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June 2, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

## From the Associate Principal

### Key Dates

## Samoan Language Week – a Celebration



*Oute Muai fa'atalofa atu I le paia ma le mamalu o aiga ma uo ale kolisi a mauga Alapati*

*Greetings to all our families and friends of Mount Albert Grammar*

This week is Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa – Samoan Language Week 2023, the theme of which is 'Mitamita i lau gagana, maua'a lou fa'asinomaga', which means 'Be proud

of your language and grounded in your identity'.

Across the week our assembly focus has been to acknowledge both this celebration and to champion proud Samoan alumni whose names appear on our Honours Boards and serve to remind us of the cultural diversity that has long been a strength of our school.

Our Pasifika student leaders have blended MAGS school uniform with faitaga and puletasi, role-modelling both personal pride and also the importance of celebrating one's own culture while respecting each other's.

And today, all Pasifika students were invited to join their leaders in wearing cultural dress to demonstrate their own personal pride in their culture.

At MAGS, we are proud to celebrate the cultural diversity that is our school community, and to acknowledge the importance of being 'proud of your language and grounded in your identity'. Research has shown a child's early and sustained connection with their own culture and language as critical and important factors in building personal resilience.

The recognition given across this week, of the importance of language and identity, contributes to the development of this individual resilience and promotes greater awareness,

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

### Tuesday, June 6

Year 10 Rostered Home

### Thursday, June 8

Year 9 Rostered Home

### Thursday, June 8

Visual Art Board Show and Business Market Evening, E Block, 4.30pm-6.30pm

### Thursday, June 8 &

### Friday, June 9

Winter Sports Photos

### Sport

#### Photo Essays



Football Boys U15 Knockout Cup v Westlake Boys High

Click [here](#)

understanding and acceptance of our collective diversity.

It is a privilege to recognise, appreciate and celebrate both the differences and similarities that merge to make our MAGS community so special.

I hope you all enjoy this long weekend and the opportunity to spend just that little more time with family and friends.

Warm regards,

Jo Williams  
Associate Principal



Rugby Girls 1st XV v One Tree Hill College  
Click [here](#)

**Trials and Registrations**  
Click [here](#)

**Fixtures and Results**  
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



## Samoan Language Week



MAGS has been celebrating Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa (Samoan Language Week) with various events, including a cultural dress day and performances today and, yesterday, a Staff v Students volleyball game.

The theme this year was 'Be proud of your language and grounded in your identity'.



## Epic Austen adaptation



On Wednesday and Thursday this week, Level 3 Drama performed *Pride and Prejudice* in another sold-out season.

The cohort of Year 12 and 13 students have been working on this play for the past two months, practising and perfecting their elocution and articulation to perform Jane Austen's

mammoth literary masterpiece. This has been a highlight of the post-Covid Performing Arts, with many audience members commenting that this was the most stellar show they have seen at MAGS.

HOD Drama Carmela Hughes said, "A special thank-you to all of the incredible people in this department who make it possible for these performances to take place."

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



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## Board Show and Market Evening

# Visual Arts Board Show & Business Market Evening

## PAINTING, DESIGN & PHOTOGRAPHY DISPLAYS



Come see the latest work  
created by this year's  
Visual Art students

## BUSINESS STUDIES MARKET STALLS



Business Studies students  
will facilitate market stalls  
offering handmade gifts  
and tasty snacks

**BRING  
CASH!**

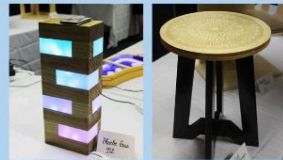
## DRAMA



## DANCE



## TECHNOLOGY



## MUSIC



**Thursday 8th June, 2023 4:30-6:30pm E Block**

Next Thursday sees one of the highlights of the school year – the Visual Arts Board Show and Business Market Evening – with displays of art, a wide variety of food and crafts for sale, and performances by our talented dancers, musicians and actors in and around the Greg Taylor Building (formerly known as E Block).

**Rostering home confirmation**

Further to previous advice, a reminder that nationwide PPTA industrial action resumes next week as follows:

