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Week 5, Term 1, March 2, 2018 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

"It's great being me!"



One of the joys of working in a school is the honesty and freshness with which students see the world around them.

Every day we get to share in success at an individual and collective level for our students. And often this 'personal excellence' has been achieved against great odds.

I had one such experience earlier this week when I was approached by an enthusiastic young MAGS man – a fantastic student who has certainly had more than his fair share of significant learning challenges throughout his time at school.

His excitement was infectious as he told me that he had qualified to represent MAGS at the upcoming Inter-Zone Swimming Sports.

He talked about how proud he was to put the MAGS Lion up against other schools in the swimming pool! His excitement continued to grow until he finished with the comment "It's great being me" before he quickly walked away to class.

The wisdom of that statement resonated with those of us listening. What profound words from a student who has not been dealt the easiest hand in life. And what a great way to measure our effectiveness as a school in working with each of our students.

It is a great time to be a young person and also a great time to be a member of our school. My wish is that here at MAGS, and at home, all of our students can utter this statement with belief and confidence – "It's great being me!"

Then we'll know we're really doing our job as a school.

Have a good weekend.

Patrick Drumm

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

[Click here for the 2018 Calendar](#)

Monday, March 5

Central/West Athletics Championships

Thursday, March 8

Year 11 Pasifika Pathways Evening, 6pm



Friday, March 9

Mufti Day



Sport

Registration and trials for summer and winter sports

[Click here](#)

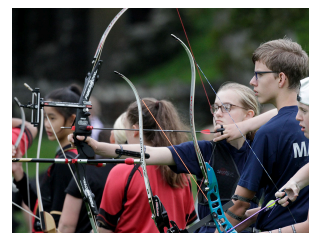


Photo essay

Archery

[Click here](#)

Records tumble at Athletics Championships



Five records fell at the 2018 Athletics Championships at Mt Smart Stadium, with Hannah Houghton (pictured above) breaking two of them - the Senior Girls 1500m and 3000m. She ran 5:07.33 for the 1500m, and 10:37.26 in the 3000m.

The other record-breakers were Max Brooke Cowden – 100m Senior Boys – 10.96s, Malia Seko – Junior Girls Long Jump – 5.20m, Luke Clements – Junior Boys 3000m – 9:55.72.

Max's 100m record is significant in the history of the school as he is the first boy at MAGS to break the 11-second barrier. The time makes Max the fastest U20 student in the country over 100m so far this year.

This was the biggest Athletics Championships in recent years with 400 students competing over a range of events.

The School Champions are:

Junior Girls: MALIA SEKO Junior Boys: LUKE CLEMENTS

Intermediate Girls: LATONYA LOLE Intermediate Boys: SILA ESEKIELU

Senior Girls: JANELLE KARA Senior Boys: DYLAN MOON

There will be 50 students competing at the Central/West Zone Championships on Monday at Mt Smart Stadium.

Other upcoming Athletics events:

Wednesday, 14th March - Kings College Series 1

Wednesday, 21st March - Kings College Series 2

Wednesday, 28th March - Auckland Secondary Schools Championships

For Athletics Championship records, champions and full results, [click here](#)

Colourful cause



Don't forget to wear blue, yellow, pink and/or purple – the colours of the Cancer Society's awareness programmes - next Friday.

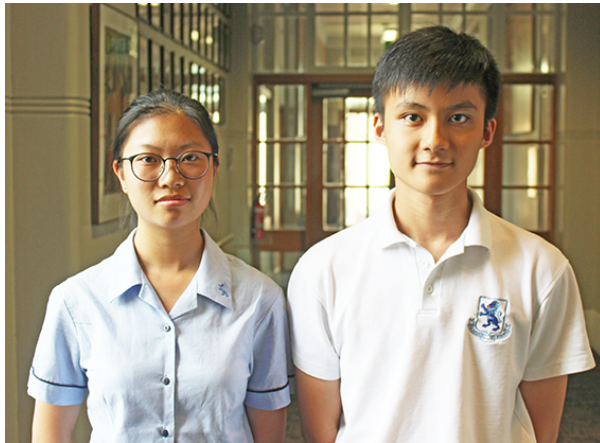
Bring a gold coin donation towards MAGS' total in our 2018 Relay for Life campaign, with money raised going to support cancer charities.

