer boarding for both girls and boys!

Thank you to all who have pursued this vision over many years. Today is certainly a celebration of excellence and equity for our MAGS girls.

Wishing our students and their families a safe holiday break.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster



Basketball Premier Girls v
Epsom Girls Grammar
Click [here](#)



Hockey Boys 1st XI v
Macleans College
Click [here](#)

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.

Donate to the Lion Fund now



Centennial House official opening



Board of Trustees Chair Greg Moyle and Lemaunga Lydia Sosene unveil the Centennial House plaque.

Today was a historic day for MAGS, with the official opening of Centennial House – our girls boarding facility – in our Centenary Year.

Associate Principal Jo Williams spoke about the history of boarding at MAGS, and the long journey to opening a girls facility after the building was first purchased in 2017.



Foundation Centennial House Girl Jorja Fruean (pictured left), a Year 12, spoke about why she took up boarding and the opportunities that opened up for her, particularly in sport.

Lemaunga Lydia Sosene – a long-serving MAGS Board member, parent and Member of Parliament – officially opened the building, which will house up to 30 MAGS girls in the future.

She thanked the Board of Trustees and MAGS staff, particularly the Senior Management team, for helping to realise the long-held vision of girls being able to board at MAGS.

There was also a performance of *Hine e Hine* by Gloriana, our girls choir, before Board of Trustees Chair Greg Moyle wrapped up proceedings, saying the opening of Centennial House, which accepted girls at the beginning of this term, meant that girls now had equity at MAGS – something the board was pleased to achieve.

You can see more photos from the official opening [here](#) and find out more about Centennial House [here](#)



Taking Flight showcases Dance talent



The *Taking Flight* Dance Concert was held at Raye Freedman Arts Centre over two nights: July 1 and 2.

Over 180 Dance students from all years performed group dances for performance assessment and a talented group of Year 12 students presented their choreographies based on ideas around popular games. As well, Year 13 Ella Sutton presented her very moving scholarship choreography *Ebullience*.

The evening opened with the Year 13 and scholarship group's *Birds of a Feather* – a stunning item that was selected to be performed at YouDance Festival. This was followed by a remake of a MAGS classic in *Autele*.

One of the Year 9 classes presented *Centennial Swing* as part of their journey into the history of Jazz, and the other class explored the use of isolation and syncopation in their contemporary Jazz. Year 10 students were lucky to have Albertian guest teachers Marcus Savelio and Issie Cassidy work with students in the development of their dances, which were about growing up and the Four Pillars of MAGS respectively.

Year 11 students gave two diverse performances – one group exploring the movement dynamics of Hip Hop dance and the other giving a very spirited performance of African Gumboot dance.

Year 12 students also showed diversity between classes with one a moving contemporary dance about support and the other a technically challenging and wonderfully performed



adaption of Bob Fosse's *Sing, Sing, Sing*.

Our Megacrew gave a taste of their performance for the Blueprint competition to be held this weekend, and the evening finished with a powerful dance from the Year 13 students about embracing and accepting cultural differences.

Director of Arts Co-curricular Ms Cesan said, "All students performed with commitment and the atmosphere backstage was wonderful.

"Both nights had almost full houses who enthusiastically cheered until the final bows. This is a great testament to the support for Dance at MAGS."

You can see more photos from the dance concert [here](#)

Photos / QiQi Deng and Sanskriti Roy



Megacrew at Blueprint competition tomorrow

Come out and support the MAGS Megacrew and other Dance students at the first Blueprint Secondary Schools Competition at the Vodafone Events Centre tomorrow at 6pm.

This inaugural event brings schools together from across Auckland to compete and share their love of dance. There will also be guest performances.

You can buy tickets online [here](#)

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
BLUEPRINT PRODUCTIONS LTD

2022

BLUEPRINT

BUILDING THE BLUEPRINT FOR THE FUTURE OF A
COLLABORATIVE DANCE COMMUNITY IN AOTEAROA

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

COMPETITION

SATURDAY 9TH JULY, 2022

VODAFONE EVENTS CENTRE
770 GREAT SOUTH ROAD, MANUKAU 2104

BUY TICKETS AT WWW.EVENTFINDA.CO.NZ
DOOR SALES ON THE NIGHT

<https://blueprintnz.co.nz>   schools@blueprintnz.co.nz

Brain Bee Challenge winners



Last Wednesday (June 29), MAGS had its largest team in recent history at the North Island Finals of the Australia NZ Brain Bee Challenge and took out first and fourth place. Fourteen Year 11 students – Sophia De Pledge, Samuel Reeves, Ava Siakimotu, Jacob

Miller, Subhash Thirunahari, Ciara Anand, Chelsea Wijntjes, Eddie Yang, Rosa Fox, Ryan Shen, Lily Cameron, Jonathon Yu, Gemma McKinney and Sophia Brooker – were selected to attend the competition, held at the University of Auckland.



