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March 24, 2023 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Headmaster

Key Dates

Ethics In The Driver's Seat



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

This week I have been speaking to senior students about serious safety concerns we have for some who are driving cars to school each day.

A number of students are breaking the law on a daily basis – primarily by driving passengers while holding only a Restricted or Learner Driver Licence.

As young, inexperienced drivers, these students are flirting with serious legal and human consequences.

Apart from voiding any insurance policies on vehicles, students breaking their licence conditions risk criminal prosecution if they crash and cause injury to others.

And if students don't think they will crash, then they need to take note of statistics provided by Waka Kotahi that show a Restricted Licence holder is **10 times** more likely to crash if carrying passengers. They are also **four times** more likely to be involved in a fatal accident.

We are appealing to students from an ethical standpoint when they make decisions about driving. What young person would want to carry the responsibility of the human cost to their family or friends through their actions behind the wheel?

We need parents to help us here – a number of the students referred to above are driving family or parents' cars.

We want every MAGS student turning up safely, and on time, to school – every day.

Click [here](#) for the Calendar

Thursday, March 30 and Friday, March 31

Unity Concert, Dorothy Winstone Centre, 7pm

Saturday, April 1

Relay for Life, AUT Millennium Stadium, 10am-10pm

Sport

Photo Essays



Cricket Girls 1st XI v Baradene

Click [here](#)

The rules are there for a reason – let's do the right thing for ourselves, our friends and whānau.

Have a safe weekend.

Patrick Drumm
Headmaster



AKSS Aquathon

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



Fantastic Mr Fox



Photos / QiQi Deng & Meron Melese

Congratulations to the Level 1 Drama students, who performed their production of *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl, with four shows over two nights this week.

Drama Teacher Grace Augustine said, "The shows were well-attended by MAGS staff and students, plus whānau and the wider school community.

"A huge thank-you to everyone who came along, and to our amazing backstage volunteers, led by student and future stage manager extraordinaire Emma Nash."

Roald Dahl's much-loved story follows the vain attempts of three farmers, Boggis, Bunce and Bean (one fat, one short, one lean), to get rid of the fox who regularly steals food from their farms. You can see more photos from the productions [here](#)



Introducing our new Director of Sport



"Fakaalofa lahi atu, my name is Adrian Hipa and I have recently joined Mount Albert Grammar School as the Director of Sport.

Previous to MAGS, I worked in the public sector for 15 years and the change aligns to my passion in sports, my interests in coaching and development, and experience as a public servant.

I am focused on seeing greater girls' participation in sports; I am also focused on enhancing the culture of excellence that aligns to our MAGS Way values, and I am focused on ensuring that MAGS Sport remains among the best in Auckland, if not New Zealand.

I am a rugby man, a Hurricanes fan, have an interest in documentaries, fashion, sports development, and coaching. I currently coach my two boys at Ponsonby Rugby.

I am a proud Niuean, married to Theresa and have two young boys, Cuba and Rome."



Junior leaders announced

The last (but not the least) of our Junior School leadership group – Year Level Leaders – were announced and recognised at assemblies this week.



Above, Year 9 Year Level Representatives (from left) Vinnie Reis-Williams, Swarit Tagirisa, Ella Carter-Tangitau and Salamasina Fa'alogo are pictured with Deputy Principal Sarah Hayes, Associate Principal Jo Williams and Deputy Principal Toby Powell.

Below, the Year 10 Year Level Representatives are, at rear, Johnny Gilmore and, at front from left, Eva Yarrow, Dhanonjoy Barua and Rozalinde Krikorian. They are pictured with Mr Powell and Ms Hayes, who oversee our Junior School.



Health Science Academy getting results



The Year 12 and Year 13 Pasifika Health Science Academy FONO was held on Tuesday evening in the W.O.H. Gibbs Room.

The event was attended by around 80 parents and students, and the information on student participation and achievement in Science was well-received.

The Pasifika Health Science Academy students are outperforming the other Pasifika students at MAGS in Science in both participation and achievement in NCEA.

HOD Careers Kerrin Hanson spoke about scholarships and health career opportunities at tertiary institutes, and Head Prefect Taiarahia Moataane-Mika spoke of the benefits of being in the Pasifika Health Science Academy.

The students were also presented with their badges by Aaron Lui from the Counties Manukau DHB.

Join the Art Show crew

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!



28th – 30th July 2023

We're looking for volunteers to help bring the annual MAGS 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

Silver Ferns visit Academy



MAGS' Year 10 Academy Netballers had a visit from two Mystics and Silvers Ferns players this week, with Sulu Fitzpatrick and Phoenix Karaka conducting drills with the girls.

