



From the Acting Headmaster

Culture Produces Results



Tena koutou ki te whanau o Mount Albert Grammar School.

Recent newsletters have emphasised the importance of the MAGS team culture applicable to so many aspects of our school. The reality of our school, comprised of so many diverse groups working together, at any given moment for a common goal and positive outcome, is a reality of which to be proud.

Supporting this premise, our parent/teacher interviews this week offered another context in which to prove to our young people, and help them appreciate, that their parents and teachers are actually on their side – their team – wanting to work with them to help them each achieve their personal best.

Renewed focus has also been on MAGS Pride and reminding our students to demonstrate that pride in support of each other in all aspects of their school life – at games, school events and, just as importantly, in the classroom.

So it is with both great sadness and immense MAGS Pride that I look to tomorrow's inaugural rugby fixture for the Geoff Moon 1st XV Memorial Cup – MAGS v Aorere College.

Geoff was a man who understood the importance of building team culture, who praised effort and who was deservedly proud of the values he instilled in the young men, with whom he worked, at both Aorere College and here at MAGS.

This game is a fitting reminder of Geoff the man and Geoff the sport lover, but also most significantly, it is a reminder of his values and the wisdom in his words inscribed on his memorial trophy, "Culture Produces Results".

I hope to see many MAGS supporters at home tomorrow, supporting Geoff's legacy and wearing our school colours proudly for our team.

Per Angusta, Ad Augusta.

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the 2019 Calendar

Thursday, July 4

Last day of classes

Friday, July 5

End of Term 2
Staff Only Day

Friday, July 5

School Ball, 6pm Cordis Hotel



Sport



Photo Essay

Football Girls 1st XI v

Kentigern

Click [here](#)



Rugby U15 invitation side v
St Joseph's College

Click [here](#)

Warm regards,

Jo Williams
Acting Headmaster

Fixtures and results

Click [here](#)

Sport trials and registrations

Click [here](#)

Speaking from the heart



Head Girl Takunda Muzondiwa's inspirational and provocative spoken word performance at the national finals of the Race Unity Speech Awards has gained worldwide attention and seen her caught up in a whirlwind of appearances and interviews in the past month. Today at Assembly, Eric Neal, Auckland Regional Coordinator of the speech awards, presented Takunda with an Auckland Regional winner's shield and the school with the Auckland Region Shield for the year.

Mr Neal represents NZ Baha'i Faith, which organises the national awards. He congratulated Takunda on her success and said she had the potential to be a world leader, not just the leader of her home country Zimbabwe, which has been her stated ambition.

Takunda thanked Mr Neal and Baha'i Faith for giving her the platform to express her views on racism and colonisation.

She also presented her speech to the Year 9 Assembly and explained her thinking behind it, covering issues such as assimilation and racial domination.

Last week, Takunda was speaking at Parliament and was given a tour by Green MPs Marama Davidson and Chloe Swarbrick. And she has more speaking engagements coming up, including one in London.

You can view Takunda's speech [here](#)

Memorial Cup game honours Geoff Moon

Tomorrow's Rugby 1st XV game against Aorere College carries special significance as the two teams will also contest the inaugural Geoff Moon 1st XV Memorial Cup.

The annual fixture has been set up to honour the memory of MAGS' former 1st XV coach Geoff Moon, who passed away earlier this year after a sudden illness. Mr Moon also taught and coached at Aorere and had strong roots in south Auckland.

Family and rugby were Geoff's great loves, so it will be a fitting celebration of his life to have a game of rugby between the two schools he so proudly represented and a game to be enjoyed by his wider rugby family.

Geoff's son Dylan captains the 1st XV, and Geoff's family will present the trophy to the winners of the game, which kicks off at 2.30pm on the Sir BG Williams Field.



Your new Board of Trustees



MAGS' Board of Trustees is (at back from left) Deputy Chair Tui Gallagher, student representative Hugo Young, Catherine Murphy, Neil Waka and staff representative Malcolm Nuttall. At front from left: Paul Moon, Raj Bhikha, Chairperson Greg Moyle and Simon

Mitchell.