In preparation, students spent countless hours of their own time learning about a range of neuroscience topics, including anatomy, physiology and neurological disorders. And as a direct result of their hard work and dedication, they have earned MAGS our best results to-date. Working both individually and in teams of four, students were quizzed extensively on these topics.

In the final round of the team

competition, MAGS was the only school to be represented by two teams. Team A (Sophia D, Samuel, Ava and Jacob) were crowned North Island Champions and Team B (Subhash, Ciara, Chelsea and Eddie) placed fourth overall.

Science teacher Miss Yang said, "As part of the competition, students were also offered a glimpse into life as a research scientist: examining tissue specimens, visiting labs, seeing a human brain imaged in real-time and speaking with scientists about their work. These experiences have hopefully inspired some budding scientists of tomorrow.

"Special thanks to Mr Huang for promoting Brain Bee, his ongoing encouragement and support of the students, and accompanying them to the competition."

Ngā Manu Kōrero awards

Last Friday, MAGS, alongside Massey High School, Te Wharekura o Hoani Waititi Marae and Ngā Puna o Waiōrea (Western Springs College), co-hosted the annual Ngā Manu Kōrero ki te Waitematā regional speech competition at Western Springs College.

This event is held over two days with four sections: Tā Turi Kara (Sir Turi Carrol) – Junior English, Rāwhiti Ihaka – Junior Māori, Korimako – Senior English and Pei Te Hurinui – Senior Māori.

The juniors deliver a prepared speech, while the seniors have a prepared speech and an impromptu speech (time limit three minutes) for which they have five minutes to choose a topic and prepare.

This year, MAGS had three representatives: Sasha Tobin (10 PNWAL) in Junior English, Awanui Hope (10 PNWAL) in Junior Māori, and Michaela Minor (13 PNPAL) in Senior English.

HoF Māori Waimirangi Paul said, "All three speakers presented speeches that were well-written, engaging, thought-provoking and slick in presentation. In the end, we were fortunate to come away from prizegiving with Sasha placing second overall in her section (she was only five points away from placing first and qualifying for nationals). She also won best female speaker.

"Awanui also won best female speaker for her section and placed fifth overall (she was only seven points away from 4th place).



Sasha Tobin

"Lastly, Michaela placed fifth overall (she was only five points away from fourth place) for the prepared speech and she placed third for the impromptu, which is no mean feat."



Awanui Hope



Michaela Minor

Classical Concert tonight

Tonight's Night of the Classics concert (7pm, Raye Freedman Arts Centre) features our Concert and Symphony orchestras, Jazz Band, Chamber groups and our award-winning choirs – Gloriana and The Centennial Choir.

Mount Albert Grammar
Presents:

Night of Classics

Centenary Music Concert
2022



Tickets:
Adults: Unwaged:
\$20 **\$15**
MAGS Staff/Students
and Under 13s:
\$10
www.iticket.co.nz

Friday 8th July, 7pm
Raye Freedman Arts
Centre- 108 Gilles
Avenue, Epsom



Art Show Gala Evening tickets on sale

MAGS
ART
SHOW

GALA EVENING

Mount Albert Grammar Centenary Art Show

Friday 5th August 6:00pm – 9:30pm

Tickets on sale now from iTicket

iTICKET



Thanks to our primary sponsors



CREATIVE.
CONTENT.
PRINT.



Get in quick for tickets to our Gala Evening, which gives guests the first look at the incredible artwork for sale at the MAGS Centenary Art Show, as well as the chance to enjoy entertainment, drinks and canapes. This event – on Friday, August 5 – is one of the highlights of the school calendar and always sells out so be in fast for your tickets [here](#)

Money raised goes towards our [Lion Fund](#), which provides support to students who are in need, and to our MAGS Artist in Residence programme. The Art Show continues, with free admission, on Saturday, August 6 (10am-4pm) and Sunday, August 7 (10am-2pm).

You can see exhibiting artists and read the latest news on the Art Show's [Facebook page](#) and [Instagram page](#)

Flox: our latest Artist in Residence



At the end of this term, the artist known as Flox (Hayley King, pictured right) worked with our Visual Arts Leaders and top service contributors in Visual Arts. They learnt about her successful art practice and her preferred processes using stencils and spray paint. These students then developed a work of their own combining spray painted layers from stencils they made and shared. Some of these may appear in the upcoming MAGS Art Show. Flox is a successful brand in New Zealand, and our ability to expose our students to her way of working is only possible through our Artist in Residence programme, funded by the proceeds and success of the MAGS Art Show.



Astronomer with down-to-earth advice

Last Friday, Mathematics teacher Mr Alarcon organised a guest speaker for Year 12 and 13 students in the Astronomy Club.

