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Week 8, Term 1, March 22, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Peace Be Upon You



Salaam Alaikum (Peace be Upon You)

As we continue to navigate our way through a week of sadness, I have been inspired by the courage and care shown by the people of MAGS.

Staff and students have responded with compassion and empathy for everyone in our school and for all New Zealanders.

Sometimes it is just better to look to our young people for meaning as shown by the poem put together by a MAGS Year 9 student:

*She prayed – it wasn't how I prayed,
He ate – it wasn't how I ate,
She spoke – it wasn't my language,
He dressed – it wasn't how I dressed,
She took my hand – it wasn't the colour of mine,
He had a family – it wasn't like my family,
She had a house – it wasn't like my house,
But when they laughed, it was how I laughed,
And when they cried, it was how I cried,
We are all the same in different ways,
We are one, united.*

Have a peaceful weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster

Weekly Notices



Key Dates

Click [here](#) for the 2019 Calendar

Monday, March 25
Summer Tournament Week starts

Tuesday, March 26
Parent-Student-Mentor Conferences

Friday, March 29
Mufti Day



Sport



Photo Essays
Touch Premier Girls v AGGS
Click [here](#)

Fixtures and results
Click [here](#)

Sport trials and registrations
Click [here](#)

Remembering Christchurch



As part of a range of activities today to remember the victims of the Christchurch shootings, students drew chalk messages of peace and support in the Albertian Quad.

The activity was organised and overseen by Prefects and Peer Support Leaders. Interact Club members collected donations for those affected, and students were also encouraged to write words of hope or compassion on coloured slips of paper. These slips will be arranged by Prefects as a mosaic in the windows of classrooms facing the Albertian Quad.

MAGS also took part in the National 2 Minutes of Silence at 1.32pm.

Some female members of staff participated in Headscarf for Harmony, wearing headscarfs for the day.

Tomorrow, representatives of MAGS will be in Christchurch and leave a card and flowers at the appropriate location on behalf of our school.



Prime Minister's Breakfast tickets



Tickets for the Prime Minister's Breakfast, held for Year 9 students and their parents, are on sale at the Finance Office. This event, which features a delicious buffet breakfast and has been kindly sponsored by Anne Duncan Real Estate, will be on Thursday, 4 April, starting at 7.00am, and the guest speaker is The Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand.



Ms Ardern is also our MP for Mount Albert and holds ministerial portfolios for Arts, Culture and Heritage; National Security and Intelligence; and Child Poverty Reduction.

What:	Prime Minister's Breakfast
When:	Thursday, 4th April, 7.00am - 8.00am
Where:	F.W. Gamble Hall
Cost:	Tickets \$20 per person (maximum of 3 tickets per student)

Tickets will be on sale at the Finance Office until sold out. Finance Office hours are 8am-4pm, Monday to Friday.

Tickets are limited in number and will be sold on a first come first served basis by cash or eftpos transactions only.

Please note that in consideration of the many who will be going on to work from the breakfast, this event is scheduled to finish by 8.00am.

Five Golds at AKSS Athletics



MAGS athletes brought back five Gold medals from the Auckland Secondary Schools Athletics Championships held at Mt Smart Stadium yesterday.

Two of those Golds were won by Zayyaan Smith, who was victorious in the Junior Girls Long Jump and the Junior Girls 200m (in which she broke the school record), as well as winning Silver in the Junior Girls 100m.

Luke Clements won the 2000m Steeplechase and was also awarded College Sport Auckland Best Performance from the meet.

Gold medals were also won by Te Waaka Popata-Henare in the Junior Boys Javelin and Hannah Adye (pictured above) in the Open Girls Pole Vault.

There were also strong performances by Latonya Lole, who won Silver in the Intermediate Girls Long Jump, and Dylan Moon, who won Bronze in the Senior Boys 300m Hurdles.

Tama Anderson also won Bronze – in the Intermediate Boys 100m – and teamed up with Eamon Buick, Troy Middleton and Shaun Harden for Bronze in the Intermediate Boys 4 x 100m relay.

A total of 34 students took part in the meet, with school records set by Ruby Pengelly in the Junior Girls 1500m, and by Latonya Lole, Princess Elliot, Lorna Faalogo and Kalisi Longopoa in the Senior Girls 4 x 100m Relay.

For a photo essay from the meet, click [here](#), and for full results, click [here](#)

Ag students out and about

An 11-strong group of Year 12 Agribusiness students travelled to Palmerston North last week to take part in events such as the Future Feeders forum during New Zealand Agrifood Week.