Tomorrow, our Netballers will be out at West Auckland's Parrs Park, running a food stall at the Cyclone Gabrielle Relief Concert as part of a fundraiser for the Year 10 Academy and Premier teams. Get along and support the girls and a great cause, and enjoy some of NZ's top performers.

Cultural Dress Day next Tuesday



MAGS is having a Cultural Dress Day next Tuesday, March 28, to celebrate and recognise the ethnic minorities and general diversity we have at school.

Those who choose to participate can come to school in their traditional cultural clothing as per the photo above. There is an optional gold coin donation for all students with proceeds going to the Lion Fund.

Students should wear their MAGS shoes and socks or sandals with their cultural clothing (unless they specifically have appropriate cultural shoes).

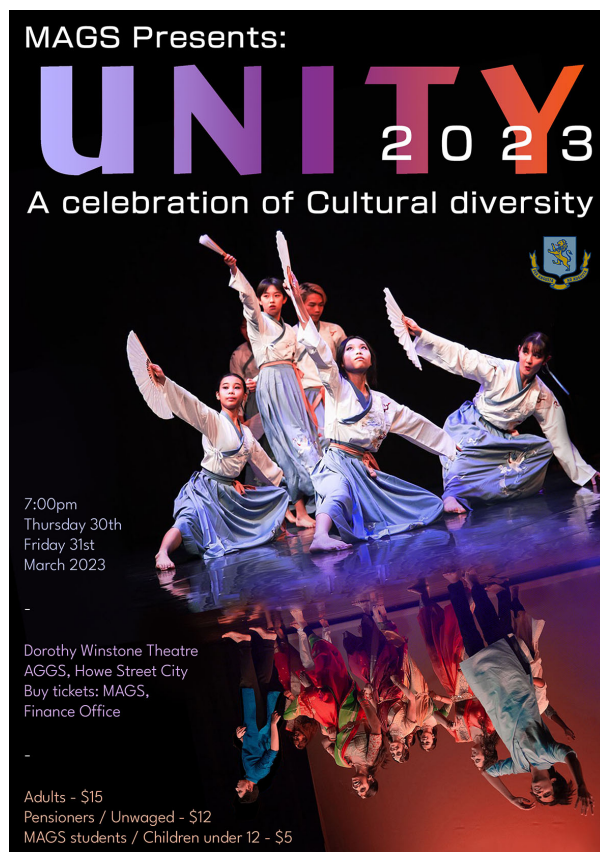
A promotional poster for Cultural Dress Day. The top left features a branch of pink cherry blossoms. The top right contains the school crest, which is a shield with a lion rampant and the motto 'AD AUGUSTA AD AUGUSTA'. The main title 'Cultural Dress Day' is written in a white cursive font on a pink background. Below the title, the text 'Come and celebrate your culture by wearing and representing who you are.' is centered. The date 'Tuesday 28th of March' is written in a red cursive font. A list of two bullet points follows: 'Wear traditional clothes that represent your culture' and 'Optional: Bring a gold coin donation for the Lion Fund which supports MAGS families'. The bottom left features a circular logo for the 'LION FUND SUPPORTING MAGS STUDENTS' with a lion's head in the center. The bottom right shows a large pink hibiscus flower and a stylized black and white geometric pattern.

Unity Concert tickets on sale

MAGS presents a celebration of our diverse cultures at the Unity Concert to be held at the Dorothy Winstone Theatre, Auckland Girls Grammar School on Thursday 30th and Friday 31st March.

There will be performances from Kapa Haka, Tongan, Samoan, Cook Island, Chinese,

Indian and Latin groups.
Tickets are available for purchase from
MAGS Finance Office.



Receptionist/Secretary vacancy

MAGS is seeking an experienced receptionist/secretary to provide secretarial support to the senior leadership team in conjunction with duties as the receptionist in the main school office.

Strong secretarial and administration skills are essential, including:

- Confidence and experience in the professional presentation of documents using Microsoft Word. Experience with Excel and PowerPoint would be an advantage.
- Excellent spoken and written English

You will also be the main point of contact for visitors to the school so you need to be professional, have good interpersonal skills, be highly organised and adaptable.

This is a part-time, fixed-term position until the end of the school year (8 December, 2023). The hours of work are 8.00am to 4.00pm, Monday, Wednesday and Friday during school term time only.

You can see more details about this job and other vacancies at MAGS [here](#)

Book drive on now

BOOK DRIVE

The English Club is having a Book Drive! Due to the recent floods and Cyclone Gabrielle, many schools and their libraries have been greatly affected, with many books getting damaged or ruined. It is now your chance to help out, do a good deed, and provide some much needed reading material!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR

- *Young Adult Fiction*
- *Middle Grade Fiction (8 - 12yrs)*
- *Picture Books or Children's Books*

The Yr 9 and Yr 10 Form Classes with the most books collected will win Interform Points

The Senior Form Class with the most books collected will win a prize (TBC)

**BOOKS MUST BE IN
GOOD CONDITION**



Bring your books into your form class starting Week 6

Week 6 - Week 9

*Books will be collected
during AMP time Week 10*

Historical Images



Set 84 has just been loaded to the [Historical Images](#) section on our website, and one of those photos in that set was taken in 2004 and shows representatives of the School v Old Boys sides (pictured above) holding the trophies of the four sports played that year. The School won the Rugby Union and the Old Boys won Association Football, Hockey and Basketball.