MAGS' new Board of Trustees met for the first time on Wednesday night, with Greg Moyle re-elected as Chairperson and Tui Gallagher elected as Deputy Chair.

The seven elected parent representatives for the next three-year term are Raj Bhikha, Tui Gallagher, Simon Mitchell, Paul Moon, and Greg Moyle, who were all returned, and new members Catherine Murphy and Neil Waka.

Malcolm Nuttall was re-elected as MAGS' staff representative, and Hugo Young is the student representative.

To read the Board members' personal statements, click [here](#)

Ngā Manu Kōrero success



MAGS came back with two third-place trophies from the Ngā Manu Kōrero ki te Waitematā Regional Speech Competition at Ōrākei Marae.

Jackson Absolum competed in the Tā Turi Kara (Sir Turi Carroll) Junior English section, Te Waaka Popata-Henare in Rāwhiti Ihaka/Junior Māori, Richard Mann in Korimako/Senior English, and Niua Pomare-Khanna in Pei Te Hurinui/Senior Māori.

MAGS also co-hosted the junior stage, and it was a very successful day with Te Waaka (at left) taking third in Junior Māori and Niua (at right) third in Senior Māori. Jackson was seventh in Junior English, and Richard was ninth in the senior English section.

In Senior Māori, Niua did particularly well, competing against five full-immersion schools.

Annual Music Concerts



This year, for the first time and owing to the broad range of talent across musical genres, MAGS held two different Annual Music Concerts.

On Monday, the first contemporary music concert was held at the Raye Freedman Arts Centre.

Move Over featured a host of Jazz, Rock, Pop and R'n'B items. The audience enjoyed performances by our qualifying RockQuest bands Brolo and Borderline, as well as the Jazz Band and two other school-based bands.

The 50-strong Contemporary Choir showcased some beautiful voices, and there were also performances from the finalists in the Junior MAGS Idol, among other strong solo items.



Special guest performer Albertian Matt Esekia, now in his final year of a Jazz music degree, came with another guitarist and treated the audience to a wonderful jazz version of the classic *There Will Never Be Another You*. The audience really enjoyed the evening and were enthusiastic in their praise.

The following night, again at the Raye Freedman Arts Centre, it was the turn of the classical musicians for **Night of the**

Classics, and the audience was treated to performances by The Chamber Orchestra, Symphonic Orchestra, String Orchestra and Concert Orchestra.

There were some stunning individual performances as part of the orchestras including virtuoso piano playing by student Eric Shen, the delightful Hayden Trio, and Three on Six piano trio.

The Boys Choir, under the direction of Terence Maskill, gave a stellar debut performance, and the Jazz Band provided a wonderful contrast to the classical repertoire of the evening. Huge thanks to Ms Moon, Mr Jaffrey and Miss Yung for the time they have put into the orchestras, and to Mr Beard for being the technical liaison for both nights.

For more photos from the two concerts, click [here](#)



World Championship contenders



Pictured from left are: Chekyna Tongalea, Amelia Worsley, Faolan Okan, Maia Hemana, Moanekah Va'ai. Absent: Mannasseh Grace.

In addition to the school Megacrew, a number of MAGS students competed successfully in the HHI New Zealand Championship finals as part of community companies IDCO and SUPA.

Their success means they will represent New Zealand at the HHI World Championships to be held in Phoenix, Arizona next month.

Faolan Okan was part of the IDCO team Swagganauts that won the Varsity division title and was also a member of YUNG ID that was placed second in the Megacrew division along with Amelia Worsley, Manasseh Grace and Maia Hemana.

Moanekah Va'ai and Chekyna Tongalea are part of the SUPA Megacrew, which also qualified in the Megacrew division.

These students have a gruelling training schedule until August 1, when they leave, and we wish them every success.

Year 13 Drama productions



Last Thursday and Friday, Year 13 Drama students performed *Ophelia Thinks Harder* in the Drama Room for friends and family who came along to see the students in an entirely new light.

The play is a reworking of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* that examines attitudes about sex, sexuality and society.