Head of Agricultural and Horticultural Science Esther Hancock said the trip was a great success and some were heard to say “we feel like grown-ups” as they sat around the conference tables at Future Feeders.

The students also surveyed attendees at Field Days, enjoyed a walking tour of the creative arts available in the city, and soaked up the inspiring research on display at Massey University.



Last Saturday, four of the students who went on the Palmerston North trip, along with two other students, gave up their day to compete in a regional Junior Young Farmers competition in Warkworth.

Claudia Woods, Mackenzie Brabant, Rose Young, Kaitlyn Sanders, Campbell Barclay and Joshua Baker took part in the event.

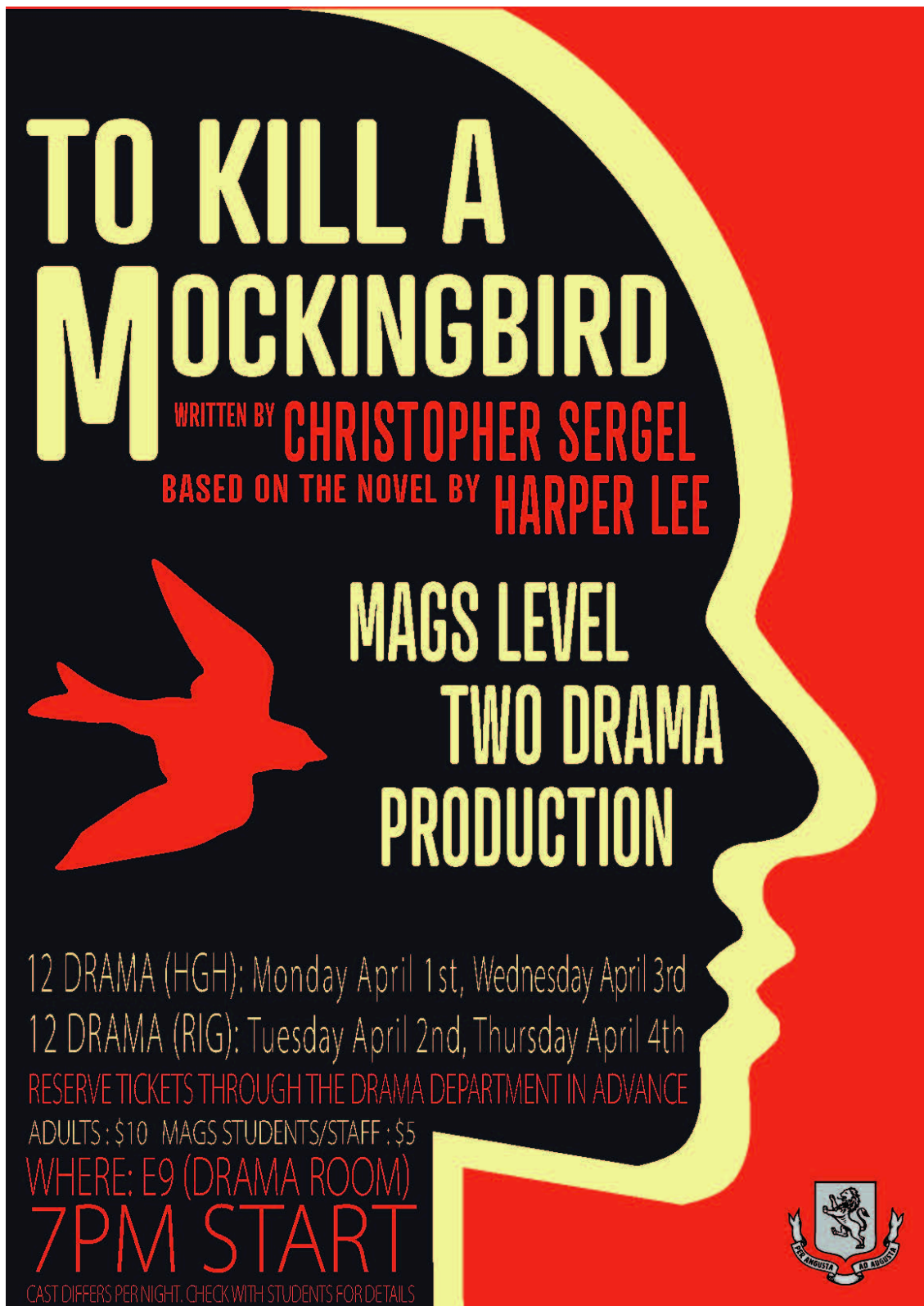
"The Staggs" team of Campbell Barclay and Joshua Baker (ably and vigorously supported by the girls) came second and will be going to compete in the Junior Young Farmer competition in Hawkes Bay in July.