On March 10 & 11, Relay for Life participants will carry a baton and run laps around a 400m track at the Millennium Institute on the North Shore for 18 hours and camp overnight.

MAGS' students have been working hard to find sponsors to raise money for the Cancer Society. Many of the students have seen family and friends go through cancer.

[Click here](#) to donate

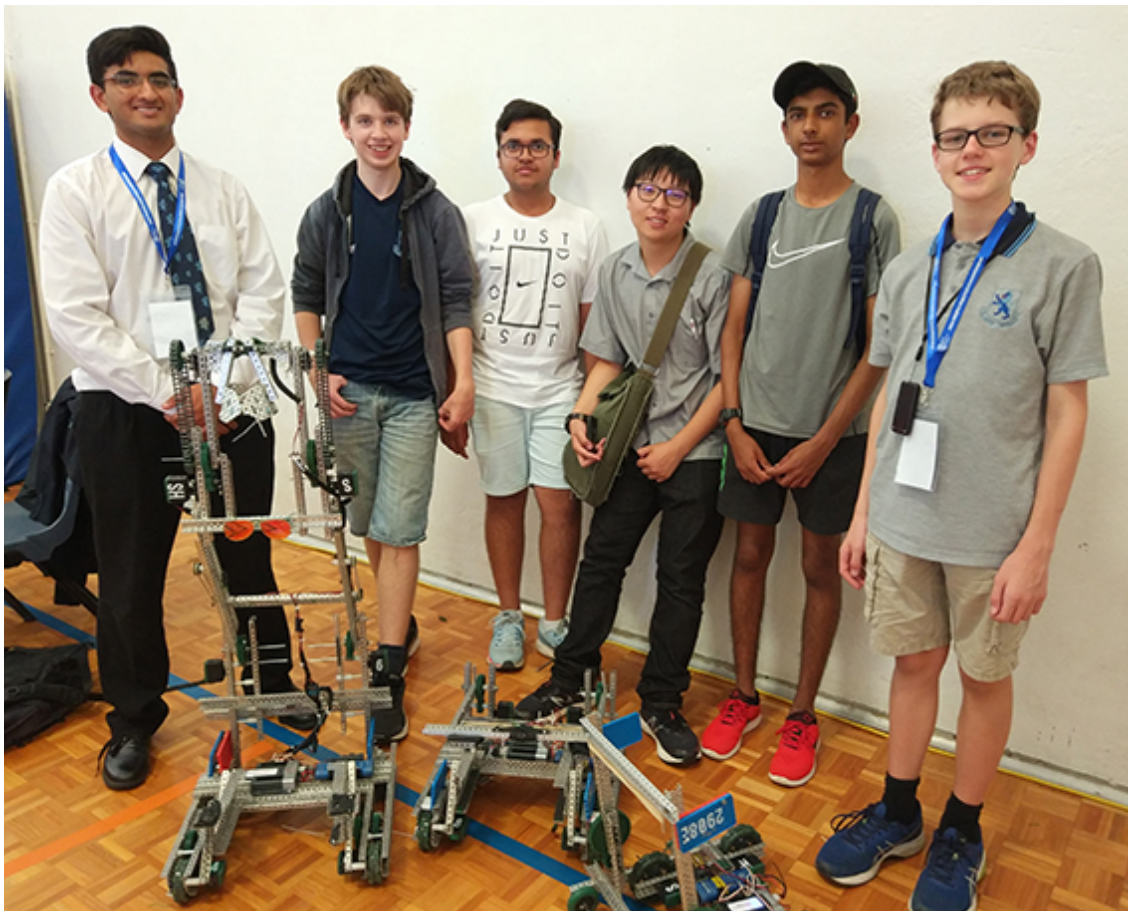




Year 13 students Nan Huang and Chris Pham have been named as International Prefects. Nan, from southwest China, is in her third year at MAGS, and plans to study at university in New Zealand or Australia next year. Chris, from the Vietnamese capital of Hanoi, has been at MAGS for almost a year and plans to study IT in Auckland next year. As part of their prefect duties, the pair aim to forge a sense of unity and belonging among the international students and help them to