The representatives were:

- Tamana Tetine, Rugby
- Lance Eason, Association Football
- Owen Hayward, Hockey
- Jeff Anderson, Basketball

Bake sale fundraiser on Tuesday

TURKEY - SYRIA EARTHQUAKE

fundraiser

Interact is holding a fundraiser for the people who have been affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Interact members will be raising awareness in assemblies and form time as well as collecting gold coin donations. We would love your support!

Bake Sale

We are also having a bake sale on Tuesday 28 March, Albertian Quad.
Cash and eftpos available!



Interact is partnering with the Red Cross to help those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

Buy something at the bake sale or bring coins or notes to donate.

Sports Update

Swimming Champions announced



Our 2023 MAGS Swimming Champions were recognised at assembly today. They are, from left, Tarquinius Schwalger (Junior Boys), Palepua Afoa (Intermediate Boys), Tito Tipi (Senior Boys), Anna McGowan (Senior Girls), Olivia Wheeler (Intermediate Girls), and Bianca Chan (Junior Girls).

Summer Tournament Week



Next week sees MAGS teams across various codes competing in Summer Tournament week events around the North Island.

MAGSROW will be competing at Maadi Cup at Lake Karapiro, and there will be three Futsal teams – Senior Boys, Senior Girls and Junior Girls – at NZSS in Wellington.

Our Cricket Girls 1st XI is playing a National Qualifying Tournament at Keith Hay Park, and our Volleyball Premier Boys and Senior Girls will be contesting nationals in Palmerston North.

Waka Ama is also holding an NZSS competition at Rotorua's Blue Lake, while Water Polo Senior Boys and Girls are involved in an NISS competition.

Basketball 3x3 is also holding nationals – at Pulman Arena – with MAGS having five teams featuring: Senior Elite Girls, Senior Elite Boys, Senior Open Boys, Junior Elite Boys and Junior Open Boys.

Strong showing at Zones Athletics

On Tuesday, 48 students represented MAGS at the Central/West/East Zone Athletics meet.

Highlights from the day included several Year 10 Girls competing to a high standard, especially on the track.

Peggy Taylor finished 2nd in both the Junior Girls 200m and 300m. Kendra Scally-Tui finished 3rd in both the Intermediate Girls 100m and 200m. Maddie Earley showed her promise as a track and jumps athlete, finishing 2nd in the Junior Girls 70m and 1st in the Triple Jump. Our Junior Girls 4 x 100m Relay also won.

Nate Meikle, who had a busy day on the track running in three different distances, finished 3rd in the Junior Boys 300m. Benjie Fairclough showed his promise as a 400m runner, finishing 1st in the Intermediate Boys section. Elliot Kitchener continued his great progress as a 100m sprinter and finished 2nd in the Senior Boys section.

MAGS students also showed their ability in the throwing events. This included a 2nd and 3rd respectively from Taya Lewis and Anika Todd in the Senior Girls Javelin.

MAGS also nearly had a clean sweep in the Intermediate Boys Shot Put with Jirah Esekia finishing 1st, Kingston Pupuke-Robati 2nd and Dimitri Fruean 4th.

Several students made finals and ended up placing in the top three of their events:



Peggy Taylor: 2nd Junior Girls 200m, 2nd Junior Girls 300m

Maddie Earley: 2nd Junior Girls 70m Hurdles, 1st Junior Girls Triple Jump
Junior Girls 4 x 100m Relay: 1st

Kendra Scally-Tui: 3rd Intermediate Girls 100m and 200m

Nate Meikle: 3rd Junior Boys 300m

Benjie Fairclough: 1st Intermediate Boys 400m

Ty Gonzales: 3rd Intermediate Boys 110m Hurdles

Jirah Esekia: 1st Intermediate Boys Shot Put, 2nd Intermediate Boys Discus

Kingston Pupuke-Robati: 2nd Intermediate Boys Shot Put

Anika Todd: 1st Senior Girls High Jump, 3rd Senior Girls Javelin

Taya Lewis: 3rd Senior Girls Discus, 2nd Senior Girls Javelin

Hokioramai Dunn: 3rd Senior Boys Shot Put and 2nd Senior Boys Discus

Elliot Kitchener: 2nd Senior Boys 100m

Assistant Director of Sport Carlin Crossan said, "Thanks to Mr Todd, Ms Wright, Braiden Higginson, Maihi Wilcox and Roman Nelio, who all helped officiate throughout the day. Also thanks to all the parents who supported our students."