They had to answer questions about soils, macro invertebrates, financial calculations, digestive systems and had a super modern tractor to drive, amongst other things.

Year 12 Drama production unveiled

Year 12 Drama students will present the play *To Kill A Mockingbird*, based on the famous book of the same name, over four nights in early April.

See poster below for details:




**TO KILL A
MOCKINGBIRD**
WRITTEN BY **CHRISTOPHER SERGEL**
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY **HARPER LEE**

**MAGS LEVEL
TWO DRAMA
PRODUCTION**

12 DRAMA (HGH): Monday April 1st, Wednesday April 3rd
12 DRAMA (RIG): Tuesday April 2nd, Thursday April 4th
RESERVE TICKETS THROUGH THE DRAMA DEPARTMENT IN ADVANCE
ADULTS: \$10 MAGS STUDENTS/STAFF: \$5
WHERE: E9 (DRAMA ROOM)
7PM START

CAST DIFFERS PER NIGHT. CHECK WITH STUDENTS FOR DETAILS



Arts update

SENIOR ARTS CHALLENGE

Get your team together and devise a concept for a 7-10 minute performance that incorporates all arts strands based on the following quote:

Diversity: the art of thinking independently together (Malcolm Forbes)

Teams must have a maximum of 10 members and have representatives from Dance, Music, Visual Arts, Media and Drama.

The winning concept will win a budget to present their piece at Arts Alive in Week 10 of Term 3.

For more information or to register your team, please email jcesan@mags.school.nz

SAVE THE DATE

In Week 11, the Dance department will hold its Annual Dance Concert, which features items from every dance class as well as stunning choreographic works by our senior students. This will be held on Tuesday, 9 and Wednesday, 10 April at Centennial Theatre. Tickets available from the Finance Office from Tuesday, 26 March.

Reminder about student absences

Should a student be absent from school we require an explanation from the student's parent(s) within three days of the original absence. The student's mentor will endeavour to make contact via phone or email, however the onus of responsibility rests with the parent(s).

There are multiple avenues to contact the school which are as follows:

- Email your child's mentor
- Email sent to attendance@mags.school.nz
- The MAGS app
- Phoning the school on (09) 846 2044

It is important, and a Ministry of Education requirement, that all absences are to be explained. At times, a lack of timely communication regarding absences for which there are good reasons can result in undeserved punitive consequences; at other times communication is important to identify concerns about poor attendance for which there are no good reasons. Good attendance is one of the most important contributing factors for student success and it is important that parents work with the school to maintain accurate records.

Students signing in and out of School:

Should a student need to leave school, they must sign out of school via the Student Centre, and this includes pre-arranged departures or illness. Should a student suddenly take ill, while at school, they need to visit the school nurse who will assess the need to go home and ensure that their attendance reflects exactly what has taken place. One reason for this

request is based within Health & Safety regulations, specifically related to school-based emergencies such as a fire. In such an event, if a student is marked present at school and has left without signing out, we have a Duty of Care to check our facilities to locate them in case they are unable to exit a building.

Lateness:

If a student is late to school, whatever the reason or the time of day, they must sign into school at the Student Centre. Again, this is to ensure that a student's whereabouts is known if there is a need to locate them.

Click [here](#) for the rules around absence and leave.

Duke of Ed Gold tramp



In early December, five then-Year 12 MAGS students went to Abel Tasman National Park to complete their Gold Duke of Edinburgh qualifying adventurous journey.

One of them, Claudia Sanders, said, "We began planning the tramp in August 2018 and had to organise travel, flights, accommodation and food as well as route our entire trip with bearings, distances and times.

"Lydia Finch, Georgia Sinclair, Lauren Zwalue, Zoe Stevens and myself, shadowed by Emma Thomson-Hensman, set out on the 5th of December 2018 and flew to Nelson where we stayed a night at a backpackers before starting our tramp the following morning.

"We had beautiful weather throughout the five days, and swimming each day once we got to the huts was a definite highlight after a day full of steep ups and downs. By the end of the five days we were exhausted and ready for hot showers and real beds, but it was an amazing experience that none of us will forget. Most of us are close to completing our Gold Awards in full, after already having completed the Bronze and Silver awards."