get along with their domestic peers.

Robots power future thinking



Last weekend, three teams from MAGS competed in the National Vex Robotics Championship against teams from 64 other schools.

MAGS entered three teams in the Auckland event, with 21 students involved. The teams have

placed 33rd.

The Robotics Club is led by Year 13 Prefect Shalin Shah (pictured above left) and gives students skills in design, robot construction, problem solving, coding, team work and critical thinking. It helps to open up careers in programming, software engineering, mechatronics, robotics, or general engineering.

PolyFest preparations in full swing



Seven MAGS groups are deep into preparations for PolyFest in just under a fortnight's time. The school will be represented in Kapa Haka and by Cook Island, Tongan, Samoan and Niuean groups, with Indian and Chinese groups on the Diversity Stage.

ARTS EVENTS IN TERM 1

March 14-17: PolyFest – Manukau Sports Bowl

March 28-29: Year 13 Drama production – MAGS

April 5-7: Sheilah Winn Shakespeare – Venue TBC

April 10-11: Annual Dance Concert – Centennial Theatre

For any inquiries regarding Arts co curricular events or groups, please contact Jacqui Cesan (Director Arts Co Curricular) jcesan@mags.school.nz 09 846 2044 x 8226

As we settle into the term, the following general reminders are given to all:

- **Safety:** Students must remember to make safe choices about the routes they walk when coming to and leaving from school. Students are advised to walk in small groups and not to take shortcuts when walking alone.
- **Behaviour:** Walking in groups is encouraged but everyone must please be aware of other pedestrians and traffic. While it is easy to get distracted when talking to friends, students must make sure to watch where they are going and that they give way to others. Good manners and respect for others are important to our MAGS Way values.
- **St Lukes Mall:** Students should not be in uniform at St Lukes Mall unless they are accompanied by a parent.
- **PolyFest:** Only students competing at PolyFest are allowed time off school on the day of their events. All other students are welcome to attend on Saturday.
- **Traffic:** Parents are reminded that Alberton Avenue can become a bottleneck for traffic at both ends of the school day. Vehicles are not permitted into the school grounds to pick up students. A pick-up location that is a sensible distance from the school gates should be arranged with your child(ren).

Download the MAGS app



If you haven't already, make sure you download the Mount Albert Grammar School app for notices, events and other important school messages.

Use the app to notify us of your child's absence, contact a teacher, access the parent portal and link to maps and key websites. Receive alert messages instantly for your chosen groups.

To download the app for free on iPhone or Android click this link.

<http://mountalbertgrammarschool.apps.school.nz/share/>

Sports update

Strong showing at Triathlon Championships



MAGS' teams grabbed a second and two third places at the Auckland Secondary Schools Triathlon Championships held on Wednesday at Maraetai Beach, Beachlands. And in the Individual competition James Dennett finished a very credible 4th in the Senior Boys race.

MAGS fielded 10 teams and 2 individuals – the biggest team at the Championships – as the interest in Triathlon continues to grow at the school.

Unfortunately, the swim leg was cancelled and the Championships were scaled back to a duathlon.

The top team placings were: Junior Boys – 2nd (Bowen Crawford, Riley Brewis, Hart Adriano), Intermediate Girls – 3rd (Chloe Innes, Venita Wilson, Anagrace Poching) and Senior Girls – 3rd (Lili Tse, Holly Bannister, Eva Williams).