Drama teacher Carmela Hughes said, "We had two excellent performances from our Level 3 students who had to rise to what has been, for many of them, their most challenging work yet. There were some absolutely stellar performances. We thank everyone who came along and supported our students and for their continued support of the Drama Department."

For more photos, click [here](#)



Last Tuesday and Wednesday, Year 13 Drama students performed *The Good Woman of Setzuan* by Bertolt Brecht in the Drama Room.

Drama teacher Jessica Rigold said, "The class worked as a committed ensemble to tackle this challenging play. There were many standout performances with several students producing their best work of the year.

"I would like to thank the students for their dedication and the class thanks everyone who supported us in the backstage, technical, and front of house departments. Above all, we would like to thank friends, family and staff for coming to the show and supporting Drama at MAGS."

For more photos, click [here](#)

Albertians Lunch



MAGS' new Event Manager Emma John (at right) and Senior Administration Secretary Dimity Payne welcome guests to the Albertians Lunch at School House.

At the second Albertians Lunch of the year, Acting Headmaster Jo Williams, as guest speaker, reflected on the rich history of MAGS as the school starts building towards its Centenary celebrations in 2022.

Ms Williams, pictured right, said those reflections were triggered by looking through some of The Albertian yearbooks from the 1930s that had been donated back to the school.

The lunch, hosted at School House yesterday, was also the debut function for new Event Manager Emma John, who will be reaching out to Albertians as preparations begin for the Centenary, and the school will also be marking other milestones such as a celebration of 20 years of girls at MAGS.

New Board of Trustees members Catherine Murphy and Neil Waka also attended the lunch and were introduced to the guests.



Mentor Class and Individual photo orders



Today, individual and mentor class photograph purchase forms were handed out to students during their mentor classes.

These include a student-specific code so the photographs can be purchased online.

To take advantage of free postage, orders must be placed by July 21.

Director of Boarding vacancy

MAGS is seeking a Director of Boarding for School House.

The boys boarding house is a home away from home for 105 boys and draws many students from the top half of the North Island and a number from the Pacific Islands.

This is a senior role in the school that is supported by the Board of Trustees, Headmaster, Senior Leadership and experienced staff in the boarding house.

The Director of Boarding is expected to maintain a safe and inclusive environment for all boarding students. This position includes the operational and financial management of the boarding house.

For more information, click [here](#)

Sports update

Sarpreet on verge of big move



Albertian football star Sarpreet Singh (2013-2015) was presented with his Black Cap last April by Headmaster Patrick Drumm following Sarpreet's debut for the All Whites.

Sarpreet Singh has been reported to be on the verge of signing with European football giants Bayern Munich.

The club's interest in the 20-year-old came as a result of his strong showing at the Under-20 Football World Cup, where New Zealand progressed through to the round of 16 stage before being knocked out by Colombia. He has also starred as a goal-scoring midfielder for the Wellington Phoenix this year in the A League.

Upcoming Premier sport



Next Thursday, the Premier Girls Lacrosse team need all the support they can get when they have a shot at championship glory as they take on old foes Epsom Girls Grammar in the final at EGGs at 4pm.

Tonight, the Premier Basketball teams are at home with the Girls playing Massey High at 6pm and the Boys facing off against St Kentigern at 7.30pm.

Tomorrow, the Netball Premiers play Baradene at the Auckland Netball Centre at 11.30am, while at noon the Football Boys 1st XI take on Mount Roskill Grammar on MAGS 1.

On Monday, the Rugby Girls 10s have home advantage when they take on Auckland Girls Grammar at 4.15pm.

On Wednesday, the Football Girls 1st XI play away to Westlake Girls at 4pm, the Premier Boys Squash team play away to Takapuna Grammar at 4.15pm, and the Hockey Boys 1st XI are away to Kristin at 6.20pm.

On Thursday, the Hockey Girls 1st XI play Mt Roskill Grammar away at 4pm.

Fixtures and results on the MAGS website are regularly updated. For this week's, click [here](#) and for next week's, click [here](#)



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