Anzac Service and Luncheon



The Mount Albert Grammar School Albertians Association is hosting drinks and lunch at School House on Thursday 11th April, following the Anzac Service Assembly. For the Anzac Service, please assemble in the foyer of the main school building, by reception, at 11.30am, where you will be shown into the FW Gamble Memorial Hall. Following the service, please make your own way down to School House for the luncheon. The guest speaker at the luncheon will be Headmaster Patrick Drumm. The cost of the lunch is \$30 per person, which is payable by cheque or cash as you arrive at School House. Alternatively, you can make an online payment to:

MAGS Albertians Association, ASB Bank, Mount Albert:

Account Number: 12 3029 0376398 00

Ref: Christian name and surname

Please RSVP by Thursday 4th April by

either Email : msykes@mags.school.nz
or Phone School Reception on (09) 846-2044

Unfortunately car parking will not be available on school grounds, however drop-off at the front of school is fine.

Tertiary education seminars and planning



The Careers Department has released its schedule for the year for presentations by tertiary educations and course planning seminars. There will also be a presentation about careers in the the NZ Defence Force. You can see the schedule [here](#)

The Careers Department has also launched its own Facebook page where students and parents can find out more about future pathways.

The page is regularly updated and has information about available jobs, tertiary education providers, seminars, trades opportunities and much much more.

To keep up with the play in a fast-moving job market, click [here](#) and like their page to receive regular updates.

Academic tutoring available

The MAGS Academic Council provides both free and paid tutoring for any students at MAGS.

We have many student tutors at the school who are keen to help, and a wide range of subjects that our tutors can teach.

Tutoring is an easy way to get help if you are struggling in a subject or just need a little more explanation about a topic. To get tutoring simply email tutoring@mags.school.nz with the following information:

- Are you looking for free or paid tutoring?
- What year level are you in?
- What subject would you like tutoring in? (It can be more than one).
- Would you prefer a female or male tutor? Or does it not matter?

Once the email is sent, the Academic Council will get in touch with you as soon as possible to look for a suitable tutor.

Homestay families wanted

MAGS' International Department is currently looking for English speaking Homestay families, for short and long-term stays.

You may like to include a student in your family life, or perhaps you know of someone who would like to – a friend, relative or retired couple. The experience is enriching and rewarding for both students and hosts.

What is the expectation of a host?

A host is expected to provide a clean and comfortable bedroom with bed, wardrobe (built-in or free-standing) and drawers, linen and towels, desk and lamp, heating in the room, meals and laundry.

What is the benefit of hosting?

- A chance to meet students from all over the world
- A great opportunity for your children to learn a different language
- Share your culture while learning about your student's culture and country
- Prompt fortnightly payment of \$590 (\$295 per week). Payments continue through the April, July and September holidays
- Short and long-term guests available

If you are interested in becoming a host family or would like further information, please email homestay@mags.school.nz or call the International Homestay Department on 846 2044 xtn 8123 or 8227.

Sports update

Boys and Girls Fencing champions



Congratulations to Charlie Bioletti (pictured above) and Lucy Henshaw, who won the Boys and Girls events respectively at the Fencing North U17 Championships at the weekend. Year 13 student Charlie beat Tom Saran from St Kents in a close and hard-fought final, while Lucy (in Year 10) overcame a shaky start against Margaret Black from Green Bay to win in quick time.

Fencing coach Kyle Macdonald said, "This was an excellent start to the season for our younger MAGS fencers. The season continues in three weeks with the start of the Auckland School league, and we look forward to hosting the National Secondary School Fencing Championship at the Winter Tournament weekend."

James Dougal wins two on the bounce



James Dougal has bounced back from injury, winning two Junior International Men's trampolining events on successive weekends.

Last weekend, he won the North Island ITRACCS Competition in his division and the weekend before he travelled to Christchurch, where he was victorious at the Superbounce Championships. He was also part of the four-person team to win the International Team Trophy.

This was the first trial event for the 2019 World Championships in Japan in December this year.

James was the only male of his age to hit the qualification score for the World Championships and has been selected for the NZ Squad.

In February, James sustained an injury and had a month off training. He has been under the care of the team at O9 Physiotherapy based at MAGS, and returned to competition as if he had never been away.

Warming up for Wrestling Champs

Well done to Year 11 wrestler Tiger-Lily Cocker-Lemalie, who won both her matches at the AKSS Novice Wrestling Champs in preparation for the Auckland Champs next week. Her feat was even more impressive, given that one of her defeated opponents was 10kg heavier.



General notices



ST MARY'S YOUTH PRESENTS:

SUNDAY FUNDAY!

**SUNDAY 24TH MARCH
11AM -3PM
MARIST COLLEGE FIELD**

**A DAY FOR ALL FAMILIES TO
HAVE FUN, PLAY GAMES,
AND ENJOY A RANGE OF
CULTURAL FOOD**



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