The guest speaker was Lucinda Shirreff, a young astronomer who recently finished her degree at the University of Canterbury.

The topic was possible career paths in the space industry, Astronomy and science in general.

Lucinda shared with our students her experiences as a student of Astronomy and Science. She also explained her new, exciting role as a professional in science communication and her future Masters studies in England. It was a great opportunity for Year 12 and 13 students that have been thinking of a career in science.



Mr Alarcon said, "Lucinda's stories inspired all students in the room. Lucinda illustrated a number of options that are currently available in NZ for professionals in science.

"She highlighted the importance of being part of a study group or club at the university. In addition, she encouraged our students to put themselves out there and show interest in every extracurricular learning opportunity. She said that talking to her professors and volunteering for research projects helps to create her professional connections. In fact, she got her current job through a recommendation from one of her professors."

Total commitment for Interform Mathex



Last Tuesday and Friday the Academic Prefects and Miss Inwood ran the first Interform Mathex Competition.

Points gained go towards the final tally to see who are the top Year 9 and Year 10 form classes for the year, with movies and pizzas up for grabs

Miss Inwood, who is running the Interform Competition, said, "It was a great success, with the Academic Prefects doing an amazing job."

40 Hour Famine raises more than \$4200



Interact has been driving fundraising for World Vision's 40 Hour famine and, so far, including their bake sale (\$464.30), have raised more than \$4200.

Their goal is \$5000, and students continue to fundraise [here](#), and may sell bracelets next term.

Over last weekend, for 40 Hours, students did without things such as their phones or food as part of the fundraiser.

Miss Barlow and Mrs Pearson also took part and both did 40 hours without their phones.

One of the Interact leaders, Rishita Bharani, said: "I participated in the 2022 World Vision 40 Hour Famine. My challenge was to live on fluids for 40 Hours.

"I decided to give up food because it's something important in my life that I rely on. Not only did I thoroughly enjoy the weekend as it was quite fun not to eat anything, but I also realised how fortunate we are to have food on our tables every day. It really made me feel grateful for the food we eat.

"Throughout the fundraising process, I realised that it is important to encourage people to donate money, but it is more important to raise awareness about *what and why* you're fundraising. If we don't make the effort to create changes, then who will?"

Taking on spelling challenge



During Terms 1 and 2, the Junior English Classes (Year 9s pictured above, Year 10s below) were challenged to learn the correct spelling of 80 of the most commonly misspelled words in the English language.

Assistant HOF English Mrs Lavey said, "Many of the words are tricky because they are not pronounced the way they are spelled e.g. 'February' and 'Parliament'. Students were given eight tests of 10 words each to learn and then had a test.

"Students who have been awarded an excellence certificate scored 80/80. The highly commended certificates are for students who did not quite get 80 out of 80 but scored the best overall mark in their class."



Mentor Class and Summer Sport photos

Mentor Class photos and Summer Sports photos taken by PhotoLife have arrived at MAGS and will be distributed in the first week of Term 3 via mentor classes.

Outdoor Ed action and adventure



Last week, 41 students in 12OE left the awful Auckland weather behind for Taupo and Rotorua.

As the classes arrived at their respective camps at Lake Okareka and Kakaho, the weather improved, dried up and turned frosty.

Tents were set up, dinner cooked and layers added to the clothing to keep warm.

The following day was a stunning cold but clear one for kayaking on the Waikato river from Taupo to Reid's Farm, and mountain biking in the Craters of the Moon and in Whakarewarewa MTB park.

Outdoor Education teacher Mr Belson said, "All the students had great experiences of these activities before moving on to the other campsite. A warmer night followed by another superb day of kayaking and biking saw the students fulfill the main aims of the trip – to have real-life outdoor experiences in New Zealand locations outside of Auckland in order to broaden awareness and enjoyment of the outdoors, to plan, prepare for and implement a two-day multi-activity trip which will be led by us in a socially responsible manner, and to give young people the opportunity to discover who they really are and what they are capable of in an environment that is free from the issues they may deal with in their daily lives."

Mr Belson added, "They returned home tired but happy, having made some great memories with their peers and demonstrating how much they have developed over the year in terms of being responsible, mature and independent. They were a credit to the school and themselves, showing the ability to work together, work independently and enjoy the outdoors.

"My thanks to Mr Whitehead, Josh Bougen and Sophie Gibbins for their contribution to this successful trip."



Jake Bailey on resilience



Students across all year levels were fortunate this week to hear from Jake Bailey about his battle with cancer and the power of resilience.

Jake came to national attention in 2015, when the video of his speech as Head Boy at

Christchurch Boys High School's prize-giving ceremony went viral. A week before he was due to deliver this speech, Jake was diagnosed with an aggressive cancer and given two weeks to live if this was left untreated.

Jake persevered and made his speech from a wheelchair, with the video drawing support and praise from around the world.