#### WEEK 7

**Tuesday, June 6 – Year 10**

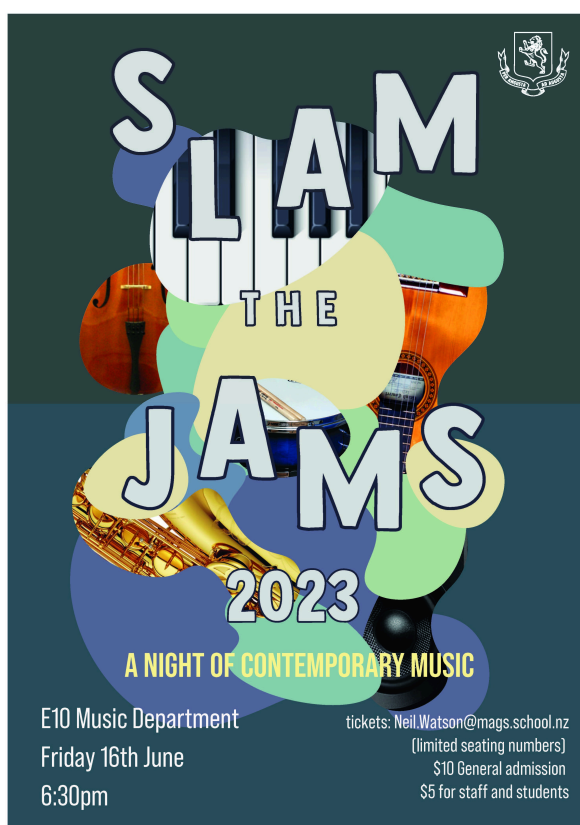
**Thursday, June 8 – Year 9**

Also, as previously advised, this means that teachers will neither teach nor set work for the year level students on the day they are to be rostered home.

Students rostered home are expected to remain at home and are encouraged to complete outstanding work and revise subject materials.

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## Tickets on sale for Slam the Jams



This year's *Slam the Jams* Contemporary Music Concert will be held in the Music Department's E10 performance space on Friday, June 16 at 6.30pm.

The evening will feature a stellar line-up of bands, solo artists, DJs and more.

Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for staff and students.

Get in quick to reserve your tickets by emailing [neil.watson@mags.school.nz](mailto:neil.watson@mags.school.nz) as seating is limited.

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## Term 2 Arts Calendar

WEEK	DATE (S)	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
7	8 <sup>th</sup> June	VISUAL ARTS BOARD SHOW/MARKET EVENING	E Block and Quad	4pm till 6.30pm
7	8 <sup>th</sup> June	CHAMBER MUSIC COMP	TBC	MAGS Performance times TBC
8	14 <sup>th</sup> June	YODANCE YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL	RFAC EGGS	MAGS Performance 14 <sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm
8	16 June	Contemporary Music night	E9 and E10	7pm
9	Weds 21st June	THE BIG SING Centennial choir	Auckland Town Hall	1.30 pm session and Gala concert 7.30pm
	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	THE BIG SING Gloriana Choir	Auckland Town Hall	10.30 am session and Gala concert 7.30pm
10	27 <sup>th</sup> and 28 <sup>th</sup> June	DANCE CONCERT	RFAC EGGS	7.30 pm
10	29 <sup>th</sup> June	CLASSICAL MUSIC CONCERT	RFAC EGGS	7pm
JULY HOLIDAYS	9 <sup>TH</sup> JULY	BLUEPRINT SCHOOLS HIP HOP COMP	Due Drop Events Centre	MAGS Performance times TBC

## Wāhine in Physics



The Wāhine in Physics Club (WIP) is the brainchild of Year 13 student Isla McLeay and promotes physics as a career pathway to girls at MAGS.

Isla says, "Currently the Level 3 physics roll is 26% female and Level 2 is 28%. Personally, I am one of five girls in my physics class of 26 people. We are aiming to increase these numbers through educating younger students about opportunities in physics (e.g. careers, competitions), and show how important and fun physics can be through immersive activities."

So far this year, WIP has established a lunchtime homework club, where students can find help with their questions regarding science work, and have also worked with the Woman in Engineering Network from University of Auckland to hold in-school activity/Q&A sessions for students wanting to learn more about engineering.

Isla runs a homework group on Tuesday at lunchtime in CS6 and the club on Wednesday at lunchtime for activities.

A workshop this week with the Woman in Engineering Network challenged students to design a pipe network that fills three water tanks at the same rate, and to design a product that enables the user to have delicious dessert with minimal effort.



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## Online safety seminar for parents

Join us for a free presentation from Netsafe and a discussion for parents and whānau about online safety next Tuesday (June 6) from 6.15pm-7.15pm in the F.W. Gamble Hall.



Netsafe's Education Advisor will talk about the risks, challenges and opportunities of digital technology and social media, and the practical ways we can help young people to be safe online.

There will be plenty of time to answer any questions.

Contact Jess Lythe – [jlythe@mags.school.nz](mailto:jlythe@mags.school.nz) – or Tanya Montgomery – [tmontgomery@mags.school.nz](mailto:tmontgomery@mags.school.nz) – for more information.

## Southbase supporting our community



Many will be aware of the impressive teaching and learning block rapidly taking shape in the heart of our school. A few may be aware that the construction company responsible is Southbase.