[Click here](#) for full results

Follow MAGSRow at North Island Champs



MAGSRow is competing at the North Island Secondary Schools Rowing Championships at Lake Karapiro this weekend.

The rowers race in heats today and tomorrow, with semi finals in the afternoon.

Early results from the first day see MAGS Rowing qualify for 3 A Finals including Girls Novice 8, Boys U15 Double Scull, and Boys U18 Coxless Pair.

Holly Chaafe has won both heats in the single sculls and progresses through to the semifinals in both U16 and U17.

Sunday is finals day and the team aims to be contesting a number of A and B finals – and collecting some medals.

Mixed weekend for 1st XI



MAGS' 1st XI cricket team came close to competing a double header last weekend but for a 10-run loss to King's College.

On Saturday, King's made 205/7 and MAGS battled hard but fell short at 195/7.

On Sunday, MAGS' batsmen found better form, compiling 239/8 before the bowlers took over and skittled Takapuna Grammar, who were 66 all out – giving MAGS the win by 173 runs.

Sports trials and registrations



Students are encouraged to register for sports teams and trials taking place in Term 1. Sports seeking registrations include Hockey, Basketball, Squash, Football, Badminton and Netball.

[Click here for the registration forms](#)

General notices

[Alberton Market Day](#)

Market Day with newspaper columnist and gardening guru Lynda Hallinan (pictured) as special guest.

She will have copies of her books and produce from her garden, and will give a talk at 11.30am on the best crops for small gardens – what, when and where to plant.

As always, there will be food stalls, specialty produce and handmade crafts.

For more info and updates [click here](#)

Alberton Market Day, Sunday 11 March, 10am-2pm. Free Entry. 100 Mt Albert Rd.





THREE KINGS SCHOOL

140th Jubilee Celebration



Friday 6th April 2018

School Open: 10.00am – 7.30pm

Celebration Assembly: 11.30am – 12.30pm

Three Kings School is 140 years old and we're celebrating a rich history.

You're invited to our Open Day on Friday 6th April.

The school will be open from 10.00am – 7.30pm to enable you to walk through the school, share memories and view photos and memorabilia, that will be displayed in the school library area. Tea, coffee and light refreshments will be available throughout the day.

You are cordially invited to attend an assembly at 11.30am – 12.30pm.

You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch to share with the students and staff on the school field from 12.30pm – 1.30pm.

944 Mt Eden Road,
Mt Roskill, Auckland

Ph: 09 625 7208
www.threekings.school.nz

Registrations are not required.

Annual Giving fundraiser



The poster features a blue circular logo for 'LAUGH CLUB' with 'EST. 2012' and 'MOUNT ALBERT' written around it. Below the logo are four black and white portraits of comedians with their names and show titles: Andrew Clay (Maori TV's Crack Up), Alan McElroy (TVNZ's Poker Face), Melame Bracewell (TV3's 7 Days), and Tarun Mohambhai (Cropper's Republic of Anzakistan). The main text 'STANDUP COMEDY' is in large, bold, white letters on a black background. To the right, on a red background, are the event details: 'MOUNT ALBERT RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB', 'FOWLED PARK', 'FRIDAY 16TH MARCH', 'TICKETS \$25.00', 'KITCHEN AND BAR OPEN FROM 5.10PM', 'SHOW STARTS AT 8.00PM', and 'NO DOOR SALES'. At the bottom, it says 'VISIT WWW.LAUGHCLUB.CO.NZ'.

Profits from a night of stand-up comedy will go to MAGS' Annual Giving. Please contact Debbie Gyde for tickets, shawn.debbie@xtra.co.nz or on 027 200 6004, as there will be no door sales on the night.



Electronic Waste Drop Off Day

3rd March 2018 Saturday 9am-3pm
Carpark at Mt. Albert Baptist Church
(732 New North Road, Mt. Albert)

For more info about the day and items accepted, go to www.ewaste.org.nz