Since being announced in remission in 2016, Jake has gone on to become a best-selling author and fulltime public speaker, sharing his story about the power of resilience with tens of thousands of people from all walks of life.

Save the date for Future Pathways

FUTURE PATHWAYS EXPO

Wednesday August 3rd

MH BLOCK 4.00-7.00pm

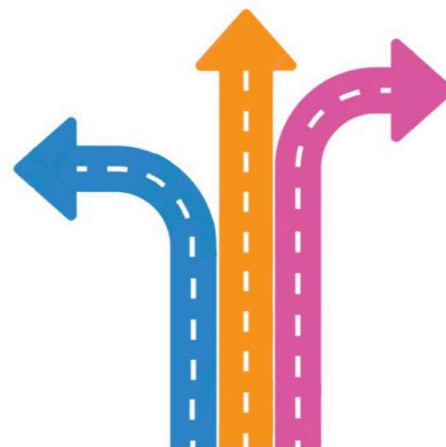
What are you doing when you leave school?

Universities, Technical Institutes, Private Training Providers, Industry Training Organisations, Interactive Displays, Faculty and Subject areas spread over both levels of MH Block.

Deans/ Careers and NCEA information on upper floor at the top of the stairs.



**MOUNT ALBERT
GRAMMAR SCHOOL**
PER ANGUSTA - AD AUGUSTA
FOUNDED 1922



Wednesday August 3rd: 4.00-7.00pm

A not-to-be-missed occasion, especially for Year 10-12 students, our popular Future Pathways Expo is back on (Wednesday, August 3, from 4-7 pm).

The Expo is a great opportunity for students to discuss subjects and pathways for option choices due in mid-August for the 2023 year. Parents, students and family welcome.

Set across both floors of the MH Building, the Expo features information from universities and training organisations, as well as interactive displays, faculty and subject rooms, NCEA information and advice from Deans.



WE NEED YOU



5 - 7 August 2022

We're looking for volunteers to help bring the MAGS Centenary Art Show to life and make it another fabulous success!

You don't have to be an art expert to join us, it's all about teamwork, having fun and that "feel good" feeling you get from helping a great cause.

This is MAGS' biggest annual fundraiser and we need your help!

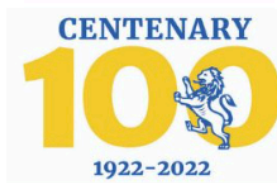


If you're keen to join our great team, please email Wick at magsfom@gmail.com

[Click here to fill out the volunteer registration form](#)

Centennial Events on sale now

Tickets are now on sale for two of our MAGS Centenary events – our Reunion Drinks (Friday, September 30) and the MAGS Centenary Dinner (Saturday, October 1). You can buy tickets for the Reunion Drinks [here](#) and for the Centenary Dinner [here](#)



Ticketed Centenary Events

Mt Albert Grammar School Centenary 2022

 **Reunion Drinks Evening** - all decades
Friday 30th September, 6pm (\$35 & Cashbar)
F.W Gamble School Hall, MAGS.

 **MAGS Centenary Dinner**
Sat. 1st October, 6pm (\$125 & Cashbar)
Grand Millennium Hotel, Mayoral Drive, Auckland.

Limited Tickets On Sale From 1st May
Join the Albertians and/or buy tickets at
<https://mags100.ptly.com/nz/mags/#centenaryevents>



Get your Centenary apparel now!



MAGS Official Centenary apparel is now available to order, with more Centenary merchandise to be added over the coming months.

Available now are stylish hoodies, rugby jerseys, basketball singlets, caps, beanies, ties, scarves and face masks – all in MAGS colours and most of them boasting the Centenary logo.

You can order MAGS Centenary apparel [here](#)



Board of Trustees nominations

Our school will be undertaking a parent election **for seven School Board vacancies**. This process will start with the issuing of nomination papers to our parent/caregiver community by **Friday, July 15, 2022**.

We have employed CES to undertake the election process on our behalf. This year, with legislative change, our nomination form and full instructions on how to place your nomination into our own School's Election website will be emailed to you if we have your email address in our database or you will receive it by post if we don't have your email address.

Nomination papers will also be available at Reception. The school will send those on to CES for processing upon receipt from candidates.

Nominations close on Friday, August 5 at 12 noon.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Sports Update

Upcoming Premier Sport



With school holidays beginning, there are a limited number of fixtures on this weekend. Today, our Basketball Premier Girls and Boys face their Westlake rivals at Westlake Boys at

6pm and 7.30pm respectively.

On Saturday, our Rugby Boys 1st XV celebrate 100 years of games against Sacred Heart College with an away game at 2.40pm.

For more fixtures and results, click [here](#)

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland
09 846 2044 www.mags.school.nz

A Tradition of Excellence
9th-14th May 2022

Copyright © 2022 Mount Albert Grammar School. All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)