Since their arrival on our site, Southbase have reached out to our school offering learning opportunities to our Technology students and to our Physics students, plus offered Scholarship opportunities and also become proud sponsors of our Girls' 1st XV Rugby team.

And, more recently, have further demonstrated their commitment to our wider community by supporting the pop-up Little French Café at the bottom of Alberton Ave.

Rob Harwood, Southbase Senior Project Manager, became quite taken with the coffee and food available, admitting to spending "way too much money there ... for our client meetings on site to keep our clients happy. It always goes down well ... we also hold team meetings there".

As many of us know, the floods earlier this year were devastating for many of our local businesses, including the Little French Café, and after getting through the tidy up and opening their pop-up café in a container, the relentless rain made it challenging for Nancy and her team at 6.30am when the rain was driving in.

So Southbase spoke to their scaffolding subcontractor, Nate of Southern Lakes Scaffolding, and asked if they could help build a canopy to keep the weather out. Southern Lakes came to the party and did it all for free!

Rob says, "I think the team at French Café show the Southbase 'Determined to Deliver' mantra and they help power our team with fantastic coffee at 6.30am."

Service is integral to the values of our school and one of our four pillars so it is heartening to see community spirit, and generosity of resource and time, modelled to our students.

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## Student art competition

Hey students – be in to win \$100!

Our Art Show competition is open to all MAGS students and is a great way to showcase your talent, gain recognition and be in to win \$100!

Send your design to [artshow@mags.school.nz](mailto:artshow@mags.school.nz) by the end of Friday, 9 June.

### MAGS Art Competition



#### Design a Tea Towel for MAGS Art Show 2023!

In an exciting opportunity for MAGS students, we are inviting you to create a unique design for a cotton tea towel. The winning design will be printed and sold at the MAGS Art Show in 2023 (28 - 30 July).

Get your creative juices flowing and submit your design!

#### Competition Details:

- Make it fun, creative and appealing to buyers.
- Create a one-colour design (printed on a natural cotton tea towel).
- Art dimensions: 370mm x 500mm.
- Entries close: Friday 9th June.
- Send entry to: [artshow@mags.school.nz](mailto:artshow@mags.school.nz).

**\$100  
Cash Prize**

and your design  
in homes around  
NZ!



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## Chess players qualify for nationals

The MAGS Chess team of 14 players took part in the Auckland cluster tournament and were narrowly beaten by the Mt Roskill team (22.5 to 21 points).

Individually, MAGS had some outstanding results:

**First place: Victor Coen**

**Third Place: Jacob Miller**

**Best-placed Girl: Janice Shi (11th place overall)**



This allows these students (pictured left) entry to the National Chesspower Championship trophy tournament at the end of the year.

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## Going with the flow



More than 100 Level 2 Geography students enjoyed fine weather on a field trip last Friday to the Puhoi River to collect primary data. Students were investigating spatial variation of river landforms and processes. Students observed the effects of major flooding, which had occurred two weeks earlier. HOD Geography Mr Haines said, "These students gained new insights into how rivers behave. River environments are found across our country and, as the occurrence of climate events increases, it's vital young people have knowledge and understanding of these types of places."



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## Positive approach to kayaking



This term, our Year 10 Outdoor Education students have used kayaking to develop their Positivity.

Weekly lessons in the pool allowed students to become familiar with wet exiting and rescues before each class visited Wero Whitewater Park in Manukau.

HOD of Outdoor Education Mr Whitehead said, "Not letting their nerves or negative chatter get the better of them, our students used the strategies they developed in class effectively and should feel proud that they paddled the Grade Two river by themselves."

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## Winter Sports Photos next week



Winter Sports Photos for 2023 will be taken in the School Hall on Thursday, June 8 and Friday, June 9.

Students should arrive at the hall at least 10 minutes prior to their photo time and must be wearing the correct uniform.

Schedule and uniform details for Thursday are [here](#) and for Friday are [here](#).

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## Year 10 Numeracy and Literacy Assessments

Year 10 parents and caregivers should have received an email this week about the first of the Numeracy and Literacy Assessment opportunities for 2023 taking place for our Year 10 students in Week 8.

The new literacy and numeracy standards will help ensure that students have the foundational skills to support them in further studies, work, and life. They weave mātauranga Māori through learning, and creating clearer pathways to education and employment.

The changes to NCEA from 2024 will mean that obtaining Numeracy and Literacy (Reading and Writing) will become a co-requisite to gaining any NCEA certificate. Our school successfully piloted the Numeracy standard in 2022 and we are well placed to provide students with the opportunity to participate in both Numeracy and Literacy Common Assessment Tasks.