AKSS Volleyball great preparation for nationals



The Premier Boys went into AKSS from a positive Premier season campaign, finishing third overall.

The the first two days at Pulman Arena saw the Boys going undefeated through six games, topping pool play and gaining entry into Division 1 of the tournament.



They met tough opponents in the semifinals, with Manurewa narrowly taking the win. In the 3rd /4th playoff, it was similarly tightly contested coming up against Rosmini. After a long, two-hour-plus, five-set match, the boys were just pipped at the end, going down 3-2. Overall, the Premier boys finished 4th out of 54 teams and have qualified for Division 1 at nationals during Summer Tournament Week next week.

The Volleyball Premier Girls gained a lot of confidence throughout the AKSS tournament with some amazing wins. They were able to move through as second in their pool, gaining entry into Division 1 of the tournament.

The second day saw an extremely unfortunate three-way tie for first place in Round 2 of pool play, which ended in the girls dropping down to third and just missing out on quarter-finals.

The girls finished 16th out of 54 and look forward to competition at nationals next week. You can see more photos of the Boys [here](#) and the Girls [here](#) at AKSS.

Senior Girls go close at AKSS Tag



The Senior Girls Tag team took part in the Auckland Secondary School Tag Champs on Wednesday at Cox's Bay Reserve.

They had qualified for this after finishing 4th in the zone tournament held at the end of February.

The girls were in a strong pool alongside eventual finalist Aorere College, Auckland Girls Grammar School and Howick College.

After losing 5-0 to Aorere College in their first game, the team bounced back to win a close game against Howick College, 3-2. This was a quality game with the result hanging in the balance right through. This made their last game against Auckland Girls Grammar a must-win to make the semi-finals. A close first half saw the scores tied up at 2-2. Auckland Girls Grammar finished the game off stronger, with two late tries to win 4-2.



After pool play, the girls were playing in the plate section for 5th to 8th place. In the plate semi, the girls played well to beat One Tree Hill College 6-4 and gain a spot in the plate final against Westlake Girls. This proved to be another close game with Westlake winning by one point, 5-4.

Assistant Director of Sport Carlin Crossan said, "A big thanks to Tutu Tairea, who coached the girls team over the last month for the two tournaments the girls have played in."

Making a splash at Aquathon



The Auckland Secondary Schools Aquathon took place on Wednesday at Saint Kentigern College with 11 students (three teams and five individuals) representing MAGS. The Aquathon consists of a swim leg followed by a run leg. We had a mix of students who have competed in this event in previous years as well as some newcomers. Our students competed well throughout the various age categories, and we gained several credible results.

The highlight was our Intermediate Boys team of Darius Spooner and Ben Hori-Elliot finishing 2nd with a combined time of 23:04.

Our Junior Girls team of Ellie Gear and Olivia Appleton finished 5th with a time of 24:22. Theo Bray competed as an individual in the Intermediate Boys section, finishing 6th overall with a time of 23:18.

Other top 10 finishes came from Connor Webby, who finished 8th in the Junior Boys category. Our Senior Girls team of Anna McGowan and Bella Houghton finished 7th in a competitive section.

Assistant Director of Sport Carlin Crossan said, "A special mention goes to Bella Houghton (pictured left), who has competed in this event every year since she was in Year 9 (apart from the cancellation in 2021).

"A big thanks to Director of Sport Mr Hipa and all the parents who assisted with transport and assisted during the event. Your support is greatly appreciated."

You can see a photo essay of the event [here](#)



Orienteering teams dominates Sprints



Over the past five weeks MAGS Orienteers have excelled in the School Sprints Series, winning five of the six grades and 14 of the 18 podium positions racing at Waitakere College, Avondale College, Rutherford College, Green Bay High and Henderson High.

Grade winners:

Senior Boys – Sam Carryer

Intermediate Boys – Reuben Adye

Intermediate Girls – Isabel Spreitzer

Junior Boys – Tahi Harris

Junior Girls – Zara Bint

The top 10 in each grade have qualified for the Auckland Sprint Series finals this weekend. MAGS Orienteers have secured 34 of the 60 places available.

Team manager Neill McGowan said, "Fantastic to see a group of Year 9 students perform so well and qualify for the finals. Congratulations to Tahi and Zara for winning their grades, and Jaimie Harris, Korbin Jowsey, Leo Vink, Charles Milne, Daniel Ho and Reuben Bruce for continuing our dominance of the series."

A Tradition of Excellence

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

**EXCELLENCE
CONNECTION
& GROWTH**

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