**Details of the Assessments Year 10s will be sitting:**

Monday, 12 June – Literacy WRITING (5 credits)

Tuesday, 13 June – Literacy READING (5 credits)

Wednesday, 14 June – Numeracy (10 credits)

The assessments will take place Period 1 and 2 on these days. Students are able to take longer if required, but will need to move to the Hall at the end of Period 2 to continue their Assessment if they require further time.

The assessment will be an **online** Common Assessment Activity.

You can read the full email about these assessments [here](#)

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## Mentor class photos available to order



Mount Albert Grammar School 2023 Mentor Class photos are now available online.

Students and parents should have received an email this week with instructions about how to order these photos.

The deadline for orders qualifying for free delivery to MAGS is June 4, 2023.

Orders after this date will pay an extra postage fee.

Please email Mrs Moon – [mzmoon@mags.school.nz](mailto:mzmoon@mags.school.nz) – if you need further help,

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## Duke of Edinburgh visits in 1956



The coming long weekend for the first time in over 70 years will be known as "King's Birthday Weekend".

In 1956, when King Charles III was only seven years old, his father, the Duke of Edinburgh, visited New Zealand.

As part of his visit he came to Mount Albert Grammar School, which had been selected to host the Duke and hold a number of sports events for students from other schools around Auckland. Here is a selection of photos from the Duke's visit.

You can see more Historical Images [here](#)



## Sports Update

### Muddy going at AKSS Cross Country





Yesterday, 13 students competed at the Auckland Secondary Schools Cross Country Champs at Lloyd Elsmore Park in Pakuranga.

Athletes had to run on a soft and muddy course as has been the case for club events this season.

Two students managed to place in the top 10 of their races.

Nina Chalmers (Year 11) and Theo Bray (Year 11), after both coming first at the zone race two weeks ago, continued to show their ability as strong distance runners. Nina finished 6th in a competitive Intermediate Girls section over their 4km race with a time of 17:16. Theo Bray (Year 11) came 8th in a strong field in the Intermediate Boys over their 5km race with a time of 20:01.

Assistant Director of Sports Carlin Crossan said, "Thanks to Greta Helmore, who assisted with transport on the day, and Nicola Jackson, who supported our students during the races."



## Talking the talk at tournament



MAGS had 85 students in nine teams (including three from Te Puna o Wairaka) take part in the Puni Reo Poitarawhiti (Māori Language Netball Tournament).

Our Junior teams came away with the overall trophy (being accepted by Jack Walters, at right).

Director of Netball Kathy Henry said, "The kaupapa/purpose of the tournament is around

'Normalising Te Reo outside the classroom and off the Marae' using Netball as vehicle to drive this.

"The tournament is in its fourth year, and participation in this event is predominantly by those attending Te Kura Kaupapa or schools who have bilingual/rumaki classes. A main objective of this initiative was providing a safe space for students where Te Reo is their first language to play and be who they are in an organised sporting event. One of the spin-offs from this has been it is also a safe space for non-reo speakers to experience what other kids/students go through every day when the dominant language being used is not their first language.

"All students/parents/teachers/officials/volunteers/staff attending the tournament are encouraged to speak only in Te Reo. Whilst the games were scored and it is a competition, teams were also awarded points for their use of Te Reo whilst playing and/or supporting."



## Weightlifter second at AKSS

MAGS had one student compete in the Auckland Secondary Schools Olympic Weightlifting Champs held last Saturday at Kolmar Sports Centre in Papatoetoe.

Eli Harford-Lewis (Year 12) came second in the Boys 109 kg plus category with a combined total of 155 kg. In the Snatch, Eli made all three lifts and improved in 5kg increments, with 70kg being his best. In the Clean and Jerk, his best and last lift was 85kg,



a personal best.  
Assistant Director of Sports Carlin Crossan said, "Thanks to Eli's parents and coach Johan who supported him on the day."

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## Upcoming Premier Sport



There are no Premier games on in the next few days due to it being King's Birthday Weekend but on Tuesday the Senior Football Boys play a Knockout Cup game against Liston at MAGS at 3pm.

Wednesday sees our Rugby League 1st XIII play their first official game of the season, at home to Manurewa High at 4pm. That day the Football Girls 1st XI also play Howick College, at MAGS at 4pm; the Squash Boys Premiers take on Westlake at 4.15pm at MAGS; and the Hockey Boys 1st XI play Mt Roskill, with details to be confirmed

On Thursday, the Hockey Girls 1st XI play Macleans (details TBC), and the Lacrosse Girls Premiers play away to Selwyn College at 4pm.

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

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**A Tradition of Excellence**

Alberton Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland  
09 846 2044 [www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)

**EXCELLENCE  
CONNECTION  
& GROWTH**

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